

Parking and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

11/19/2024

Via Zoom

Members Present: Ryan Dusil, Travis Fischer, Brent Hadder, Madison Kelly, Victoria Miller, Colin Nelson-Pinkston, Debra Trusty
Staff/Others Present: Brian McClatchey, Carol Scott-Conner, Debby Zumbach and Carrie Brus
Members/Staff Absent: Mona Luong, Ava Russ and John Wadsworth

Meeting began at 3:31pm

Carrie took roll call based on Zoom attendance

Meeting Minutes

- Any questions or comments?
- Motion to approve and seconded by the committee

Parking Ambassador position

- Proposal for patient parking ambassador position
- Full-time employees added to the entrances of patient/visitor facilities
- Hawkeye Ramp will open in February
- Hospital Ramp 1 will come down in August/September time frame
- Last winter, hospital ramps were filling, and patients could not find spaces to park
- Led to changes to the NW card access program
- When Hospital Ramp 1 comes down, Hospital Ramp 3 will shift to a facility where patients and visitors
 - Need to accommodate the experience of patients and visitors
- Employees will be equipped with technology that will allow check-in of patients
- Employees will be appropriately attired
- Allow clinics to also see this information to know that their patients are parking prior to their appointment
- Cost share with UIHC
- Need to equip these employees with training
- Pilot this program with one ramp at a time and then move to additional ramps after that
- Hospital Ramps
 - Limited number of permits allowed in ramps moving forward
- No timetable on what the future will hold for this position
- Will this position save any time?
 - This is more about making sure this customer is supposed to be in those facilities
- Back-up at the facility entry point
 - May need to let groups of people in if the line gets too long
- Need to protect that space for patients and visitors
- What is the anticipated costs of hiring these positions?
 - Don't have those details at this time
- Wayfinding for patients who don't remember where they parked
 - Biggest issue
- Scanning a parking pass to enter
 - Working through this with UIHC
 - Dealing with some fraudulent activity
 - Trying to get this process on a mobile device
 - Future technology coming
- Will the ambassadors be able to request support (security/police)?
 - Leave that up to the employee even if that means letting the customer in the facility to avoid conflict
- Encourage alternative modes for those who live nearby
 - Long term idea
 - Commuter Programs team had success at Orientation sessions
 - Seeing a reduction in vehicles brought to campus

Recent NW changes

- Increase in open parking spaces in those facilities
 - Hospital Ramp 1, 2, 4
 - Just began changes in Hospital Ramp 3 and Newton Road Ramp
 - Employees and students can still pull a ticket and pay in the moment instead of using an access card that takes 60 days to bill for usage
 - Beginning January 1, the following facilities will roll out these same changes
 - Lot 33 – Dental
 - Lot 6 – Field House
 - Lot 14
- Comments
 - Graduate students finding issues with Newton Road changes
 - Would like to simplify the process as much as possible

- Graduated rate in place before 9am to discourage early arrival
- Need to use NW permit for the hours on-site until later evening hours

Proposal to increase hourly parking rates

- Self-supporting entity
 - Generate all revenue
 - Capital Improvements
 - Support of CAMBUS/campus events
 - Financial projections
 - Need to ensure fiduciary responsibility to permit holders
 - Bond covenant requires that we hold a 120% debt ratio
 - Also need to hold percentage of that in cash
- Iowa City raised their hourly parking rates
 - East campus hourly parking has gone very low because of that
- Goals for rate increases
 - Eliminate graduate rate
 - Eliminate student rate
 - Aim to be consistent
 - Easier to understand
- Proximity to Iowa City
- Need to communicate the benefits upfront
- Last rate change was 10 years ago
- Cost structure to build new ramps have gone up consistently
- UIHC visitor pass booklet
- Will Iowa City Transit remain fare-free?
 - At this point, they will
- Will these rates translate to the North Liberty campus?
 - Patients will not pay for parking – arrangement with UIHC
 - Will have some parking meters there and those rates will apply to that location
- Any big issues with the parking rate increases?
 - Rationale and why the changes are necessary
 - Reasonable change
 - Challenge for students who have on-campus jobs
 - Could be an issue for some
- Continuing to evaluate other transportation options
- Aware of the issues facing students
- Could departments sponsor the parking for their student employees?
 - Do not allow departments to pay for parking for their employees
 - IRS code situation
- Do we have bus service at Hancher/Lot 11 before 6am?
 - Considering a van to pick up employees for Dining Services
- Newton Road construction project
 - Pedestrian access being restored?
 - Need to get an update
 - Basketball game traffic – pedestrians are literally walking in the street
- North Liberty campus parking
 - Any information that can be shared?
 - Rumors are starting to flow
 - Conversations on-going with UIHC

Adjourn

- Next meeting is December 10
- Motion to adjourn and seconded
- Meeting ended at 4:32pm