TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 10, 2004

ATTENDEES

Members: 
Bob Bates  
Sheri Bryan  
Zachery Jacobson  
Bob Miller  
Darlene Niswander  
Ata Sarajedini  
Steve Sargent  
Gail Sasnett

Ex-Officio Members: 
Linda Dixon  
Scott Fox  
Don Powell  
Carol Walker

Non-members: 
Bahar Armaghani  
Phil Barkley  
Jeff Brown  
Erik Lewis  
Rudy Santacroce  
Scott Whiddon  
David Wood

MINUTES
AUGUST 10, 2004

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the June 8, 2004 meeting were presented to the Committee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as presented. The motion carried without objection.

III. Director’s Update, Scott Fox

Bledsoe Drive Parking Lot Paving: The project completion date has been extended 4-6 weeks to early October due to purchasing delays.
Visitor/Patient Parking at Cultural Plaza and Orthopedics: Installation of gates and cashiering booths are underway at the Cultural Plaza for museum visitors and at Orthopedics for patients. The daily parking fee will be $3.00.

Garage 10 Structural Damage and Auto Fire: Within the past several weeks there have been two incidents involving Garage 10. First, TAPS discovered structural damage in the southeast corner of the garage. Engineers from Walker Parking Consultants evaluated the damage and developed plans for short-term shoring and long-term repairs. Conditions are safe for public parking. Additionally, there was a spontaneous car fire over the weekend in this garage, causing significant damage to the electrical system (lights) and requiring some clean-up of the fire damage. UF is pursuing the matter with vehicle owner’s insurance company.

Newell Garage Stairway Replacement: The project is underway. No more than two stairwells will be out of service at any time. All construction areas will be properly barricaded for pedestrian safety. The project is scheduled for completion in September at a cost of $220,000.

Garage 1 Traffic Coating Replacement: Work to remove and replace the defective topping is scheduled to occur from August 16 through August 22.

Fall Parking: All temporary summer parking arrangements will revert to normal for the start of the fall semester. Student decals may now be ordered online. Additionally, TAPS recently has implemented the I-PAY system which allows customers to search for and pay parking citations online via credit card.

Corry Village/Village Drive Update: Scott Fox reported on a meeting between representatives of Housing, the Law School and TAPS regarding the possible shared use of parking spaces in Corry Village by law students. This would help mitigate the future loss of on-street parking spaces along Village Drive. Housing will monitor utilization of parking in Corry Village through September to evaluate how much space is available, and will solicit input from Corry Village residents.

Discussion:

Carol Walker reported that the planned conversion of the gated parking lot at the Women’s Gym to gardens has been delayed due to funding issues. Now it is projected to begin in November.

She also reported that the west Newell Drive temporary construction lot for minor projects has been closed and cleaned up. Contractor parking has been consolidated to the east side.

IV. Student Infirmary Addition: Rudy Santacroce, Phil Barkley, Scott Whiddon

Dr. Barkley and Rudy Santacroce presented the proposed Infirmary Addition, which is in the preliminary programming phase, for suggestions and approval. They noted that presently there is not enough space and that existing space is inefficient in this 1930’s building. There
is $7.6 million CITF funding for additions to include clinical services and ancillary services. This is the desirable site because it is a focal point centrally located. There are two building sites (A and B) under consideration. The initial Site A idea is to try to add new parking by preserving the grade on the west side of the site and build over parking. Issues to consider include emergency vehicle access, trees, parking, access, architecture in the surrounding area, and ultimately what is best for student health care.

Discussion:

Bob Miller asked whether auto traffic will increase. Dr. Barkley acknowledged that it won’t go down. There are two user populations, one that walks and one that drives. As this part of campus moves towards a more pedestrian environment, the traffic should become more pedestrian. Miller asked if the Infirmary would see more patients. Dr. Barkley said that is a good question, but part of the need for more space is improved efficiency and effectiveness.

Ata Sarajedini asked why Site B is still an option, since Site A is so much more favorable for parking. Rudy Santacroce said there are still possible utility issues that may constrain this option. Carol Walker added that it must be a buildable site that accounts for historic area issues, appropriate setbacks from other buildings, Master Plan issues, etc.

Gail Sasnett asked if some services could be performed at another location. Dr. Barkley said that a major satellite facility will not meet their needs. If the services are integrated they better meet student patients’ needs. Additionally, a satellite location would cost more to staff, run and maintain.

Bob Miller noted that this was a great site at one time, but now it is in the auto-free zone where it presents problems. He wondered if this project perpetuates growth in an area that is already painfully crowded and problematic. He anticipates future requests for parking accommodations for on-call doctors, radiologists, etc. This area will continue to be a challenge for transportation and parking.

Zach Jacobson asked why the northeast portion of the site could not be used. Linda Dixon noted that there are utility issues and emergency access issues there.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the site as presented, and to encourage the project to work hard to maintain existing parking and provide additional parking if possible. The motion carried without objection.

V. Structures and Materials Laboratory: Bahar Armaghani

Bahar Armaghani returned to the committee with this familiar project and presented new renderings. There is a revised site plan showing a new location for the building. The building itself remains the same.
Action:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the site plan as presented. The motion carried without objection.

VI. **Baseball/Football Locker Room Facilities & Lemerand Center Renovation, Schematic Design: Bahar Armaghani**

Bahar Armaghani offered the committee an early look at this project, which is in the schematic design phase. The project will add bleachers, rest rooms, concessions, entrance enhancements, a ticket station, interior renovations, equipment storage, locker rooms, trainer’s offices, etc.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the site plan as presented. The motion carried without objection.

VII. **FDOT SR 26/26A Reconstruction: Linda Dixon**

Linda Dixon presented this project for informational purposes only. UF is engaged with DOT in discussions regarding reconstruction of this University Ave. intersection. The intersection will be realigned and signalized. Additional improvements will include better sidewalks, and UF will ask to mitigate tree losses.

Discussion followed regarding rush hour traffic challenges on SW 2nd Avenue and at that intersection, special event traffic, and game day traffic.

VIII. **Other Business**

**Archer Road and Newell Drive Traffic Issues**

Col. Powell shared observations and concerns about morning traffic entering Garage 10. He noted that the right lane on Archer Road westbound is becoming a stacking lane for traffic turning right into the hospital, causing it to back up almost to 13th Street. In addition, eastbound traffic turning left is interrupted due to this stacking and turning movement. He noted that there are potential road rage and crash issues here. He added that the upcoming removal of the temporary crosswalk near Archer Road will help. He recommends two alternatives: build another access road to the garage or devise a new method of accepting payment to speed up vehicle entry. Members noted that there are few solutions and all are very costly. This is a city traffic problem, but we must agree that the garage creates it.

Linda Dixon said that there is an ongoing MTPO study, and September 2 reports will present long range, 20-year scenarios for this area. UF is on record supporting removing through traffic on this portion of Archer Road so that only local destination traffic will remain.
Don Powell said that a “no turn on red” for westbound traffic might help a little.

Scott Fox asked if traffic could be stacked in the loop behind the garage at Transplant Housing. This would help clear stacking on Archer Road. TAPS will explore this possibility.

**Carpool Subcommittee**

Ata Sarajedini asked whether the carpool subcommittee would continue to meet and formulate its recommendations. Gail Sasnett expressed her desire that it continue.

**Audible Signals**

Linda Dixon reported the presence of audible signals at two intersections on campus, which has been a long-time goal of Ken Osfield in the ADA office.

**Email Regarding O’Connell Center Parking Lot**

Scott Fox received an email from a staff member who works at the stadium and agreed to bring it to the Committee’s attention. The email expresses concern about the absence of pedestrian walkways in the O’Connell center parking lot. Linda Dixon noted that there would be considerable cost and loss of spaces and/or trees to install walkways similar to the past project at the Cultural Plaza. Gail Sasnett expressed concern about liability here. Bob Miller observed that many campus parking lots do not have interior walkways. Ata Sarajedini noted that visitors regularly attend events at the O’Connell Center.

VI. **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40.