As you are aware, the University initiated a project over the summer to improve pedestrian and bicycle traffic near our high volume pedestrian areas. Our campus community identified these areas during the master plan process as problem areas. These projects are designed to reduce pedestrian-vehicular conflicts and make our campus safer.

As we have observed the areas around the construction project in preparation for fall semester and the significantly higher volumes of pedestrian, bicycle and vehicle traffic expected, we have identified some additional safety concerns and made modifications as necessary. Most of these changes were minor and are not worth mentioning, but one will have a significant impact so we want to alert you to it.

Although we tried to maintain the use of the Flanagan/Slay lot, our observations over the less active summer have revealed some safety issues related to this area that will only increase when classes begin. After careful consideration and discussion, it was determined that the Flanagan/Slay lot and the rest of Founder’s Drive to 10th Street will need to be closed until the project is completed at the end of the fall semester. Emergency, delivery, and service vehicles will still be permitted to pass through this area, but general traffic will not.

Fortunately, we recently acquired the former Wendy’s and La Haciendo Mexican Grille on 10th Street and those lots will now be available to A permit holders, which should help relieve some parking stress. We have also made accommodations for additional A1 permit zone, ADA and Student Health Services patient spaces in the Umstead lot. (See attached map.) Individuals with disabilities in need of additional information should contact Liz Johnston, ADA Coordinator at (252) 737-1016.

We apologize for this disruption and added inconvenience but we are confident that these temporary changes will prove to create a safer environment during this Master Plan project. Let’s all work together through this challenging fall semester and look forward to a much-improved campus in spring.

If you would like to learn more about other innovations included in Parking & Transportation’s concurrent Master Plan, then you can click on the “Transit, Parking, and Pedestrian” link on the ECU Master Plan’s website: www.ecu.edu/masterplan.