TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
NOVEMBER 9, 2004

ATTENDEES

Members present: Robert Hockman, Zachery Jacobson, Mike Katovich, Heather McAuslane, Robert Miller, Steve, Sargent, Justin Sharpless, Scott Washburn.

Ex-Officio Members present: Linda Dixon, Scott Fox, Don Powell.

Non-members present: Ata Sarajedini.

MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2004

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 PM. Committee members introduced themselves.

II. Selection of Chair

Bob Miller noted that the Committee is still in need of a Chair. Ata Sarajedini, who served as last year’s Chair, graciously has been serving as Acting Chair. The Chair is expected to attend Land Use Committee meetings. Since there were no nominations at this time, it was agreed to wait another month and solicit nominations again.

III. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the August 10, 2004 meeting were presented to the Committee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with on correction, noting that the City of

Equal Opportunity / Affirmative Action Institution
Gainesville installed the audible signals. The motion carried without objection.

IV. Director’s Update, Scott Fox

Cultural Plaza and Orthopedics Visitor Parking: Visitor parking areas with attended cashiering booths were placed into operation in late August at both sites. The parking fee is $3.00 daily at each location.

Bledsoe Drive Lot Open: The Bledsoe Drive parking lot paving and landscaping has been completed and the lot is open. Lights will be installed over the next 2 weeks.

Garage 4 Stairway Replacement: The replacement of all four stairways in the Newell Garage has been completed at a cost of approximately $220,000.

Garage 1 Traffic Coating Replacement: Work to remove and replace the defective topping has been rescheduled to occur during the holiday break week to minimize the disruption to parking customers. The work should be completed by January 3, 2005.

Shealy Drive Lighting: A project has been completed to install lights along Shealy Drive to light the sidewalk and roadway.

Rule Changes: Two significant rule changes will occur on January 1, 2005. Both have successfully been through the rule change process, including public hearings. First, the amount of time allowed to appeal a parking citation will be reduced from 90 calendar days to 20 business days. This will improve the efficiency of the current appeals process and reduce the amount of frivolous appeals that are received. Second, the fine for driving in the auto-free zone will be increased from $20.00 to $35.00.

Transportation Access Fee: After a series of meetings of the Transportation Access Fee Committee, a decision was made to increase the fee from $4.10 to $4.24 per credit hour for the 2005-2006 year. This will to maintain existing service, enhance service on some routes, and fund a large portion of the Bus Shelters, Phase 2 project.

Center Drive Repaving Project: An approximate 4-month repaving project will begin in early December. During each of the 4 phases of construction, there will be portions of Center Drive that will be closed, and a one-way traffic flow will be required. Access to all parking garages, lots and service drives will be maintained throughout the project. Linda Dixon added that the project includes a bus bay and pull-out on center Drive north of Mowry Road.

V. Stadium Road Auto-Free Zone Gate

Zach Jacobson proposed that Student Government could provide funding to install a gate at the entrance to the auto-free zone to better manage traffic and improve safety. Currently, vehicles that drive around the gate must face oncoming traffic in a potentially unsafe manner. The presence of buses, pedestrians and bicycles added to these conditions.
Discussion:

Zach Jacobson reported the cost would be approximately $1,800 for the gate and $700 for installation. Student Government reserves or capital improvement funds might be used.

Don Powell confirmed that UPD is continually enforcing the auto-free zone.

The gate could be triggered automatically to allow buses to enter. Steve Sargent asked if it could be automatic for buses only, allowing other vehicles to continue to drive around the gate.

Some members asked if the gate location could be changed to allow better traffic movement.

Action:

A motion was made and seconded to request that TAPS and Student Government work to develop a proposal to present to the committee when ready. The motion carried without objection.

V. Carry-Forward Items

Bob Miller reviewed a small list of items that the prior year’s Committee had begun to address but did not resolve. He suggested that some or all of these items may be of interest to new committee members who may wish to pursue them. This list includes:

- Freshmen decal eligibility
- The Carpool program
- Village Drive/Corry Drive shared parking options
- West Fraternity Drive sidewalk
- Gated parking
- State Vehicle parking
- Disabled parking access
- Replacement parking

Discussion:

Mike Katovich asked why we don’t build parking garages higher to accommodate more cars. Bob Miller noted that it has to do with the prior administration’s view on scale.

Members asked about the future of the University Center Hotel. Bob Miller reported that Shands has purchased the property and will be determining what the best use will be.

Bob Miller asked Scott Fox to assemble some background materials on several of these Old Business items for members to review.
VI. Other Business

Master Plan Update

Linda Dixon reported that the Master Plan Update process is underway. Three sub-committees (Steering, Conservation and Transportation Study) are meeting to participate in the open, interactive process. Dixon showed where to find information on this and other projects on the Facilities Planning website.

VII. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30.