ECU Parking & Transportation Committee Meeting
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, April 16, 2014
Mendenhall Student Center – Room 15 at 3:30 p.m.

1. **Call to Order**
   In attendance were voting members: Donna Roberson, Melinda Kane, Marcus Silver, Gary Overton, and Gary Vanderpool; and non-voting members: Bill Koch, Liz Johnston, Deb Garfi, and Johnnie Eastwood.

2. **Welcome – Johnnie Eastwood**
   a. Johnnie Eastwood welcomed committee and went over the Agenda items to be discussed.
   b. The minutes for the last meeting in January 2014 could not be approved because there were not enough voting members present.

3. **Reports**
   a. **Transit Report – Wood Davidson**
      i. No one from transit was present to report.
   b. **Parking Report- Deb Garfi**
      i. Deb Garfi went straight into the first Agenda item under New Business.

4. **New Business – Agenda Items**
   a. **Traffic Study – Health Science Campus**
      i. Deb Garfi reported that there was two part traffic study done on the Health Sciences campus about traffic exiting from the main roads.
      ii. Deb reported that reconfiguring the ECHI parking lot and Family medicine spots is under discussion. Options include but are not limited to 2 – 100 space lots between each building with a ticketing gate and adding 20 spaces with a pay by space station for vendors.
      iii. Donna Robertson asked for an update on whether or not a stoplight was being put up on Hwy 43 and asked for the parking office to not close North Campus Loop. Deb said she was unsure whether or not the road would be closed since it was not a parking issue but rather a Master Plan issue. Bill Koch said he believed that there would not be a stoplight put up on Hwy 43 because another stoplight is already posted on Moye and there are standards in place that determine how close two lights can be from each other. Donna Robertson said something needed to be done because the road was very dangerous.
iv. Gary Vanderpool commented that one faculty member had been hit on that road and another one was almost hit by a Fedex truck.

v. Deb Garfi reported that speed bumps had been placed on the road but apparently it hadn’t done any good. She said she disagreed with putting gates on that road because she believed it would be difficult to implement for when emergency vehicles had to pass through.

vi. Donna Robertson said that emergency vehicles did not travel down that road. She said they went down Heart Blvd.

vii. Bill Koch commented that a big portion of the problem was that people were driving too much in that area versus walking.

viii. Deb skipped to Agenda Item 3 about Parking Expenses/Revenues current through 2020 before reviewing the 2nd item on the Agenda since a few people had to leave early.

b. Central Reservation Office

i. Johnnie Eastwood reported that he is now a member of the Central Reservation Advisory Board of which he uses as a sounding board for parking topics. One of the topics they discussed in their last meeting was the concept of charging for event parking.

ii. He said a per lot fee of $50 or $100 across the board was discussed or having a sliding scale according to the size of the event.

iii. Johnnie also reported that there were concerns about parking regulation during events and that the parking office was trying to move towards quality over quantity. He said certain events would not be charged access fees, only labor fees and equipment costs, such as Graduation. He also stated that unit ceremony costs would have to be recouped, though.

iv. Bill Koch talked about the possibility of doing survey’s for users to get more feedback.

v. Johnnie Eastwood asked for a general feel from the four members that were present as to whether they should start charging for events. There was a general consensus to do so.

vi. Johnnie also further explained that any charge that’s different from what their office charges now will have to be approved through executive council so the parking office couldn’t just change the prices themselves.

c. Parking Expenses/Revenues – current thru 2020

i. Deb Garfi reported that a more definitive amount of the expenses needed have been determined in order to build the
parking deck and referred to a handout that was prepared for the committee.

ii. She explained that they were exploring two options: 1. a 2% increase on permit prices starting the academic year 2015/16; and/or 2. Revenue from other uses of parking resources such as events – other resources were also included on the handout.

iii. Deb further explained that the parking office gives the police department $180,000/yr for services and transit $250,000/yr to bus to their lots and that figure is expected to go up to $300,000/yr. She elaborated on further expenses parking is expected to incur, such as $320,000 to improve technology like more pay by space stations, $900,000 for current lot rehabs, $400,000 to expand and improve the TDM programs, and $7.5 million for the student center garage. She said they were able to obtain 4 million from their reserves but 3.5 million will have to be borrowed.

iv. Deb reported that they haven’t decided if sales would be on a first come, first serve basis or for just faculty, etc. She also reported that 550 spaces would solely be for permits and then the other spaces would be for visitors. Bill Koch commented that the deck alone was taking over 350 current spaces.

v. Deb also stated that permits in the garage will be priced the same as what the reserved spaces on campus now cost. She reported that their office is also proposing selling evening and weekend permits for the garage at $180 each.

vi. Marcus Silver asked if the parking office was currently ticketing on the weekends. Deb confirmed that they were and said she believed that all parking on campus is by permit only. Bill Koch further explained that due to the increase in events on campus, they have been forced to enforce. He also included that if they weren’t having problems, though, then they weren’t worried about enforcing on the weekends.

vii. Marcus Silver also asked about the feedback from the pay by space stations placed on College Hill by Scott dorm. Deb said they are being used and that revenue has increased while fewer tickets had been given in the area.

viii. Deb also reported that a figure of $70 per space had been developed for revenue collection in other resources that was what their office felt was a fair amount to charge considering it takes 0.20 cents per square foot to maintain spaces. She felt that price was sensitive to budget cuts while still allowing their office to properly maintain spaces. She asked the committee to take a look at another handout she provided that included a fee comparison of other NC Universities.
ix. Donna Robertson commented that she felt the parking office was being too lenient on the cost compared to other universities.

x. Deb asked the committee to share the handouts she provided with others in their departments and to send her all feedback. She also mentioned the idea of putting it on their website and holding a community forum for comments.

xi. Donna Robertson also commented that if people had an issue with the prices, then they should take a field trip to Chapel Hill where there is hardly any parking.

xii. Deb explained that parking has to balance usage and according to what’s fair since permit holders have been the ones who have had to bear too much of the financial burden for too long.

5. Open Comments
   a. There were no open comments.

6. Adjournment