

**Transportation Services Advisory Committee Minutes  
October 4, 2023**

**This was an in-person meeting with a zoom option.**

**Present:**

Ms. Ava Blackburn  
Ms. Mary Cearley  
Mr. Ed Costello  
Mr. Bill Cox  
Mr. Evan Cox  
Mr. Joe Dillard  
Dr. Angie Hill Price  
Ms. Erin Jones  
Ms. Katelyn Kellogg  
Dr. Andrew Klein  
Mr. Peter Lange  
Mr. Andrew Moore  
Ms. Amanda Pelton  
Mr. Tom Reber  
Ms. Flora Reeves  
Ms. Deborah Wright  
Ms. Tamra Young

**Absent:**

Mr. Nick Farmer  
Mr. Andrew Applewhite  
Mr. Tim McLaughlin  
Ms. Mikayla Slaydon  
Dr. Tracy Hammond  
Mr. James "Jim" Kovar

**Guests:**

Ms. Lilia Gonzales

Called to Order 11:45 a.m. by Ms. Debbie Lollar

1. Review/Approve Minutes from September 6, 2023, Meeting – Ms. Debbie Lollar
  - 1.1. Approved by – Mr. Bill Cox
  - 1.2. Seconded by – Mr. Tom Reber
2. Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Debbie Lollar and Ms. Madeline Dillard
  - 2.1. Ms. Debbie Lollar - Welcome everyone! Peter had a conflicting meeting but will join us as soon as he can. We have been steadily working through the Strategic Plan. We have working groups that came up with 63 ideas to help us achieve the plan. These ideas were reviewed and ranked by the Executive Team.
  - 2.2. Ms. Madeline Dillard – When reviewing the ideas we discussed complexity, budget, stakeholders internal to TAMU or external also. The plan is to roll out all 63 ideas but not at the same time. We have identified 10 to launch first
  - 2.3. Ms. Debbie Lollar – We would like to continue to share this more. We do get invited to on-campus departments and other organizations, some are internal and some external, such as Aggie Moms Clubs.
3. Mobility Master Plan Update – Ms. Debbie Lollar and Ms. Julie Villarreal
  - 3.1. Ms. Julie Villarreal – We engaged Walker Consultants and began a roadshow to let everyone know what we were doing. We are working on the Penberthy Drive expansion plan which will

address traffic mitigation. We have partnered with others and shared to see if it meets their needs, with a focus on safety.

- 3.2. Ms. Debbie Lollar – To elaborate on the timing, the Penberthy Boulevard widening has escalated on our timeline due to the George Bush grade separation project now being fully funded. It would be ideal to have this completed in advance of that. Bidding for the grade separation is scheduled for '25 and construction projected to begin in '26. The first draft of the Penberthy Boulevard design has been reviewed.
- 3.3. Ms. Debbie Lollar – The Pickard Pass enhanced bike lanes have been completed and appear to improve mode separation.
- 3.4. Ms. Debbie Lollar - We have completed the mid-block crossing on Penberthy. There are added bus stops, sidewalk connectivity, flashing beacons, and shaded areas.
- 3.5. Ms. Debbie Lollar – We continue to meet monthly and look at other areas in anticipation of traffic impacts. We have several long-standing improvements across campus.
  - Mr. Bill Cox – near the PEAP bus stops on Penberthy, I have noticed a pinch point for buses turning right from John Kimbrough Boulevard, like they can't make that turn. Possible option to widen that area, or in high traffic times possible pullouts to keep traffic moving?
  - Ms. Debbie Lollar – We have had discussions, and at this stage in design there are no pullouts, but there will be 5 lanes, the additional lanes can accommodate and allow traffic to continue.
  - Mr. Bill Cox – you can visibly see the concern on the drivers' faces, the design seems like it will be a good idea.
  - Ms. Debbie Lollar – The design incorporates multi-modal paths which separate modes. There is potential for adding a path behind the trees along Kimbrough Boulevard, north of Reed Arena, and in the future possibly signal lights. The Penberthy design also increases bike parking.
  - Mr. Tom Reber – As you get renderings of Penberthy, I can assist with pushing those out.
4. Gameday Updates – Mr. Peter Lange (Via Ms. Debbie Lollar)
  - 4.1. Ms. Debbie Lollar – Game days have been going smoothly. The 11 a.m. Auburn game was one of the best we have seen. It flowed well and moved fast. Bus rides - New Mexico 24K, ULM 22K, Auburn 27.5K, and we anticipate the Alabama game being the biggest.
    - Dr. Angie Hill Price – Suggest if there is a blowout at the Alabama game, and people begin to leave early, consider opening the gates early (garages).
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – We closely watch the score/departures and make the call on when to open the gates. The contraflow is a joint effort with the city, and they are on standby to begin set up early if needed.
    - Dr. Angie Hill Price – I noticed there is traffic being directed in front of JKW.
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – Yes, we are restricting traffic in that area to cut off the cut-through, local traffic
    - Ms. Julie Villarreal – We watch the stadium to stay ready for any re-routes needed. Our people are here early and assisting to help direct traffic flow; it is a coordinated effort to keep everyone safe.
  - 4.2. Ms. Debbie Lollar - We are utilizing a new piece of equipment on Houston Street – Meridian Barriers. These barriers stop vehicles and help with safeguard pedestrians. The first setup took about 1 hour but on the last game (9/23) we had it set up in 7 minutes.

- 4.3. Ms. Madeline Dillard – We offer Para Service from Lot 88 (GSC) if anyone needs it. It drops off at the hotel at the north end of Kyle Field.
- 4.4. Ms. Lynn Wiggs – Share/Tell a friend to park at PRG/Lot 47/Lot 50, these lots can handle more parking and are right off University Drive/Texas Avenue. There is a bus stop at Lot 47 that drops off close to the Quad.
5. Other Discussion
  - 5.1. Ms. Debbie Lollar – We will be experiencing some preliminary actions for George Bush and Wellborn grade separation. There will be single-lane closures scheduled for the fall break, Sunday, Monday, and Tuesday. The contractor has been accommodating in working to avoid high peak traffic times.
  - 5.2. Dr. Angie Hill Price – Is the Texas Avenue construction affecting gameday?
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – It has not been impactful as most people are coming straight on University Drive. The South College and Villa Maria lane closures could be impactful as this area is slower and could cause some congestion.
  - 5.3. Mr. Bill Cox – How has the loss of Lot 61 impacted your operations?
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – We have successfully absorbed those permits into other lots and garages. We still do not have Lot 100 and WCG for sale publicly yet but anticipate we will have it up in the next few weeks. Students have the option of Fan Field. We have been more aggressive on how we are filling our lots; we have more aggressively been offering closer parking.
  - 5.4. Ms. Debbie Lollar – Lot 30 and Lot 22 have gotten really tight. Our goal is to have lots at 95% capacity.
    - Ms. Lynn Wiggs – The Lot 30 tightness is due to several violators. Daily sweeps have fixed this issue.
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – We have moved away from towing; towing is primarily done for emergency need or for reserved spots.
  - 5.5. Mr. Bill Cox – The no right turn on red sign at the signal light on Polo and University Drive is not very noticeable due to the building backdrop. Is it possible to add yellow reflective tape to it to make it more noticeable?
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – We will look into it
  - 5.6. Dr. Angie Hill Price – People are driving the wrong way in Northside Garage. Is there a possibility for some signage or paint refresh?
    - Ms. Debbie Lollar – We can take a look and see what we can do.
  - 5.7. Ms. Debbie Lollar – We are considering some items to limit traffic in the heart of campus – University/Asbury/Ireland/Ross. There is a potential to move the gates away from Ross.
    - Dr. Angie Hill Price – There is no good signage at the Ireland/Ross area. There are people turning left instead of right from Ireland to Ross during the hours when the gate is down. Some possible signage “Gate Closed”?
    - Mr. Ed Costello – Before citing someone for going the wrong way on a roadway, we need to have effective signage. We will have officers look in this area for effective signage.
  - 5.8. Mr. Andrew Moore – Who receives the calls when lots are full, and the same for buses?
    - Mr. Peter Lange – We have data that shows us once buses are full.
    - Ms. Madeline Dillard – For buses we can also be notified on the feedback section of our website (located at [transport.tamu.edu](http://transport.tamu.edu) – Transit – Comments & Questions). Beginning next

- week, we will be adding additional service to some of the routes – Route 1 will have 5 buses all day, Route 34 will have 4 buses all day.
- 5.9. Ms. Katelyn Kellogg – People have nowhere to go at the crosswalk at the corner of University and Boyett, at both the on-campus and off-campus side. The landings are very small and if one cyclist is waiting to cross, their bike blocks the cross traffic on the sidewalk parallel to University Drive.
- Mr. Peter Lange – What I saw in my meeting today will fix both sides of this. I will have information to share at our January meeting regarding the TXDOT University Corridor study. I will have Ms. Deb Albert present the TXDOT project updates at the November meeting.
- 5.9..1. Mr. Bill Cox – The updates from Ms. Deb Albert are great! They are very valuable and worth sharing.

Meeting adjourned – 12:32 PM