

**TSAC Minutes**  
**October 3, 2018**

**Present:**

Dr. Fuller Bazer  
Ms. Ashali Chimata  
Mr. Bill Cox  
Mr. Andy Deuel  
Mr. Joe Dillard  
Dr. Zachary Grasley  
Dr. Eleanor Green (Ms. Misty Skaggs)  
Dr. Julie Harlin  
Dr. Angie Hill Price  
Ms. Erin Jones  
Dr. Andrew Klein  
Mr. Peter Lange  
Dr. Clint Magill

Ms. Katie Morris  
Mr. Chris Nygren  
Ms. Renee O'Banion  
Mr. Robert Pottberg  
Dr. C.J. Woods (Ms. Stacy Wright)  
Ms. Deborah Wright

**Absent:**

Ms. Flora Reeves

**Guests:**

Mr. David Brown  
Mr. Suyash Gupta  
Ms. Lilia Gonzales

1. Mr. Peter Lange opened the meeting at 11:40am, welcomed guests and our new committee member representing the Student Senate, Ms. Ashali Chimata. He then gave a brief update of the status of Polo Road Garage and various construction/street projects around campus.
2. Mr. Lange asked the committee to review the minutes, and Ms. Deborah Wright asked for a revision to item 10.3.1.1.1. to instead say: "Dr. Strawser pointed out that while UAF and tuition both grow with student growth, the UAF allocation to Transportation Services has not grown." Mr. Bill Cox motioned for approval of the minutes as revised, Dr. Clint Magill seconded; minutes approved.
3. Mr. Kenny Kimball and Ms. Therese Kucera gave a presentation and some proposals about Business Permit usage. See presentation: <http://transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx#presentations>  
Mr. Kimball said Business Permits were intended for occasional use in conjunction with a parking permit – not meant to be used in place of a permit. Ms. Kucera mentioned that we have sold more Business Permits in the first two months of this semester than all of last year.
  - 3.1. Dr. Andrew Klein asked if the Business Permits only work if you already have a permit.
    - 3.1.1. Ms. Kucera responded that it was how they are intended to be used, but some are being used without a valid permit underneath and we have no way of tracking that misuse.
  - 3.2. Ms. Kucera said we are able to track Business Permit misuse is in the garages, and CCG is the main place the permits are misused.
  - 3.3. Ms. Kucera said many departments are allowing graduate and undergraduate students to use Business Permits, which is allowing them to park in areas where parking for them would normally be prohibited.

3.4. Dr. Zach Grasley asked if there was any online video training available/required concerning the proper use of permits.

3.4.1. Ms. Kucera said there is no such training.

3.5. Ms. Kucera mentioned that at present there is no accountability to/from the departments for abuse of Business Permits. The only place we have data is at the garages where people must swipe the permit for access.

3.6. Dr. Julie Harlin thanked Ms. Kucera for her work in collecting the data and asked if any sanctions were in place.

3.6.1. Ms. Kucera said the Departmental Parking Representatives (DPR) were being notified, as well as the custodians of the permits. The misused permits were revoked until the resulting lost revenue was repaid.

3.6.2. Dr. Magill asked if we receive reports from DPRs about how they assign permits.

3.6.2.1. Ms. Kucera said we know who purchases the permits, but we cannot control how they are distributed.

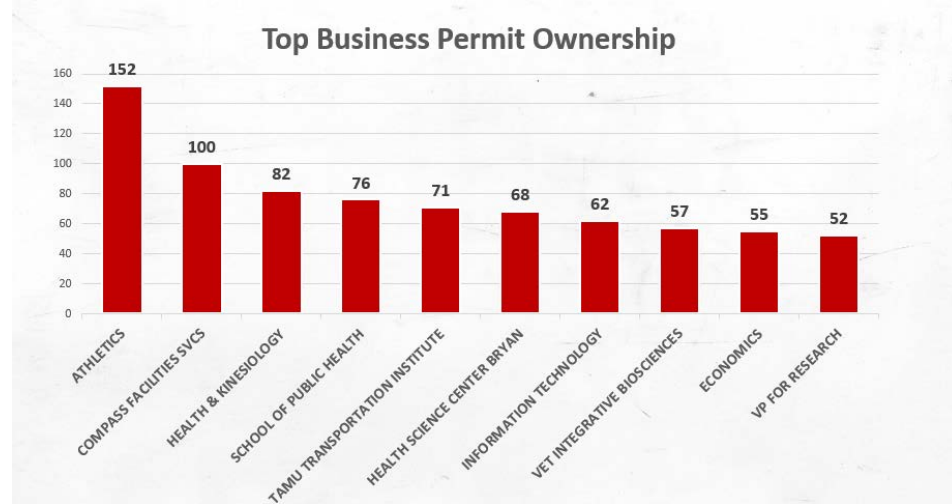
3.7. Mr. Kimball proposed that to curb misuse, we could raise the price of a Business Permit appropriate to the level of service provided, which may cause departments to purchase less permits and be more accountable. He suggested for surface permits we could charge one-half the rate of a regular surface permit price (\$155), and for garage permits charge one-half the rate of a current garage unreserved permit price (\$250). He also made the point that our system is capable of tweaks. There are other options to consider such as one agreed-upon price which could include a certain number of garage visits and then charging for subsequent visits.

3.7.1. Dr. Angie Hill Price said she thought that the proposed price increase was too high, and that it was a penalty to the many who were using the permits properly to correct the minority who were not. She suggested that instead we charge all departments the same for a certain number of permits and raise that rate incrementally with the number of permits they choose in excess of the original, preset number of permits. Mr. Chris Nygren agreed with her proposal.

3.7.2. Dr. Robert Pottberg asked for data on Business Permits allocated by department. Mr. Peter Lange said we will provide updated data, but was able to share the data we provided in a TSAC presentation last spring, by referring to the following slide.



## Permit Data



3.8. Mr. Lange mentioned that License Plate Recognition (LPR) enabled parking will allow us to collect better and more accurate data in the future. We are currently testing LPR at RELLIS. He said we have to think about the level of access a Business Permit is providing. As we make our plans while adhering to the Campus Master Plan (CMP) now and in years to come, there has to be a cost for close-in access, and an automated component, so we don't have to manually invest. The components of change will be price and technology. He said we will take a graduated response to the problem.

3.9. Dr. Hill Price said an education campaign aimed at the DPRs may deter abuse.

3.9.1. Mr. Joe Dillard suggested that instead of aiming for the DPR level, Transportation Services should send a letter to the Dean and Vice President-level and start from the top down.

3.2.1. Dr. Fuller Bazer said he supported Mr. Dillard's idea, and the idea of using technology to get people's attention.

3.9.2. Mr. Cox suggested that one way to approach an educational campaign would be to reference the CMP constraints on present and future parking options, and how those constraints relate to/impact people in their departments.

3.9.2.1. Mr. Kimball commented that another reason we are proposing price increases to diminish use, is it would free up spaces in the center-of-campus lots. He emphasized that we are not looking to replace revenue, but instead thinking of ways to limit access.

3.10. Dr. Grasley suggested we could differentiate Business Permits based on lot waiting lists, and use a tiered approach.

3.11. Ms. Lilia Gonzales, University Architect, said the CMP limits driving from one place to another on campus. She asked for us to think about alternative modes of transportation and prior planning of routes, etc. She reminded the committee that the CMP calls for wider sidewalks, pathway expansion, and other improvements to ease mobility around campus. We are testing, learning and expanding these concepts slowly.

3.11.1. Ms. Debbie Hoffmann mentioned that we participate in a Transportation Mobility Task Force with Texas A&M Transportation Institute, (TTI) and are always exploring alternative transportation, such as autonomous shuttles. We are actively engaging companies to share transportation options with us.

3.12. After some extended discussion on this topic, Mr. Lange tabled it for a future meeting so we would have time to present our final agenda point.

4. Ms. Debbie Hoffmann gave an ofo bike update, see presentation:

<http://transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx#presentations> She shared that we presently have 16,459 active users, with 5,700 new users since September. We've seen a decrease in bikes brought to campus because of our marketing push at New Student Conferences, ofo events, etc.

4.1. Mr. Suyash Gupta asked for statistics on how many subscriptions vs. one-time use.

4.2. Ms. Ashali Chimata asked if we are open to other sharing platforms.

4.2.1. Mr. Lange said we think other platforms have great potential, but presently we do not have the manpower to run more than one.

4.3. Ms. Hoffmann mentioned that we are working closely with the city of College Station, which recently passed an ordinance concerning shared platforms and has instituted a permitting process for bike share companies. Furthermore, last week, the city expanded the geo fence. She said we are also working with the city of Bryan.

4.4. Ms. Hoffmann said we have a good partnership with TTI, in which we are able to push raw data to analysts, and are receiving reports from them about trips, miles traveled, trip duration, percentage in geo fence, etc.

4.5. Mr. Andy Deuel asked about infrastructure and policing of bikes. He has observed bike racks overflowing at Zachary. Ms. Hoffmann said we are working to optimize the amount of bike parking on campus. We collect abandoned bikes annually and have set up racks for ofo bikes around campus. We are working hard to educate the whole campus using the app to report violators. She suggested that we can move an out-of-place bike, and use the app to report violations as well. She also mentioned that we plan to hire more people to take on the responsibility and charge ofo for our labor.

5. Mr. Lange concluded the meeting at 1:00 pm.

*Next TSAC Meeting: Wednesday, November 7, 2018, Rudder Tower 601*