

# Transportation Services Advisory Committee

## MINUTES OF MEETING

April 19, 2011

### Attendees:

Mr. Tyler Moquin  
Dr. Tom Strganac  
Dr. Beverly Kuhn  
Dr. Joe Newton  
Mr. Peter Lange  
Ms. Jennifer Slovacek  
Mr. Jeff Wilson  
Mr. Chris Russo  
Dr. Angie Hill Price  
Ms. Casi Wilbanks

### Absent:

Ms. Mary Tess Eggebrecht  
Dr. R J Golsan  
Ms. Flora Reeves  
Ms. Sarah Saunders  
Mr. Jeff Toole  
Mr. Oliver Thoma  
Mr. C J Woods  
Mr. Robert Pottberg  
Mr. Joe Dillard  
Mr. Rod Weis

### Special Guests:

Aggie Association of Blind Students – James Chambers, Melissa Padron and Kathy Seloff

### Guests:

Ms. Debbie Hoffmann	Ms. Therese Kucera
Mr. Doug Williams	Ms. Rose Berryhill
Ms. June Broughton	Mr. Kenny Kimball
Mr. Pete Willis	Mr. Ron Steedly

## 1.0 Business

1.1 Meeting was called to order by Peter Lange; Peter requested for members to review the minutes from February 15, 2011

1.1.1 Mr. Lange asked for corrections to the minutes;

1.1.1.1 Chris Russo asked for 2.1.13 to be corrected to read

1.1.1.1.1 Chris asked if the time saved by not going through a controlled intersection at Wellborn Road still results in a quicker route for transit if the buses get delayed by pedestrians and stop signs on Ross Street: Won't you lose efficiency by going on Ross Street rather than going down University Drive?

1.1.1.2 Chris Russo made a motion to approve the minutes with this correction;

1.1.1.3 Jeff Wilson seconded the motion. All voted in favor; minutes approved.

- 1.2 Mr. Lange informed the group that the Faculty Senate filled their three vacated spots on the Transportation Services Advisory Committee. Joining us today was Dr. Tom Strganac. Please join me in welcoming him to the committee.

## **2.0 Ross Street Presentation**

2.1 Peter Lange reminded the committee that we ended the last meeting previewing the Ross Street/Wellborn Road/University Drive project presentation. He updated the committee that presentations had been given to the University Staff Council, Faculty Senate, Graduate Student Council, Division of Administration-Directors, Division of Student Services – Directors and Staff, and still have 3 others (CSBA, Chief of Staff and Vice President, and the Division of Administration Student Advisory Board) to speak to and show the presentation. This presentation grew out of concerns from the TSAC committee, specifically, concerns that the campus community was unaware of the university's plan for Ross Street.

2.1.1 Dr. Price stated that she felt that the presentation was basically for transit purposes. She felt like the pictures of the pedestrians on Ross Street were misleading did not fairly represent the situation. She indicated the pedestrians were in the street because the sidewalks were closed when the picture was taken. She felt the information included in the presentation left her with the impression Ross Street would be limited access solely to make it better for the buses.

2.1.2 Peter Lange stated that the transit system could remain operational if it is determined Ross Street must re-open to the public. The bigger picture is that Vision 2020, the Campus Master Plan, and the Campus Access Task Force Report designate the area as limited access. The gates in the area are working well now and in the evening we are granting access to the public. Peter asked the committee members to either vote in support of or against making Ross Street a limited access street during the business day. Once he finishes his presentations, he intends to secure a letter of support from Dr. Loftin. He would like to attach a memo from this group supporting the plan.

2.1.3 Dr. Newton asked if he got any reaction at all from the other groups who attended presentations about Ross Street.

2.1.4 Peter stated none at all.

2.1.5 Dr. Newton made a motion to support the plan with two provisions:

2.1.5.1 If Transportation Services would express to the president some of the committee's concerns and

- 2.1.5.2 Six months after implementation that Transportation Services will present to this committee a summary of results on how it is going.
- 2.1.5.3 Dr. Strganac 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all but two voted in favor and motion approved; Dr. Angie Hill Price and Chris Russo abstained from voting

### **3.0 Special Presentation – Aggie Association of Blind Students**

3.1 Peter introduced James Chambers, Melissa Padron, and Kathy Seloff with the Aggie Association of Blind Students. He informed the committee that Transportation Services received an award from Diversity Services. We were honored to receive the Special Departmental Recognition for 2011. We got the award by listening to this group of students and working to reach a compromise or an agreement. We did a very small change and this small change will have a profound effect on students' lives. The changes we needed to implement were not expensive nor did they require a huge effort on our part. We were headed in the direction of some of the changes that were requested but did not realize just how impactful it would be. Peter invited them to make some comments.

3.1.1.1 Kathy stated that tamu.mobile link is more accessible for them than the web; Annunciators on the buses; the screens on the front of the bus; new markings at the stops, the thermo markings on the sidewalks will all assist them in identifying the proper bus stops. The new transit signs have reflective tape, braille markings, high contrast and are reflective. They are excited because future plans include bus stops recognized on Google maps, which works well with their accessible web readers.

3.1.1.2 Kathy also stated that what she noticed most is that they went to TS on Friday and by Monday TS had already responded or done some of the things they discussed.

3.2 Peter explained that Google maps are easier for the student readers while a PDF map is like a picture, it's flat and a reader cannot differentiate or announce the details.

### **4.0 Business Parking**

4.1 Therese gave a presentation about business parking rules for small lots. This presentation can be found at:

[http://transport.tamu.edu/TSAC/files/presentations/2011/UBParkingLot20\\_11\\_4\\_19.ppt](http://transport.tamu.edu/TSAC/files/presentations/2011/UBParkingLot20_11_4_19.ppt)

4.1.1 Dr. Price asked if we could take all four of the spaces available in lot 20 and make them 2 hour business spaces.

4.1.1.1 Debbie reported that we have had two different colleges inform us that they will need a space in this lot for new professors. So we would just like to add three for now and keep one space available to address any new, immediate demand.

4.1.2 Dr. Price made a motion to accept the plan to immediately convert three numbered spaces in Lot 20 to 2 hour, business spaces, to eliminate business parking in Lots 12, 13, 20, 59 and 116, and to continue to monitor other small lots for changes in usage and bring back to TSAC for approval to change later if needed;

4.1.3 Jeff Wilson 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion; all voted in favor, motion passed

## **5.0 Alternative Transportation**

5.1 Ron Steedly gave a presentation about Alternative Transportation at TAMU.

This presentation can be found at:

[http://transport.tamu.edu/TSAC/files/presentations/AltTransportation11\\_4\\_9.ppt](http://transport.tamu.edu/TSAC/files/presentations/AltTransportation11_4_9.ppt)

5.1.1 Dr. Price asked if could advertise about the abandoned bikes, start a bike recycle program, or designate a day for donating bikes that students no longer wanted. This would give them a way to get rid of unwanted bikes rather than abandoning them on campus.

## **6.0 Bollard placement on Main and West Campus**

6.1 Pete Willis gave a presentation on the placement of bollards on main and west campuses. This placement is to deter vehicle traffic on walkways and sidewalks. The presentation can be found at:

[http://transport.tamu.edu/TSAC/files/presentations/2011/BollardInstall11\\_4\\_19.ppt](http://transport.tamu.edu/TSAC/files/presentations/2011/BollardInstall11_4_19.ppt)

## **7.0 Other Business**

7.1 The construction project updates will be tabled until our next meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup>.

7.2 Our marketing and communication group, which is led by June Broughton is being recognized as a recipient of the Brazos Bravo Award. The Transportation Services Fish Camp video was entered and won for Brazos Valley Best Marketing Award.

## **8.0 Meeting Adjourned**