

March 7, 2017

TO: Paul Corcoran, Assistant Vice President for Facilities Management  
Rick Straka, Vice President for Finance and Administration

FROM: David Cowan, Parking Advisory & Transportation Committee Chairperson

RE: "Post-Hearing" Recommendations from Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee

The Annual Public Hearing on Parking & Transportation Policies, Budget & Capital Improvements was held 12 Noon, Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. Testimony was taken and the hearing concluded at 1:10 PM. The volunteers serving on the Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee were impressed with the comments from the 17 present at the hearing, as well as from six written suggestions received via email by the 11 AM, March 2<sup>th</sup> deadline. The following recommendations were "endorsed" by the Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee at its March 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting immediately following the hearing, and are now formally submitted for review by the Budget Sub-Meet & Confer Committee, Meet & Confer Committees, and the Administration.

**1. Post-Hearing Recommendation – FY'18 \$1.7 M Income/\$1.8 M Spending Plans**

In its "post-hearing" recommendation the PAC endorsed a \$1,770,400 overall income plan (parking permits, fine collections, Visitor Paylot receipts, etc.) and a \$1,871,604 spending plan for 2017-18. The predicted June 30, 2018, \$101,204 FY'18 shortfall will draw against the estimated \$247,481 surplus 6/30/17. The Advisory Committee understands that the 7 year plan will be examined each year, and our effort will be to try to finance as much of the lot upgrades and repairs as possible using permit revenues, Visitor Paylot receipts, meter income, and revenue from parking citations.

(The Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee specifically endorsed the 2017-18 income and spending plans, including the 3% increase in parking permit rates, and recognizes that other years within the 7 year budget spreadsheet would be reviewed annually with budget numbers modified.)

**2. Advisory Committee Votes to Change Capital Improvement Plan**

Nathan Huettl, Planning & Construction Project Manager, submitted a revised Capital Improvement Plan for spending during the summer of 2017. Committee members voted to substitute Parking & Transportation's \$370,200 share of Huettl's plan for the \$365,000 initial draft circulated for the public hearing. The primary impact would be to push off by one year beginning work on Lot 1 (Dark Green Residence Hall Lot – 477 stalls). Huettl maintained that more immediate needs required a change in the Capital Improvement Plan. The revised Capital Improvement Plan includes:

Affected Area	Total Project Cost	Repair & Replacement Share	Parking & Transportation Share	Payback on Investment
1. "Bone Yard" Drainage improvements	\$88,500	\$88,500		
2. Crawford D-Hall Parking & Storm Sewer	\$74,900	\$37,450	<b>\$37,450</b>	20 Years
3. Carkoski Commons Loading Dock Converted to parking. 14 existing Gold permit stalls in Lot 14A would be relocated to Loading Dock freeing up more Lot 14A stalls for Res. Hall Green.	\$41,500		<b>\$41,500</b>	6 Years
4. Lot 7 Expansion – Convert gravel area to hard surface	\$78,300		<b>\$78,300</b>	9 Years
5. Lot 18 Wiecking South by Children's House fence.	\$121,500		<b>\$121,500</b>	6 Years
6. Lot 19 Alumni/Foundation improvements.	\$48,700		<b>\$48,700</b>	5 Years
7. South Road & West Road Improvements	\$171,000	\$128,250	<b>\$42,750</b>	9 Years
Totals	\$624,400	\$254,200	<b>\$370,200</b>	Not Applicable

**3. Post-Hearing Recommendation – FY’18 \$1,045,450 Permit Estimate (\$30,450 from 3% Permit Rate Increase on top of \$1,015,000 FY’17 Estimated Permit Receipt Base)**

The major factor driving the recommended permit rate hikes is projected parking lot repairs for a number of parking areas (See endorsed Capital Improvement Program above).

Parking Permit & Citation Areas (1)	Existing (2)	Proposed for Public Hearing held on March 2 <sup>nd</sup> (3)	“Post Hearing” Recommendations of Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee (PTAC) – Approved 5 to 0	
			Recommended Rate (4)	Advisory Committee Rationale (5)
Gold – 963 Stalls (12 Months)	<b>\$310</b>	\$320	<b>\$320</b>	Represents a \$26.67 monthly investment for premium close-in parking. Rate needed for looming parking lot repairs. St. Cloud State has \$320-\$475; Southwest \$300-\$415, Bemidji \$323-\$496, Winona \$195, Moorhead \$250.
Universal Gold	<b>\$310 + \$20 Proximity Charge for Eligible Employees</b>	\$320 + \$20	<b>\$320 + \$20 Proximity Charge for Eligible Employees</b>	Universal Gold permits are provided free to significant donors. University employees, who can demonstrate cross-campus traffic needs during a work day, can also apply but must pay. The \$20 Proximity Charge beyond regular Gold reflects the value in this permit – though part of last year’s Advisory Committee report, the charge was not implemented in time for 2016-17 sales.
Purple (Academic Yr.)	<b>\$198</b>	\$204	<b>\$204</b>	Represents a \$25.50 monthly investment for relatively close-in parking. St. Cloud rate at \$180 for “K & Q” lots, Moorhead \$209, Winona \$90.
Orange (Academic Year)	<b>\$140</b>	\$144	<b>\$144 \$72 Fall \$72 Spring</b>	Represents \$18 monthly investment for more distant Lots 21 South and 22. Bemidji at \$172, Moorhead \$110, St. Cloud \$180, Winona \$90, Southwest \$73-\$153. Based on hearing testimony Advisory Committee agreed to create a \$72 Fall and \$72 Spring permit purchase option in an attempt to get “Free Lot” users to consider buying an Orange permit, even for a Semester.
Residence Hall Light Green – (Academic Yr.)	<b>\$256</b>	\$264	<b>\$264</b>	Represents a \$33 monthly investment for premium close-in 24 hr. parking renter’s residence hall. St. Cloud \$285 to \$500 (ramp), Southwest \$249, Bemidji \$120 to \$260, Winona \$135.
Res. Hall Discount Dark Green (Academic Yr.)	<b>\$198</b>	\$204	<b>\$204</b>	Represents a \$25.50 monthly investment to park over at the parking areas in Lot 2 Green and Lot 1. Discount Green is but a short ride using the buses and/or shuttles, or a ten minute walk from Crawford, McElroy, or Sears.
Blue Handicap Parking Permit (12 Month)	<b>\$140</b>	\$144	<b>\$144</b>	Represents a \$12 monthly investment for premium close-in parking for 12 month permit. Rate tied to nine-month Orange permit charge in the past.
Silver Motorcycle/ Scooter Permit (Academic Year)	<b>\$58 or \$29 with the purchase of regular vehicle permit</b>	\$60 or \$30 with the purchase of regular vehicle permit.	<b>\$60 or \$30 with the purchase of regular vehicle permit</b>	Represents a \$7.50 monthly outlay for zoned 2- wheeled vehicle parking in Lot 7 (by Tennis Court), Lot 11A (Student Union), Lot 16 (Performing Arts lot), and Lot 15 (front of McElroy). \$3.62 monthly investments if owner already has regular permit for a 4 wheeled vehicle. Advisory Committee believes that existing rate is low enough to support the use of such energy efficient 2-wheeled vehicles.
Green Transportation Fee – \$1 now folded into the overall Student Activity Fee of \$7.76 (\$93.12 banded 12-18 credit hrs.)	<b>\$313,515 [\$1 per credit hour yield]</b>	<b>\$352,538 [\$1.11 per credit hour yield] Pending SAC and Student Senate Review</b>	<b>\$352,538 [\$1.11 per credit hour Yield] Pending SAC and Student Senate Review</b>	Green Transportation Fee, set in motion Fall 2012, needs to be raised by 11¢ per credit hour (from \$1 to \$1.11) to generate additional \$34,165, which will address the City’s per hr. increase from FY’17’s \$97 to FY’18’s estimated \$99. The Green Transportation Fee allocation for FY’17 was \$313,515. The total busing costs is projected at \$537,073 for FY’17 financed by: Green Transportation Fee base of \$313,515; \$129,237 + \$34,124 Rt.1B North one-time allocation from Parking Fund; \$36,452 Residential Life; and \$23,745 to help run the Stomper Express to selected off-campus sites (e.g., River Hills Mall, Wal-Mart).

**4. Post Hearing Recommendation – Keep Lot 23 as a Non-Permit Lot**

Discussion occurred at the February 16th Advisory Committee meeting. In an unanimous decision the Voting Members of the Advisory Committee agreed that the existing status of Lot 23 as a “non-

permit” lot continue.

Notwithstanding the argument that the 436 stalls in Lot 23 should generate permit revenue to help cover snow removal costs and lot repairs, and that such costs were a burden on other permit holders, Advisory Committee members cited various reasons why the University should keep the “free lot free,” among which included the fact that nearby retailers and homeowners had not been aware of any new effort to charge for a Lot 23 permit as it had not been a formal part of the March 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing Docket. (The Advisory Committee, in its February 16<sup>th</sup> meeting, voted 6-0 to keep Lot 23 as a free lot based on an energetic presentation by student leaders.)

The potential of a negative impact on the University’s neighbors was of concern, and the strong position of the Student Association in opposition to a change, were contributing factors in the Advisory Committee’s final recommendation to maintain the status quo for Lot 23.

**5. Post Hearing Recommendation – Increase Rates for Paylot Passes**

Advisory Committee recommends amending *Parking & Traffic Guidelines Handbook Article IV-B-2 Visitors Paylot Passes* changing the price of the “All Day” Pass to \$8 and the “Four Hour” Paylot Pass to \$5. It was understood that major buyers of discounted Paylot passes in the past included Dental Education which is now located in the new Clinical Sciences Building and no longer a customer.

<b>Lot 4 Visitor Paylot Passes</b>	<b>Existing Rate</b>	<b>Proposed Rates</b>
“All Day” Paylot Pass	<b>\$5.00</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>
“Four Hour” Paylot Pass	<b>\$2.50</b>	<b>\$5.00</b>
“Perforated Come & Go Conference Workshop” Pass	<b>\$6.00</b>	<b>\$8.00</b>

Advisory Committee members agreed that Affinity Plus, because of the large numbers of Paylot passes customized for their use, would continue to receive a “quantity discount” though a new higher price would be subject to negotiation with the Facilities Services Director. Since most, if not all, of the workshops and conferences rely on registration fees, it is assumed that the proposed increased rates can be absorbed by the workshop or conference participants through their registration charges. The existing printed Paylot pass rates have not been changed for years while the current Visitor Paylot gate rate is now at \$4 for the first hour and \$2 per hour thereafter.

**6. Post Hearing Recommendation – Withdraw Support for “Years of Service” as New Pool for April Gold Permit Drawing**

Advisory Committee members agreed to drop further consideration of last year’s March 2016 endorsed proposal that the existing Gold Permit Drawing procedures be modified to create a third drawing pool made of those employees who have been MSU employees 30 years or more. Concern was expressed at the Committee’s February 9, 2017, meeting 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 1<sup>st</sup> Choice entries in the Drawing, would have to be taken off of the list of Gold permit spaces available for a large population of Gold Drawing participants. 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.