ECU Parking & Transportation Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 16, 2013
Ledonia Wright Cultural Center Gallery at 3:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order
In attendance were voting members: Donna Roberson, Melinda Kane, Mulatu Wubneh, Brian Funsch, and Kaitlyn Dutton; and non-voting members: Deb Garfi, Liz Johnston, Karen Mizelle, and Johnnie Eastwood. Gary Overton left shortly after arriving late. John Reisch was present as an invited guest.

2. Welcome – Deb Garfi
   a. Deb Garfi explained the duties of the committee while referencing the information on the parking website.

3. Reports
   a. Transit Report – Wood Davidson
      i. Wood Davidson was not in attendance.
   b. Parking Report- Deb Garfi
      i. Deb Garfi reported that the parking office is busy finding alternative revenue sources to fund the new garages being built.

4. New Business – Agenda Items
   a. Election of Officers
      Deb Garfi asked if anyone would like to be the chair and co-chair of the committee. No one volunteered, so she nominated Karen Mizelle as the Chair and Johnnie Eastwood as the Co-Chair. There were not enough members for an official motion, but there were no disputes.
   b. East Core Campus – Evening Parking
      i. Deb Garfi explained that parking office has been increasingly receiving complaints from evening faculty/staff about difficulty finding spaces in A1 core campus zones; an after-hours map was provided to show which A1 lots open up to other permit holders after 4pm and after 7pm.
      ii. Deb stated that parking is finding it difficult to guarantee parking to A1 permit holders in the A1 lots after hours due to an increase in the students utilizing these spaces after hours.
      iii. Deb provided another map that reflected a proposed time change from 4pm to 7pm in all A1 lots except the lots around Mendenhall.
      iv. Melinda Kane wanted clarification that in addition to the students, the new proposed time change would also not allow
other evening faculty/staff that had B permits to park after 7pm as well in the A1 lots. Deb confirmed that it would not allow the evening faculty/staff B permits to park until after 7pm as well – it would only allow A1 permits in the lots. Melinda said it was not fair to keep letting the students park where they want to park at the times they are currently moving into the MSC lot, while changing the other times of other A1 lots not currently affected by the students so that other evening faculty/staff couldn’t move into those lots with their B permits. She suggested the proposal also allow faculty/staff B permits to park before 7pm along with the A1s.

t. Mulatu Wubneh asked how many of the evening faculty/staff were affected. Karen Mizelle explained that there was no way to tell how many of the faculty/staff are affected that buys A1 and B1 permits and worked evenings because it’s not a requirement to provide that information when purchasing their permit. Mulatu Wubneh then said that in that case he also felt the proposal would not be popular with the faculty/staff because it left out the possible B permits that would be affected while the students would still be allowed to park where they have been parking and causing the issue. He suggested not allowing any C permits to park on core campus at all.

t. Kaitlyn Dutton suggested making it more known that the old Mexican Restaurant next to the parking office is now an A1 lot. Kaitlyn also said she felt students had it easy because they can get tickets easily appealed, so they never have to really face any consequences. She further suggested not telling students that they could park in the A1 lots after certain hours. Instead, she said to only tell them where their lots are (C or D) and provide transit routes. She believed just changing the times on the signs will not make a difference.

t. Deb said the university is becoming more of an urban university in which land/lots to the building are more valuable and most universities don’t allow parking so close to the buildings. She further explained that she felt it was a proximity issue; said she believed people wanted to park as close as they could to the building instead of walking a little farther from the B lots. She stated that she also thought C & D permits should not be allowed on core campus.

t. John Reisch stated that he felt that not allowing C & D permits to park at all on core campus would be confusing since it left out A2 & B2 permits. He also felt it would not be popular to other evening faculty/staff that were not A1 permit holders. He agreed that the proposal should also allow faculty/staff B permits to park before 7pm.
ix. Johnnie Eastwood wanted clarification that the three proposals Deb intended to take to the Executive council for a decision was: for the current times to stay as is, for the times to change to 7-7, or allowing A1 and B1 permits to park within 7-7 timeframe. Deb Garfi stated she would take the proposal of not allowing C & D permits to park on campus to the Executive council.

c. Parking Permit Fees 2014/2015
   i. Deb reported that there has been no rate increase on permits in 3 years.
   ii. Deb explained that there was money needed for the planned garages so rates have to be increased. She also explained that in the past, revenue generated has fallen entirely on permit sales and she was looking for alternative sources of revenue.
   iii. A handout was distributed that included a capital plan. It showed where the money would be going for projects as well as where it would be coming from with the proposed alternative revenue sources.
   iv. Deb asked for the committee’s insight as to whether they felt the rate increase was fair or too much.
   v. Donna Roberson said she didn’t think practices should be made to pay because they would just hand the cost off by charging their patients more.
   vi. Deb Garfi stated that the practices have assured her that they would not hand the costs off to their patients and that they have considered, instead, to just reducing the number of spaces they are allotted in the patient parking lots.
   vii. There were not enough voting members for a motion, but there was a consensus that the rate increase was not unfair.

5. Open Comments
   a. John Reisch explained how he was negatively affected by the current times that students can move into the A1 lots. He suggested towing immediately if the violators parked before the permitted time. He suggested painting the space indicator lines purple versus having signs, for a better visual cue to people that they cannot park in between those purple lines until a the specified time on the signs. He also suggested raising the citation fee to $55.
   b. Karen Mizelle explained how much we tow as compared to how much we used to tow prior to the Chancellor suggesting the parking office tow less due to complaints he had received. Karen further explained the consequences that students face for racking up tickets.

6. Adjournment