PARKING AND TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

October 13, 2015       2:00 PM       206 TAPS

ATTENDEES:
Members: Ray G. Thomas, Cynthia Brochu, Daniel Bowen, Thomas Burt, Mark Leeps, Jay Watkins, Craig Hill, Ben Walker, Mark Rottensteiner
Ex-Officio Members: Scott Fox, Matt Williams, Maj. Brad Barber
Non-members: Ron Fuller, Scott Whiddon, Carter Long, Ryan Murphy, Kirby Weitzel, Patriga G.L. Queiroz, Maria Croady, Nina Shubert (recording)

CHAIR: Ray Thomas

CALL TO ORDER:
Meeting was called to order by Ray Thomas at 2:00 p.m.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:
Ray Thomas asked the committee for a review and approval of the minutes from September, 2015. Cynthia Brochu moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Jay Watkins. The minutes were approved.

TAPS DEPARTMENT UPDATE
PRESENTING: Ron Fuller
DISCUSSION:
  • Spike in Motorcycle/Scooter Use – 20% increase on campus. Expansion of motorcycle and scooter to relieve some overcrowded areas.
  • Increase in Park ‘n Ride Decals – 20% increase.
  • Bicycle Fix-It/Air Stations – Five additional stations. No issues with tools or pumps at the stations.
  • Bike Racks – New/Additional racks installed at Law School and Turlington.
  • Next Garage Lighting Project – Garage IV, preliminary work being done. Retrofitted with LED fixtures. Completed by Thanksgiving. Garage X is only garage remaining to be refitted.
  • UF Greenway – DOT project, work continues. Install new bridge on the creek and continue work along Newell Drive.
  • Gator Gears – Bike rental program introduced over this past summer and retained for this year. Have rented out 150. Office of sustainability is doing maintenance and parts.
  • Transportation Access Fee Committee Meeting Begin October 14 – Current fee is $9.44 for each credit hour.

There was some discussion by the committee regarding:
  • Increases and decreases in vehicle usage – monitor driving behavior changes.
  • Expansion of motorcycle and scooter parking
  • Utilization of current space

MOTOR CYCLE SAFETY CAMPAIGN
PRESENTING: Dr. Maria Coady, Department of Education
DISCUSSION:
Dr. Maria Coady, along with students Carter Long and Tommy Barrett presented personal stories and an initiative for campus motorcycle and scooter safety. The proposal included:
  • A resolution for wearing helmets on campus. – Cited accident statistics on campus and around Gainesville.
  • Change in language defining a motor vehicle.
  • Mandatory on-line safety course to obtain a motorcycle/scooter decal.
  • Use of motorcycle/scooter film produced and developed by Gator Wellness.
Dr. Coady has met with Dr. Fred Moore, City of Gainesville, regarding the changes in the traffic signals and signs (the flashing yellow left turn arrow). State Rep. Keith Perry regarding filing an update in current language of laws regarding motorcycle and scooters. Dr. Coady noted the increase in fatalities around the state since the revocation of the helmet law. She suggested that part of the state language should include those under 25 should wear helmets when operating said vehicles.

Major Brad Barber proposed that parents could be very involved with this initiative.
- Parents added to the Listserv – cooperation with Dean of Students.
- Present Gator Wellness film and safety initiative at Preview.

Discussed was pairing with the Motorcycle Safety Foundation to do safety training. Dr. Coady has contacted them and there is great interest in doing this.

**ACTION:**
This presentation was for discussion only. However, Ray Thomas proposed the film be viewed prior to anyone purchasing a motorcycle/scooter decal and have the link to the film on the TAPS website. He also stated that Environmental Health Safety (EH&S) needs to be involved in this initiative. Scoot Fox stated the film can have a link on the TAPS website.

**KAPPA DELTA SORORITY SCOOTER EXPANSION**
PRESENTING: Scott Whiddon, PD&C

**DISCUSSION:**
Scott Widdon presented the proposed project design for expanding scooter parking area at the Kappa Delta sorority. The unused bike shed area will be removed to allow for more scooter parking. There will be no impact to car parking, traffic flow or grassy area. The gas meter close to area has been contained. Committee members inquired regarding:
- Decal parking in the area - Sororities decal their own areas.
- Pavers for the proposed area – Area has a cement slab in place.
- Clearance from EH&S – Walkways and doorway will be maintained.
- Sustainability of scooters in the area.
- New sorority house being built – Neither project will interfere with the other.

**ACTION:**
Motion was proposed to approve the project design. Daniel Bowen moved to approve, seconded by Cynthia Brochu. The project design was approved.

**SURPLUS PROPERTY WAREHOUSE – SITE APPROVAL (TENTATIVE)**
PRESENTING: Scott Whiddon, PD&C

**DISCUSSION:**
Scott Widdon presented the site approval for a proposed surplus property warehouse project. The area for the warehouse is near the current surplus property warehouse (old laundry building) in the Physical Plant Department (PPD). The building will be a modular, 2-story building. There will be an initially loss of 17 spaces, however it was noted that the spaces in the area were mostly being utilized by old, unused state vehicles. Part of the building may house bicycles. PPD training may be housed in this building as well. As the size of this building is large enough to take away parking, proposed was parking accommodations across the street.

**ACTIONS:**
A motion was presented to approve the building site and continue with the design. Scott Widdon will return to the committee for the next phase. Mark Rottensteiner moved to approve, Mark Leeps seconded the motion. Project at current phase was approved.
OTHER BUSINESS:
PRESENTED BY: Ray Thomas

1) Change in regulation – Scooter parking for graduate students. Graduate student who live off-campus (noted that this is most of them) would like to be able to purchase a car and motorcycle/scooter decal the same as employees. This decal comes with a cable lock to attach to a motorcycle or scooter. The consideration is that the graduate student who lives off campus will take up the same single space as the employee. Scott Fox said this was possible, however could not be implemented until the new decal year. Although the committee can consider this proposal, it cannot to change the regulation. The committee will consider and can recommend this change to the Board of Governors.

2) Construction vehicles parking in the lot across from the Reitz Union/Welcome Center. Ray Thomas counted approximately 45 vehicle associated with construction companies taking up space in this lot. These vehicle are not required to pay for parking as they have permanently marked identification. These vehicles park in bike lanes, on sidewalks and on the grass areas. It was noted and discussed that PPD are equal by doing the same. The members spoke of decals and or enforcing time limits on these vehicles. Scott Fox stated that any action would require a regulation change.

3) Sustainable Transportation Fair on October 21, 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on the north lawn of the Reitz Union.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 3:28 p.m.