

Traffic and Parking Committee Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2019

DPS Training Room, Trueblood Hall

Present: Chief Benjamin Newman (Department of Public Safety), Judy Marshall (Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance), Lt. John Allen (Department of Public Safety), Eli Epplin, (Parking Division), Kym Morgan (Civil Service Employees Council), Mary Taylor (Faculty Senate), Kyle Childress (Traffic & Parking Appeals Board Chairman), Lisa Caringer (Disability Support Services), Tena Bennett (Student Center), and Scott Weber (Engineering Services).

Absent: Brett Lacy, (Graduate/Professional Student Council), Junghwa Lee, Graduate Council; Amanda Sutton (AP Staff).

Guests: Trey Hentis, USG Senator and College of Engineering Student; Jacob Lorenz, Daily Egyptian reporter

The Traffic and Parking Committee meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chief Newman. Roll call was taken and introductions were made.

Chief Newman asked if there were any changes or additions to the agenda. Colton Newlin asked that two items to the agenda as 7.10, Lot 52 Expansion, and 7.1, Dental Hygiene Patient Parking. Motion by Colton Newlin to approve the agenda with additions, and seconded by Judy Marshall. None opposed. Motion passed

The minutes of the last meeting were reviewed. Motion was made by Colton Newlin to approve the minutes as presented and seconded by Kyle Childers. None opposed. Motion passed.

Informational Items/Announcements

Chief Newman stated that this committee is advisory in nature to the Chancellor's Office, and recommendations from these meetings are forwarded to the Chancellor for consideration.

Chief Newman stated that the Food Drive was a success. Eli Epplin stated that 879 cans of food were collected for the Saluki Food Pantry. In exchange, 139 citations worth \$4,260 were waived.

Old Business

6.1 Capital Improvement Projects

Capital Improvement Projects for fiscal years 2018-2021 were presented, which included Lots 9, 21, 94, and repaving of Saluki Drive and a portion of Lincoln Drive. Scott Weber stated that the repaving would be concluded this summer.

6.2 Rate Decal Memo to Chancellor

Chief Newman read a memo directed to the Chancellor stating that based on the Parking & Traffic Committee's recommendation from the Fall meeting, it is recommended that there be no increase in decal rates as of July 1, 2019. It also suggested an increase in certain citation fines and parking permits.

New Business

7.1 Decal Fee Assessment

Judy Marshall stated that she received an inquiry on using a system for parking decals based on a percentage of an employee's salary that would be deducted through payroll. After discussion, the committee did not feel there would be an interest in changing the current process.

7.2 Citation Fine Amounts

Eli Epplin provided a list of citation fines for the committee to consider increases. Most citations are included in Sections 5-108, 5-109, and 6-102. The most common and recurrent citations are illegal parking and no valid decal. Lisa Caringer moved to increase the fine for blocking a crosswalk or wheelchair ramp to \$75, and it was seconded by Tena Bennett. None opposed. Motion passed.

7.3 Lot 12 Graduate Admissions

Amanda Sutton (AP Staff) was unable to attend but forwarded her report to the committee that it has been agreed between the departments that both potential undergraduate and graduate students would be able to use Lot 12.

7.4 West Campus Parking

Eli Epplin stated that at the last meeting, discussion was held on changing a portion of West Campus Lot 4 from upgraded restricted overnight green decal to red decal, and a request was made for lot counts so the matter could be discussed at this meeting. Epplin reported that lot counts for Lot 4 indicated a 40-49% occupancy rate. Chief Newman stated that East Campus will be re-opening in the fall and should alleviate some of the overnight green parking decal use. Colton Newlin stated that a large portion of the student population is expected to move into the Towers, and that many of the green decal parking spaces would not be needed, but he would like to see a portion of the lot dedicated to the upgraded overnight restricted green parking decal spaces. Colton Newlin moved to change Lot 4 to one-third upgraded restricted overnight green decal spaces and two-third red decal spaces. Chief Newman stated that there is some confusion when lots are divided in that manner. Newlin moved to open discussion on his motion. Chief Newman and Judy Marshall added that in Lot 7, there are red and blue plastic ballards to designate parking and seems to be clearer to drivers. One third of Lot 4 would equal approximately 110 spaces. Colton Newlin stated he would like to see the changes made by the fall. Mary Taylor moves to second Colton Newlin's motion that Lot 4 be changed to approximately one-third green spaces and two-third red spaces with partitions. None opposed. Motion passed.

7.5 Yellow Parking Lots

Chief Newman stated that employees who park near Athletics in Lots 37 and 52 pay more for their decals than employees using yellow Lots 18 and 24, and it was suggested to the committee that Lots 18 and 24 be converted from yellow lots. There was no interest from the committee into converting yellow Lots 18 and 24.

7.6 Evening and Weekend Parking

Eli Epplin stated that from July 1, 2017, through March 20, 2018, there were 225 citations written for weekends from Fridays at 4 pm to Monday at 7 am. From 4 pm to 7 am during Monday-Thursday nights, citation totals were 5,500, making an overall weekend and evening parking citations total of 5,725 citations from July 1, 2018, to March 20, 2019, which equals \$150,000 in fines. From July 1, 2018, through March 20, 2019, the number of weekend citations issued were 377, and evening citations were 2,148, for a total of 2,525 citations, which equals \$70,000 in fines. Judy Marshall stated that even though the Parking Division has seen a decrease in revenue, she would like to see free parking on campus in the evenings and on the weekends, making the campus more visitor-friendly. Chief Newman stated that changing the signage across campus would be expensive, and he would like to see signage changed only in those lots which visitors use frequently, such as lots near athletics, McLeod Theatre, and Shryock, Colton Newlin moved that the campus offer free parking after 4 pm and on the weekends in Lots 56, 40, 18, 10, 6, and 2 with amended signage. Seconded by Kyle Childress. None opposed. Motion passes.

7.7 Lot 94 ADA Parking

Chief Newman stated that lot counts were taken in Lot 94 with the intention of possibly increasing the number of ADA spaces. Eli Epplin stated that ADA parking in Lot 94 and the Health Center Circle, which is east of the Health Center, the occupancy range was consistently between 43%-57%, and they're not always utilized. Enforcements have been increased on the ADA and patient parking areas for the Health Center, and this has helped open up the spaces as well.

7.8 ROTC Guest Parking

Judy Marshall stated that there are currently only three buildings occupied on Greek Row, and ROTC has requested free parking spaces for guests/prospective students due to the number of available spaces in the area. A visitor metered lot is across the street from the ROTC building. It was suggested by the committee that ROTC purchase guest passes, which is consistent with the practice of most departments on campus.

7.9 Lot 21

Scott Weber stated that Lot 21 with 30 spaces near Woody Hall may need expansion due to the number of employees working in the area. The estimate for an additional 25 parking spaces to Lot 21, along with additional or improved lighting and the potential to add cameras, is \$310,000.

7.10 Lot 52 Expansion

Colten Newlin asked Trey Hentis, a senior from the College of Engineering, to speak about the dangers of Lot 52. Mr. Hentis stated there are many issues with parking and congestion in Lot

52 as it is always full and poses a safety risk due to the number of vehicles travel through the lot looking for parking spaces. He stated that the west end of Lot 37, across the street, is not always full, and he would like to see, for the good of the students and the university, that Lot 37 be expanded to include additional red decal spaces while still maintaining a portion of it as paystation spaces. Chief Newman stated that this was considered previously but due to budget cuts, it was not pursued. Chief Newman stated that because Lot 37 needs resurfacing, they will look into estimates on expanding Lot 37 as well. Expansion of Lot 52 is not possible due to other activities in the area around the lot. The matter has been tabled to the meeting in fall, and lot counts and design changes for Lot 37 will be provided.

7.11 Lot 37 Free Parking for Dental Hygiene Patients

Colton Newlin stated that the dental hygiene clinic asked about free parking for their patients. It was decided that since Health Center patients have free parking, it may also be offered to dental hygiene patients. This matter is tabled for the next meeting, and information on the policy towards patients and free parking is gathered.

8. Action Items

8.1 Convert Lots 18 and 24 from yellow decal parking to red decal parking, effective July 1, 2019
Action Item 8.1 was discussed in New Business 7.5, and the conversion was not supported by the committee.

Chief Newman moved to adjourn and Judy Marshall seconded. None opposed. Motion passed.
Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm.