

Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee

Minutes – February 9, 2017

The Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee was convened at 12:07 PM on Thursday, February 9, 2017, by Chair David Cowan. A quorum was present with 6 out of the 6 voting members in attendance.

PAC Member	Attendance	Constituency	Voting Status
David Cowan	Present	Administration Representative	Voting Member
Nancy Rolfsrud	Present	Faculty Association Representative	Voting Member
Alternate Frederick de Ruiters was present for Mohammed Bin Hamsa	Present	Student Association Off-Campus Representative	Voting Member
Alysia Przbilla	Present	Student Association On-Campus Res. Hall Rep.	Voting Member
Mike Cofield	Present	Classified Employee Representative – Patrick Pearce (Alternate)	Voting Member
Julie Snow	Present	MSU Association of Admin. & Svc. Faculty (MSUAASF)	Voting Member
Jodi Orchard	Present	University Head Cashier	Ex-officio, Nonvoting
Sue Edstrom	Present	Parking Services .Coordinator and Citation Appeals Board Liaison	Ex-officio, Nonvoting
Nathan Huettl	Absent	Facilities Mgmt. 's Planning & Construction Depart.	Ex-officio, Nonvoting
Alysia Przbilla (now a voting member above)	Present	Residence Hall Association President	Ex-officio-Nonvoting
Cynthia Janney (or alternate)	Excused Absence	Residential Life Office	Ex-officio-Nonvoting
Shirley Piepho	Present	University Scheduling	Ex-officio-Nonvoting

Approval of Prior Meeting Minutes

Without objection the meeting minutes of Thursday, February 2, 2016, were approved.

7 Year Budget Planning Forecasts

Advisory Committee Members then reviewed the 1/24/17 dated draft of the 7 year income and spending plans for the Parking and Transportation Fund. Key to the revenue forecasts was a 3% annual across-the-board increase in parking permit rates to ensure sufficient revenues to cover looming costs of lot resurfacing and repairs. Committee members made several changes to revenue estimates including parking citation collection forecasts and Visitor Paylot income. Changes in spending included the addition of funds for the repair of Lot 18 (60 stalls). Spending estimates related to personnel costs were totally dependent on the outcome of future state-wide collective bargaining unit contract negotiations and fringe benefit increases.

Without objection the revised 7 Year Budget Planning Forecasts were approved. Advisory Members noted that of the 7 years contained in the financial spreadsheet, 2017-18 is the essential fiscal year. [The updated 7 year plan was submitted to the Budget Sub-Meet and Confer Committee on Tuesday, February 14, 2017, for its feedback.]

Busing Costs and Projected 2017-18 Green Transportation Fee Funding Increase

Advisory Committee Members reviewed the "Busing System Allocation Subsidy Request" submitted to the Student Allocations Committee of the Student Senate. A \$352,538 request in Green Transportation Fee support reflects a \$39,023 change from the \$313,515 provided in 2016-17. That \$352,538 represents 64% of the estimated busing costs of \$547,814 for 2017-18. Students now pay the equivalent of a \$1 per credit hour mandatory "Green Transportation Fee"

and with the proposed increase that would shake out to \$1.11. Other partners in the busing program include the Parking & Transportation Fund (\$131,819 or 24%), Residential Life (\$39,000 or 7%), and the University's Administration (\$24,457 or 5%).

Sue Edstrom expressed her opinion that Parking & Transportation Fund was paying too much and Residential Life too little for 2017-18.

Because of a ridership surge in September, and, at the request of the Student Senate, a new bus route was created (Route 1-B North). For 2016-17 the \$502,949 previously estimated for the 8 (now 9) separate bus routes within the "U-Zone" bus services contract with the Greater Mankato Transit System (MTS) had to be adjusted to a higher level of \$537,073 for the 8 ½ months the buses serve the University. The \$34,124 in increased costs was absorbed by the Parking Fund for 2016-17 – a decision was made not to ask the Student Allocations Committee for a mid-year supplement to augment the \$313,515 the Student Senate had approved last spring in the form of a Green Transportation Fee allocation for FY'17.

At its February 2, 2017, meeting Advisory Committee Members endorsed the decision to include the cost of Route 1-B North within the FY'18 \$352,538 request submitted to the MSSA/Student Senate's Student Allocations Committee as part of its 2017-18 budget review process.

Proposed Sunday Bus Service

Advisory Committee Members discussed the feasibility of funding a Sunday bus service similar in scope to the existing Stomper Express which runs 6 PM to 11 PM Monday-Saturday. It was recognized that the Greater Mankato Transit System (MTS) would probably have to have a dispatcher for any Sunday bus route. Though the need is there, Advisory Committee members could not come up with a plan on how to fund it. Cowan was asked to contact MTS Superintendent Mark Anderson to see what, if any options, could be found to fund such a route. Dependence on the existing services which cover, in one form or another, six out of seven days, means that Sunday forces bus riders into other forms of transportation, which is really tough during the winter months.

Status of Employee "Years of Service" Privileged Parking Proposal

Concern was expressed that the number of employees with 30 or more years of service had grown considerably. Allowing any grouping of 30+, 35+, or 40+, would effectively compromise the Spring Gold Permit Drawing process. In all likelihood, Lot 6, a very popular parking lot which garners a large number of 1st Choice entries in the Drawing, would have to be taken off of the list of Gold permit spaces available. It was also noted that word had yet to be heard about whether setting aside stalls based on years of service would be challenged as discriminatory against younger employees and students. Advisory Committee Members agreed to drop the proposal at this time.

Annual Public Hearing on Parking Policies, Budget, and Capital Improvements – Thursday, March 2, 2017

Advisory Committee Members were reminded that the Annual Public Hearing on Parking Policies, Budget, and Capital Improvements will be held March 2, 2017 from Noon to 1:30 PM in the Student Union's room 201.

Adjournment - Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 1:05 PM.