

TSAC Minutes
March 7, 2018

Present:

Dr. Fuller Bazer
Mr. Jett Black
Dr. Angela Clendenin
Mr. Bill Cox
Mr. Andy Deuel
Dr. Zachary Grasley
Dr. Eleanor Green (Ms. Misty Skaggs)
Dr. Julie Harlin
Dr. Angie Hill Price
Mr. Peter Lange
Dr. Clint Magill
Mr. Chris Nygren
Mr. Dakota Plesa
Mr. Robert Pottberg
Ms. Flora Reeves

Dr. CJ Woods
Ms. Deborah Wright

Absent:

Mr. Mike Caruso
Mr. Joe Dillard
Ms. Sue Edmisson

Guests:

Mr. David Brown
Ms. Lilia Gonzales
Dr. Tim Lomax
Ms. Madison Metzker-Galarza
Dr. Katie Turnbull

1. Mr. Peter Lange opened the meeting at 11:35am and asked for a review of the minutes from the February 7, 2018 meeting. Mr. Bill Cox motioned to approve the minutes as presented; Mr. Chris Nygren seconded; motion passed, minutes approved.

2. Mr. Lange presented some updates.

- First, he mentioned that after Spring Break, we will partner with UPD to ensure customer compliance with ADA parking rules. We discovered that only a uniformed peace officer is authorized to ask customers for an ID card to match the placard displayed. We will educate our customers with signage and other communications, and partner with the UPD for compliance.
- Next, he mentioned that we will again have a Donations for Citations program this spring.
- The Polo Road Garage project is still in the Design Build phase. There were 14 firms vying for the contract, and the committee was able to pare it down to six. The FP&C representatives are still negotiating the contract with the final selectee. Construction will probably start in December 2018 or January 2019.
- The student referendum passed for two new recreation centers, incurring a fee to the class of 2020. The first recreation center will be built in the shell space of the Polo Road Garage, and will be about 30,000 square feet. The other recreation center will be built near the golf course, across from Southside Garage.
- We are looking to expand our License Plate Recognition (LPR) technology, which we already use for enforcing outstanding citations. We will now also use it at the RELLIS campus parking lots. There will be no need for a physical hang tag permit with this technology.
- The ofo free-form, dockless bike share program launched two weeks ago, with 565 bikes. Those bikes represented 6,000 rides in one week, and 1,600 people downloaded the app. In the fall we hope to replace our stored overnight bikes with 4,000 more ofo bikes.
 - Dr. Zachary Grasley asked if there is continuing data collection on use of the bikes.
 - Mr. Lange said that we are partnering with TTI to capture the data, and Ms. Debbie Hoffmann said the School of Public Health has shown interest in capturing some information.

3. Ms. Madeline Dillard presented information about Transit bus service to the RELLIS campus and asked for student feedback. See presentation: <http://www.transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx>

3.1. Dr. Angie Hill Price asked why we still provide service to Blinn.

3.1.1. Ms. Dillard responded that some students are co-enrolled.

3.1.2. Dr. Hill Price suggested we stop service altogether, in an effort to get Blinn to help with the cost.

3.1.3. Mr. Lange responded that while we cannot do that, we do want to focus our efforts on linking some of the big activity areas.

3.2. Mr. Jett Black suggested we reword the slide about limiting bus service to White Creek, by leading with the service we are providing.

4. Dr. Katie Turnbull, who is spearheading the Campus Transformational Mobility effort for TTI, gave a presentation on the Campus Transformational Mobility Study. It dovetails with the Campus Master Plan (CMP) in its goals and objectives. See presentation: <http://www.transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx>

Dr. Tim Lomax gave the portion of the presentation concerning innovative concepts, and discussed some of the challenges and solutions for on and off campus. Ms. Madison Metsker-Galarza then presented a trip planning app TTI is developing (with input from undergraduate and graduate student groups) to help with student mobility, and gave examples of the features they are considering.

4.1. Dr. Hill Price asked if they had considered involving an Institutional Review Board (IRB) to review app privacy.

4.1.1. Ms. Metsker-Galarza said they had considered incorporating two different types of profiles, one for students only. They aren't far enough along in the development to have an IRB meeting or set privacy controls yet.

4.2. Dr. Grasley asked if the only autonomous shuttle being tested was in Arlington.

4.2.1. Dr. Lomax said Arlington has two vehicles running on a loop that are independently controlled. If it was a transit service, it would need a supervisor to run it.

4.2.2. Dr. Grasley agreed that if it was implemented here as a fleet, it would need a control center.

4.2.3. Mr. Dakota Plesa asked if the shuttle was on pedestrian walkways or roadways.

4.2.3.1. Dr. Lomax said they are slow moving vehicles, and run on sidewalks.

5. Dr. Clint Magill asked about the road closures and construction around the MSC.

5.1. Mr. Lange said that the roads in that area were in bad disrepair and could no longer be fixed with patching and spot-treating over break schedules. We are trying to minimize the discomfort as much as possible, but it will still be inconvenient for about 2 years. We are getting ahead of potential problems, and coordinating this effort with the construction of the new 21st Century Classroom building. In the end, it will be a better area with stop signs, controlled intersections, wider sidewalks, compliance with the CMP, etc.

5.1.1. Mr. Cox mentioned that from a utilities perspective, we are able to fix a lot while the streets are torn up and utilities accessible. He made the point that two years is a short time in light of the 20-30 year lifespan of the streets being fixed, and that we need to look at the long-term benefit.

6. Mr. Chris Nygren mentioned that it would be helpful to have proactive communications about pedestrian area changes, street closures, etc.

6.1. Mr. Lange said the trip planning app TTI is developing would be helpful in this regard. He also noted that we are always providing emails and communications at our website, social media, and the Texas A&M app. He also mentioned that we have monitored dangerous city construction areas, provided traffic control, and even put a camera in one troublesome spot to alleviate some of the problems.

6.1.1. Dr. Julie Harlin mentioned that from a risk-management perspective the dangerous construction areas along University Drive are troubling because pedestrians are walking through barricades, and in the construction zone. She asked who would be responsible if someone was harmed.

6.2. Mr. Cox asked if there are ways to improve communication.

6.2.1. Ms. Metsker-Galarza said that students are good at getting real-time data out through Snapchat, Facebook, and other social media.

6.2.2. Mr. Plesa said student government representatives can put out information to their constituents too.

7. Dr. Hill Price asked if there will be a future discussion about the 21st Century Classroom Building. She said it is far from other classroom buildings and the distance will be inconvenient for many professors, especially those in the engineering, chemistry and west campus areas as they try to get from one building to the next.

7.1. Ms. Deborah Wright suggested she talk to Mr. Joe Pettibon about her concerns.

8. Mr. Lange said he wanted to use the last few minutes of the meeting to discuss the Thursday football game, set for 7:30pm, August 30, 2018 (the first week of classes). He said Dr. Jerry Strawser is heading a task force to help bring together all the user groups and come up with a plan. Dr. Lomax added that the intent is to get all the broad strokes covered, then customize the plan. Both emphasized that flexibility is key.

9. Mr. Lange thanked everyone for their input, and adjourned the meeting at 1:03 pm.

Next TSAC Meeting: Wednesday, April 4, 2018, 11:30 am, Kyle Field Press Box