

**Transportation Services Advisory Committee Minutes
April 6, 2022**

This was an in-person meeting with a Zoom option.

Present:

Mr. Joe Dillard
Dr. Angie Hill Price
Ms. Erin Jones
Mr. Peter Lange
Ms. Robbie Lukeman
Ms. Helena MacCrossan
Mr. Tom Reber
Ms. Flora Reeves
Ms. Mary Schubert
Mr. Fawaz Syed
Ms. Deborah Wright
Ms. Tamra Young
Ms. Katelyn Kellogg

Absent

Dr. Fuller Bazer
Mr. Bill Cox
Mr. Andy Deuel
Mr. Jim Kovar
Mr. Dale Rice
Mr. Nathan Shelley
Dr. John Stallone
Mr. Mark Welsh

Guests:

Ms. Lilia Gonzales

1. Mr. Peter Lange opened the meeting at 11:41 a.m. and asked the committee to review the minutes. Mr. Tom Reber motioned for approval of the minutes as presented, Ms. Lilia Gonzales seconded; minutes approved.
2. Mr. Peter Lange gave a briefing over a few updates.
 - 2.1. Spring is extremely busy. Last weekend was Big Event and this week we have Ring Day on Thursday and Friday and Family Weekend (Maroon & White game on Saturday, along with baseball, softball, and track. Pro Bull Riding is also taking place on Friday and Saturday).
 - 2.2. Still to come this spring:
 - 2.2.1. Muster
 - 2.2.2. Final Review and MS 150
 - 2.2.3. Spring Commencement (May 12 – May 14. 2 ceremonies/day at 10am 4pm)
 - 2.2.4. High School graduation (May 27 – May 28. 4 ceremonies/day)
 - 2.3. Spring events are compounding with construction taking place around town.
 - 2.3.1. Reminder – all TxDOT advisories are posted on our construction website, always a good resource for review.
 - 2.3.1.1. Construction at 2818
 - 2.3.1.2. Luther St. will be closed for several weeks
 - 2.3.1.3. Work at Deacon and Wellborn Rd. is upcoming.

- 2.3.1.4. Summer will bring a full closure at Wellborn Rd. and Holleman (raising Wellborn Rd. up to Holleman grade, adding lanes, etc.)
- 2.3.2. Recovery continues for revenue with March ending the same as 2019 which is encouraging. Current trend of permits up and ridership down is still in place. Spring ridership is still down about 20%.
- 2.3.3. Transit Driver recruitment efforts are paying off – 56 student drivers hired. Student drivers hired now, or later this semester, won't finish before we leave for the summer. ~30 student drivers graduating in May. We do still have a few budgeted positions we are recruiting for.
- 2.3.4. Aggie Park opens in the fall and has events planned for the weekend of the first home football game.
- 2.3.5. Registration Updates:
 - 2.3.5.1. Auto registration for faculty & staff.
 - 2.3.5.1.1. We have great ideas in place to simplify registration for faculty & staff. We are working to overcome some challenges (staffing, technology needs and timing) with the auto renewals process we wanted to use, however; we are going to be able to complete an auto registration for faculty & staff this year. We will auto register for you, you'll get a confirmation email, and will then be able to log in to your account and see your registration, request changes, make payment (starting Aug. 1), etc.
 - 2.3.5.2. Waitlist Changes/Updates:
 - 2.3.5.2.1. Another change that is tied to the auto registration piece is the waitlist. These are issues that we are currently already doing manually throughout the year - office moves with months of service (MOS) and moving fac/staff to top of staff/student waitlists.
 - 2.3.5.2.2. Change: we will use MOS all year long - so when a fac/staff member wants to add to themselves to a WL it will put them on directly with MOS. We will clear students off and move fac/staff to NEW waitlist, then after registration upload students.
 - 2.3.5.2.3. Debbie - for anyone overly familiar with our WL process - you could sign in and see your ranking which is the same but if you are currently #1 and a staff member with more MOS come along, you may find yourself #2.
 - 2.3.5.2.4. Peter – we aspire to help with departmental permits and DPR registration, but those processes are more complicated with several layers so unsure of what we can successfully achieve.
 - 2.3.5.3. Strategic Plan Update:

- 2.3.5.3.1. Summit was last Friday, April 1. The event was very successful, enjoyable with high energy and a lot of great, innovative ideas.
- 2.3.5.3.2. Seven main themes that evolved are: Innovative Transportation, Simplify Processes & Technology, Safety, Emerging Technology, connecting to the Outside World, Planning for Expansion, Funding, Outside Communications, Enhancing Partnerships, Student Retention and Staff Retention/Development/DEIA.
- 2.3.5.3.3. Thank you to everyone who participated and dedicated your time to us. Thank you to those who have already volunteered to participate in the small groups to help continue the movement forward.
- 2.3.5.3.4. Lilia – I really enjoyed seeing the timeline to see how much TS has evolved and the new services offered over the years. Enjoyed the event – it was fast paced; high energy and the moderators were great. Time well spent. Exercises were good, made you think.
- 2.3.5.3.5. Next Steps will be to form small committees to dive deeper into the information gathered at the summit and start developing our plan(s).

- 3. Ms. Debbie Lollar gave an update on the Mobility Master Plan. See presentation: <https://transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx> (scroll to the bottom of the minutes and find “Related Presentations”).
 - 3.1. We partnered with Walker Consultants, and we were impressed with the level of details, creativity, and potential solutions for our needs that they created.
 - 3.2. Questions:
 - 3.2.1. Dr. Hill Price – we need to have an honest conversation about who is funding this. It is not right that permit prices and funding pay for bike lanes, sidewalks, and curbs.
 - 3.2.1.1. Peter – we did an internal project to identify all roads needing work, prioritized them, added current pricing to those projects and it came to over \$110M that Transportation Services cannot sustain and take on. We did this internal project to validate what you are saying that this funding cannot be put on Transportation Services.
 - 3.2.2. Dr. Hill Price – It’s unfortunate timing to present this master plan and request feedback, the campus community is very sensitive to “Consultants” right now.
 - 3.2.2.1. Peter – through this process we had the ability to control what was seen, but we were very deliberate to put all information/ideas out for review. Some of the ideas are “crazy talk” but could act as a catalyst for other ideas/talks.
- 4. Meeting was concluded at 12:43 p.m.