

February 7, 2013

TO: Nicholas Jirik, Student Allocations Committee Chair

FROM: David Cowan, Parking Advisory Committee Chair

RE: Consideration of Proposal to Increase Green Transportation Fee (From existing 75¢ per credit hour to 85¢)

The success of the Green Transportation Fee and its “free bus ride” byproduct has produced a 90% increase in ridership to 163,488 rides within our 5 leased routes and a significant increase in ridership among other City-wide routes. The promotion “The MavCard – Your Ticket to Ride” worked.

Lowering the busing cost burden on the Parking Fund is the objective of the 5 Year Parking Budget reviewed by the PAC on December 7, 2012 – Parking has massive capital improvements looming and needs its own money. The 2013-14 credit hour estimates that would affect a proposed increase in the Green Transportation Fee is 320,174, which would produce \$32,017 more in Green Transportation Fee dedicated receipts. If the Student Allocations Committee endorses the 10¢ change, and the Student Senate and the Administration concurs, then in FY’14 Parking’s share of projected costs drops from \$89,606 (25.5%) to \$57,589 (16%). Note that both Residential Life (\$3,500) and the General Fund (\$7,038) both are being asked to pay more in FY’14 to offset a 3% inflationary bump estimate. See table below:

Transportation Partners in the Expanded Bus Service Effort	Cost Center	Object Code	Estimated 2012-13 Net Amount Owed to Mankato Transit (1)	Proposed Change in the Financing Mix for 2013-14 (2)	Proposed 2013-14 Bus Services Financing Mix (3)
<b>Student Activity Fees (Green Transportation Fee’s Share)</b>	<b>331010</b>	<b>1870</b>	<b>\$232,333</b>	<b>\$32,017</b>	<b>\$264,350</b>
Parking Fund Related “Transitional” Support	337870	1870	89,606	(32,017)	57,589
Residential Life	302810	1870	10,000	3,500	13,500
General Fund – Operating Contribution for ½ of old Stomper Express 3 Day program where City pays the other ½ of old Stomper. Doesn’t include new M,T,W days added to T,F,S.	214040	1870	19,000	7,038	26,028
<b>Estimated Grand Totals</b>			<b>\$350,939</b>	<b>\$10,528</b>	<b>\$361,467</b>
<b>Hourly Rate</b>			<b>@\$82 per hour</b>	<b>3% inflationary increase</b>	<b>@ \$84.50 per hr. est.</b>

At a future date a more comprehensive review of the success of all five of the routes will be undertaken before the University enters into a 2013-14 contract with the City of Mankato.

Excerpt from the December 7, 2012, Minutes of the Parking Advisory Committee:

**Bus Ridership Statistics – Utilization of Mandatory Green Transportation Fee**

Mr. Cowan spoke about the success of the newly enacted Green Transportation Fee and the 83% increase in bus ridership since last year when busing expenses were fully covered by parking funds (\$185,000). This year’s \$350,939 in expected costs will be picked up by the 75¢ per credit hour student fee (\$232,333), parking funds \$89,606, Residential Life Office (\$10,000) and the University’s Administration (\$19,000). To further limit the share of busing costs paid from the parking funds, it is being proposed to increase the Green Transportation Fee by 10¢ per credit hour to reach 85¢ per credit hour starting Fall 2013.