

Parking and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

12/10/2021

Via Zoom

Members Present: Sam Avery, Paul Hanley, Pamella Hughes, Kara Park, Debra Trusty, David Wittenberg  
Staff/Others Present: Brian McClatchey, Jacob Odgaard, Erin Shane and Carrie Brus  
Members/Staff Absent: David Keffala-Gerhard, Kevin Larson, Brian Shanahan, Rebecca Wilson and Debby Zumbach

Meeting began at 2:32pm

Carrie took roll call based on Zoom attendance

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Moved and seconded to approve minutes

Introduce new committee member

- Deb Trusty
  - Lecturer in Classics Department
- Replacing Greg Shill due to his sabbatical in the spring semester

CAMBUS and EV buses

- Handout
- Brian McClatchey presented the information provided in the handout
- Considering the BEBs (Battery Electric Bus)
- Numbers nationally are increasing each year
- Makes sense for CAMBUS to consider now
- Could see an impact from the new federal infrastructure plan
- Need to come up with a transition plan
  - Evaluation of overall services
  - Are electric buses viable for CAMBUS?
  - What are the power requirements?
  - What are the range needs?
  - Charging stations for buses could go at the CAMBUS Maintenance Facility
    - What kind of charging equipment makes the most sense?
  - 29 full-size diesel buses in current fleet
  - Potential to transition up to 19 buses to the BEB option
- Iowa Avenue bridge low clearance presents an issue for electric buses
  - No BEB option available that would work for the Iowa Avenue bridge
  - To avoid the Iowa Avenue bridge would be a significant and inefficient change to make
- Four main manufacturers of Battery Electric Bus
- CAMBUS is in the very early stages of this process
- Questions from the group
  - Impact of winter weather with electric buses?
    - Need to consider power outage situations in planning
    - Heating the buses consume power resources
  - Does this change staffing?
    - No impact to staffing
    - Operate very similarly to diesel buses
  - What is the training impact?
    - Very specific training that would be involved
    - Training is centered around safety concerns
  - Several systems located in Iowa have received grant funding for Low-No grants
    - What is the timeline?
      - Not a quick process
      - Lead time on a diesel bus is 18 months
      - Looking at a similar lead time for BEBs
      - Training would add to that lead time to train on the bus in person
  - BEBs are very quiet buses
  - Would be low floor buses as we have now
  - Passenger counts would be very similar to current fleet
  - Very heavy buses

Campus Snow Removal process

- Snow Removal process
  - Parking and Transportation conducts snow removal 24/7
  - Internal maintenance team and external contractor plow and remove snow in all parking areas
  - Service area includes seven parking structures and over 55 parking lots as well as the commuter lot bus shelters

- Facilities Management, Housing & Dining, UIHC Grounds and Athletics have snow removal responsibilities as well
- Campus Snow Responsibility Map is on the departmental website
- Service Priorities
  - Each event is unique and different priorities present themselves
  - Parking Ramps
    - Removal begins after event
    - Dump/haul snow in the overnight hours
    - Snow load and rooftop icing are major concerns
  - Surface Lots
    - Removal techniques shift with storm timing
    - Some lots will see snow piles while other lots have the snow hauled away
- Budgeting for winter weather
  - Based on historical costs
  - Snow removal contractor costs are defined by the University contract
  - Majority of costs come from the contractor

#### Parking and Transportation options for students and permit growth review

- Student parking options
  - Promotion of alternative modes
  - CAMBUS frequency and coverage
  - Discounted rates for bus passes and 380 Express
  - Free bicycle parking/registration
  - Conduct surveys in the fall
- Student permit data
  - Average student bus passes issued; approximately 2,000 in FY 2019
  - Average student rideshare users; approximately 375 in FY 2022
- How students learn about options
  - Website – redesigned website this year
  - Calling and asking questions
  - Two modules in the Success at Iowa online course in Orientation presentations
  - Outreach presentations to campus partners
- Policies and Regulations
  - Iowa Administrative Code
  - Requires students to register vehicles
  - University administration direction and guidance
  - Parking and Transportation Regulations and website detail all student parking options and rates
- Student parking trends
  - Current options based on either undergraduate or graduate status and where students live
  - Sold on first come/first serve basis
  - Lottery idea is under consideration
  - Most lots are sold out within a few weeks of going on sale
  - Waitlists are maintained
  - No caps on motorcycle parking and day permits
  - Largest growth areas are in Night and Weekend permits, Hawkeye Storage and Motorcycles
- Student permits issued
  - Rebounding to pre-pandemic levels
  - Night and Weekend permits are exploding in popularity at only \$5 per month
- Student permit revenue
  - Starting to increase
- Motorcycle parking permits
  - No cap on permits
  - Starting to increase
  - Shortage in space in specific areas on campus
- Feedback and questions from the group
  - Lottery system idea
    - No parking for freshmen
    - Need to present this idea to administration
    - Lottery system for sophomores through graduate students
  - Student proximity to campus
    - Space is limited in those lots
  - Students who live in dorms only qualify for Hawkeye Storage
  - Lot 3
    - Day Permit allowed to park there during the day
    - No cap on this
  - Walking times
    - Need to promote this option
    - Use of Transit App
    - Trip planner feature

#### Housekeeping Items

- Carrie will contact the committee in January to look at possible times for meetings

#### Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn and seconded
- Meeting ended at 3:50pm