TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES: February 14, 2006

Members Present:          Ex-Officio Members Present:          Non-Members Present:
Shelley Arlen            Scott Fox                        Jeremiah Blanchard
Robert Bates            Don Powell                        Sharon Blansett
Robert Hockman          Cameron James Siggs                Rena Buchan
Michael Katovich        Erik Erazo                        Ron Fuller
Heather McAuslane       Ron Fuller                        Thomas Ruppert
Ata Sarajedini          Erick Smith                       Sanjay Solanki
Ronald Siders           Marty Werts
Scott Washburn

I. Call to Order, Chair

The meeting was called to order at 2:10 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes, Chair

The minutes of the January 10, 2006 meeting were presented to committee members for review. A motion was made and seconded to approve minutes as presented. The motion carried without objection.

III. Director's Update, Scott Fox

- RTS Sunday bus service will begin in the Fall. This service was requested by Student Government and will be funded via the Transportation Access Fee.
- Bus Shelters, Phase 2 construction of six bus shelters is nearing completion.
- Effective January 30, 2006, faculty/staff and student parking was prohibited in the Health Science Center pay garages due to critical shortage of visitor and patient parking spaces.
- A UF staff member asked the committee to hear his complaint regarding faculty and staff use of campus parking meters. He thinks this should be prohibited. A motion was made and seconded not to consider a policy change. The motion
carried without objection.

IV. O’Connell Center Trees and Parking, Scott Fox

**DISCUSSION:**

Tree roots in the O’Connell Center surface lot are bubbling up through the pavement and causing surface damage. A recent claim for minor damage to an automobile has raised a question about how this condition should be addressed. Should the planter surrounding the tree be fixed in place, or should some parking spaces be removed to enlarge the planter? Should parking spaces be removed to allow the tree to thrive? Views pro and con were presented by Erick Smith and Marty Wertz of PPD. A compromise solution was suggested to install a mulch base on which cars could park.

**ACTION:**

A motion was made and seconded with two objections to be tree friendly and put mulch down. The motion carried with two members opposed.

V. Special Event Permit Fees, Scott Fox

**DISCUSSION:**

TAPS recommends imposing a Special Event Parking Fee of $1 per vehicle per day effective January 1, 2007 for all special events. The justification in implementing a fee is that all users of parking on campus should share in the high cost to provide and maintain parking facilities; the impact on the university community of special event parking is no longer insignificant, the amount of complaints about free parking for special events from customers who purchase parking decals is growing; and it may help UF’S sustainability effort by discouraging on campus parking and encouraging ride sharing and alternate transportation methods to attend these events.

**ACTION**

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

VI. Motorcycle/Scooter Parking Issues, Ron Fuller

**DISCUSSION:**

In the last four years, motorcycle and scooter decal sales have increased at a higher rate than any other decal at UF. With this increase of motorcycles and scooters, a problem has risen. Throughout campus there have been motorcycle and scooter
zones that have been over flowing. Some complaints have been that cars parked near these zones have gotten scratches on them as well as other complaints that some motorcycles and scooters get locked in the middle of the zone and cannot get out without having to move someone else’s vehicle and possibly damaging property.

**ACTION:**
A motion was made to provide some degree of structure in motorcycle/scooter parking and continue to locate motorcycle/scooter parking in the campus core. The motion carried without objection.

VII. Corry Village Shared Parking Proposal, Scott Fox

Discussions continue with Housing and the residents of Corry Village regarding the possibility sharing the underutilized parking spaces there with Commuter decal holders. Representatives from Corry Village came to the meeting to voice their concerns about sharing the parking lot. Their concern was mainly about the safety of their children and an influx of traffic going through the loop. There was a proposal of using the bottom area as shared parking as well as having a gate.

Members expressed lack of first hand knowledge of the Corry Village parking areas. A recommendation was made that TAPS schedule a site visit for Committee members so they may better familiarize themselves with conditions there.

VIII. Car Pool Parking and Sustainability, Bob Hockman

Again, this topic is held over until the next meeting due to time constraints

IX. Other Business

None

X. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.