

Parking and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

10/3/2025

Via Zoom

Members Present: Claire Anonson, Frauke Bleher, Diane Fountain, Brent Hadder, Jacob Payne, Colin Nelson-Pinkston, Alex Swanson, Kim Volk and John Wadsworth
Staff/Others Present: Lori Skoff, Shelton Stromquist, Debby Zumbach and Carrie Brus
Members/Staff Absent: Sonia Sugg

Meeting began at 2:30 pm

Carrie took roll call based on Zoom attendance

Introductions

- This is the first meeting on the fall semester
- Everyone introduced themselves to the group

Mission of the Parking and Transportation Committee

- The charge of this committee is located in the University Policy Manual
- <https://policy.uiowa.edu/governance/university-iowa#Parking>
- Please review at your convenience

Customer email response related to parking rate increases

- A customer brought up a concern when parking at the Hawkeye Tennis and Recreation Center
- The concern was in regards to the cost of parking increase on July 1 at this location
- In previous years, the cost at this location was on the lower end
- With the new rate increases, it saw a larger increase than some other areas
- The response explained the logic and rationale of the increase
 - In this case, parking is right outside the building and will now pay the higher cost
- Parking rate increases
 - Goal was to simplify the parking rate structure
 - Move to a single hourly rate in most locations
 - Proximity to building became very important
 - Lots that are further away from buildings should have lower cost
 - Needed to recoup spaces that are used for event parking
- The analogy was compared to a Rubix cube
 - When you correct one thing, sometime it can cause a different issue somewhere else
- We are a very unique campus
 - UI Health Care and Athletics next door to each other
 - Try to solve every single problem related to parking on campus creates many unique solutions in a complex system
- Changes to Night and Weekend parking
 - Only works during night and weekend hours
 - No longer a daytime charge card
- Hawkeye Ramp is open
 - Reassigned parking for the Arena Ramp project and UI Health Care faculty
- Iowa City parking rate changes
 - Hourly rates were increased and are currently higher than University rates
 - Free bus service
 - Want to increase ridership
 - Raise the hourly rates could motivate more people to ride public transit
 - Parking ramps do have the first hour free
- Would rates ever be lowered when capacity is more available?
 - Lowering rates in unusual
 - Will let the academic year play out
- Look at permit parking rates this year for FY 2027

Project updates

- Hawkeye Ramp opened in March 2025
 - Housing around 600 permits
 - Really nice facility
- Parking Ramp 1
 - Demolition is on hold
 - Hospital Grounds remains until their new building is constructed
 - Probably at least a year out
- Arena Ramp
 - Construction has begun
 - Likely to open in Fall/Winter 2027

- Will be the largest parking ramp on campus when completed
 - Will fill a need of space on the west campus
- Lot 33 is open
 - Patient only parking
- Plaza Ramp
 - Facility on the Medical Center Downtown campus
 - In the design phase now
 - Will share cost with UI Health Care
 - ADA space is being assessed
 - Covered bicycle parking
 - Employees and patients will need to be relocated – TBD
 - No-cost permits are being issued to employees who respond to email message
 - Will help determine parking usage
- Bicycle lockers are in place at the Dodge Street Ramp
 - Eight (8) in total and half of those are in use right now
- CAMBUS Maintenance Facility
 - Modernization project
 - New buses and infrastructure to support alternative fuel buses
 - How are bus replacements determined?
 - FTA determines when a bus can be replaced
 - CAMBUS will replace two (2) buses this year
 - Lead time is 18 to 24 months on a new bus
- When will IMU Ramp be replaced?
 - IMU Ramp was next on the list prior to Hawkeye Ramp, Arena Ramp and Plaza Ramp
 - It is in amazing shape for its age
 - The usage of Halsey Hall was a factor
 - Depends on finances
 - Will consider modernization/additions vs a complete replacement
 - Looking at 2031-2032 time frame right now

Equipment upgrade

- Current equipment is aging
- Pilot program for Amano ONE
 - Started with North Campus Ramp
 - Chose this facility for the simplicity of its operation
 - Does not have the complexity of operation like some other facilities
 - So far, so good
 - Some changes will be needed
 - Phased roll out to other facilities in 2026
- Reduction in gated lots
 - Mostly on the east campus
 - Pilot program in Lot 11 going on right now
 - Gates are up
 - Permit holders can still park there with license plate recognition
 - Hourly component moved to a mobile payment zone with Park Mobile
- Lost Lot 51 due to construction
- Will lose Lot 64 due to construction
- Reduction in operational costs
 - Eventual gate and equipment removal
- Would we ever consider different parking stall line colors to distinguish one space type from another in a facility that allows both public and permit?

Medical Center Downtown concerns

- Kim Volk sent the group an email prior to this meeting
- Time allowed
- Items that were discussed
- Number of vehicles allowed on a parking permit
 - Currently, that is 3 vehicles on an employee permit
 - Could that number be increased?
 - The concern with allowing more vehicles is permit sharing
 - Have found that 3 vehicles is a happy middle ground
 - Vehicles can be updated, removed, added in the Parking Portal
- Paying for parking
 - Employee parking
 - In conversations with UI Health Care
 - Permits will remain free at this location during construction
- Lot 87
 - Newly constructed parking lot

- Exit area is tight for vehicles
- Will share information with Project Manager for follow-up and review
- Employees who need to go back and forth
 - Medical Center Downtown to UI Health Care main campus
 - Iowa City Transit route currently exists that would be an option
 - When employees have paid permits, there will be some type of reciprocity agreement to park at a pre-determined location on the main campus
 - Medical Center North Liberty On-Demand service
 - Currently in the pilot phase on an on-demand shuttle service between main campus and MCNL
 - We are monitoring how that service goes for now

Parking Ambassador

- On-site at Parking Ramp 2
- Patients always have space to park with this service in place
- Vendors are being directed to Hawkeye Ramp or Parking Ramp 3

GME parking

- This group has requested more space for residents
- Based on all the changes we have made, we have given GME additional space

Emeritus Parking

- Daytime parking
- EM permit can use Lot 3 and Lot 11
- EM-NW permit can use Lot 3
- EM-NW permit cannot use Lot 11 since there is no gate

Parking Attendant feedback

- One of the student members is also one of the parking attendants in the department
- Alex brought up an issue with the QR codes that customers need to scan
- The issue is with the equipment
- In conversations with UI Health Care for a upgrade to My Chart
- More to come on this one

Next meeting

- November 7 at 2:30pm
- If you have any items for a future meeting agenda, you can send those to Carrie, Debby or Colin

Meeting adjourned at 3:29pm