All-University Traffic and Transportation Committee

MEETING MINUTES
April 21, 2011

PRESENT
BUCKWALTER, DENEAU, FASHBAUGH, GOYAL, HAKARI, KACOS, MCCONNELL, NOWICKI, OTTARSON, PEDRAZA, POLZIN, POTTER, RHODES/MARTIN-STONEY (FOR NAMIE), SHAMASS, WOODS (FOR LEE)
BRIESCHKE, HARLEY, LADUCA, MARTENIUK, RICE, SOFFIN, STUDENT AFFAIRS, TUCKEY

GUESTS
Dr. Fred Poston: MSU Vice President and Treasurer
Kathy Lindahl: MSU Assistant Vice President

CALL TO ORDER
1435

ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS
Introductions were made after Dr. Poston and Ms. Lindahl joined the meeting. MCCONNELL acted as chair for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
POTTER motioned to approve the agenda.
FASHBAUGH seconded the motion.
The agenda was approved.

LAST MEETING MINUTES
RHODES motioned to approve the November 2010 minutes.
FASHBAUGH seconded the motion.
All were in favor of the minutes being accepted as written, none were opposed.
The March 2011 minutes were approved.

**GUEST PRESENTATION**

See New Business below

**CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**DEPARTMENT UPDATES**

_Campus Planning and Administration:_

KACOS reported that there had been over 1000 responses thus far to the transportation survey.

KACOS stated that a public link had also been established and it would gather data separate from the MSU student data.

MCCONNELL asked if public transportation specific questions were asked at the Master Plan meeting.

KACOS replied that there had been nothing remarkable.

NOWICKI asked if the Master Plan proposal information was available online.

KACOS replied that it could be found on the Campus Planning and Administration website.

_Deptartment of Police:_

None.

_Transit – CATA:_

None.

_MSU Bikes:_

POTTER provided feedback from the League of American Bicyclists about MSU’s entry for consideration as a Bike Friendly University of which it was awarded a bronze.
Resource Center for Persons with Disabilities (RCPD):

PEDRAZA reported that there were no updates to report.

Campus Sustainability

None.

OLD BUSINESS

MCCONNELL asked if the subcommittees’ structure should be revised.

DENEAU stated that most members were on, and most issues were with, the non-motorized subcommittee. He suggested that the subcommittees may reformulate after the data is compiled from the transportation survey. He continued that the issues could be tackled in mass on a month-to-month basis if necessary.

POTTER stated that it made sense to retain the current subcommittees, but that an even number designated to each subcommittee be considered.

NEW BUSINESS

Dr. Poston and Ms. Lindahl thanked the AUTTC for its work and submitting its final recommendations to be considered.

Dr. Poston addressed the first non-motorized recommendation of the committee:

1. We recommend that a position be established in order to design, conduct and evaluate campus-wide bicycle and pedestrian safety initiatives. This person will be responsible for development of print and online supporting materials and event programming, to help improve bicycle and pedestrian safety and promote sustainable modes of transportation on the MSU campus.

Dr. Poston stated that there was some merit to the recommendation and that it related to some other of the recommendations in both the non-motorized and motorized recommendations. He continued that a communications expert would be put on the list for consideration.

Dr. Poston addressed the second non-motorized recommendation of the committee:

2. We recommend that MSU establish a formal process for collecting bicycle-related accident data via Olin Health Center, local urgent care facilities, etc. in order to acquire more comprehensive information beyond that already reported to Police. Doctor-patient confidentiality would be ensured by the removal of personally identifying information. Ideally the data should be
collected and presented in such a way that it can be mapped geographically and used by AUTTC and others to support decision making about transportation system enhancement, education and enforcement.

Dr. Poston stated that the Olin Health Center having a database for such information was not likely, that there would be HIPAA issues on releasing the information and before considering, it would need to be checked into further.

Dr. Poston addressed the third non-motorized recommendation of the committee:

3. **We recommend the development of an ongoing bicycle safety program that would include staging a major bicycle education event each Fall Semester (beginning in 2011) to encourage people to safely use existing bicycle facilities.** Bike-safety related demonstrations can include light demonstrations for night riding, proper helmet-fitting, and legal riding behavior. We request funding to implement this program.

Dr. Poston stated that if such an event were to occur that it be arranged by MSU Bikes and he would be interested in the audience it generated.

Dr. Poston addressed the fourth and non-motorized recommendation of the committee:

4. **We recommend formally adopting a Complete Streets Policy for the MSU campus, which would establish and document our current practice of designing new streets or refurbishing existing streets, in order to accommodate all legal road users.** To date, 32 Michigan communities have passed Complete Streets policies [resolutions or ordinances], the most of any state in the nation. Specific information about Complete Streets can be found in the Appendix:

   [http://www.completestreets.org/complete-streets-fundamentals/complete-streets-faq/](http://www.completestreets.org/complete-streets-fundamentals/complete-streets-faq/)


   [http://michigancompletestreets.wordpress.com](http://michigancompletestreets.wordpress.com)

Dr. Poston stated that he did not like to spend money on symbolic items and that the University was already applying similar principles in its construction of new roads. Dr. Poston continued that he would not want it to be an ordinance.

KACOS stated that perhaps the planning principal could be included in the Master Plan and not made an ordinance needing approval by the Board of Trustees.

Dr. Poston replied that including the planning principal in the plan was an acceptable idea.
Dr. Poston addressed the first motorized recommendation of the committee:

1. We recommend holding the current rate for the new Commuter Plus faculty/staff parking plan constant ($240 for 2011-2012) for the next renewal period (2012-2013), in order to further incentivize its use, while other parking plan rates undergo normal increases. The impact of this action on growth in sales of this permit type will be reviewed by AUTTC approximately in October 2011 after the Summer-Fall renewal and purchase period. Future rate increases for the Commuter Plus faculty/staff parking plan should be held low in comparison to other types of permits.

Dr. Poston stated that the Commuter Plus Plan as recommended would be implemented.

Dr. Poston addressed the second motorized recommendation of the committee:

2. We recommend that the University should fund promotion of vehicle related, sustainability oriented, travel options. As examples these should include:
   a. Faculty and Staff “Free” Bus Pass Use Reminders*
   b. Car Pool Use and the CATA Clean Commute Site
   c. Commuter Plus Parking Permit Awareness and Savings
   d. Zip Car Program
   *From responses at the AUTTC/Construction Junction in February, it appears that the wider faculty/staff is unaware that their ID card entitles them to no-cost CATA rides on routes 31-39, now that separate bus passes are not mailed on a yearly basis.

Dr. Poston stated that disseminating information made sense.

Dr. Poston addressed the third and final motorized recommendation of the committee:

3. We recommend creating a link on the MSU Maps website to a readily available no-cost access web utility (e.g. Google Maps) in order to assist visitors and new members of the MSU community with transportation options to and from campus locations. This web utility will provide quickest route travel maps for pedestrians, bicyclists, CATA riders, and motorists, along with nearby parking options.

Dr. Poston stated that he was in agreement with some level of the idea and if implemented, perhaps a communications expert would be assigned the task.

Ms. Lindahl requested that Google Maps be checked into for implementation consideration of motorized recommendation number three.

KACOS stated that it could be created.
Dr. Poston reported on items that he thought may be of interest to the committee:

1. **FRIB project**: Dr. Poston stated that the FRIB accelerator will run parallel with Wilson Road, the Cyclotron and the Wharton Center. He continued that Wilson Road near those areas would be closed for 2-2-1/2 years. He added that MSU Police Chief Dunlap proposed as a possibility, permanently closing portions of the roads affected by the construction. Dr. Poston stated that in doing so, it would provide a landscape opportunity. He asked the AUTTC look at the situation and requested the committee make suggestions.

2. **Michigan State Police building (MSPb)**: Dr. Poston stated that the MSPb proposal was ongoing and removal of asbestos and other clean-up would be at least $4 million. He stated that it was a possibility that MSU would receive money to mitigate asbestos. He was concerned that if the building was left vacant that transient persons may seek shelter there. Dr. Poston stated that there were many ideas, but no funds. He added that when MSU regains the property that it could possibly be a peripheral parking consideration and an issue that the AUTTC consider for 2011-2012.

3. **Bessey Ramp (Auditorium Road Ramp)**: Dr. Poston stated that he suggested that a new ramp be constructed north of the existing Computer Center, citing that it would help traffic flow and reduce water problems in the area. He reported that President Simon denied building on that site. Dr. Poston stated that peripheral parking will be important when the ramp was destroyed.

4. **Cherry Lane Apartments**: NOWICKI asked how the Cherry Lane Apartments site would be used once the apartments were demolished. Dr. Poston stated that the number of apartments on campus was not needed as in the past and that the land would be banked. He noted that its immediate use would be for green space and stated that intramural sports were interested in using it.

5. **Bogue Street/Shaw Lane intersection**: Dr. Poston stated that the intersection was not pedestrian friendly and ideas to better it included closing Bogue Street and reducing the outlets into the circle. Ms. Lindahl added that extending Wilson Road to Hagadorn Road was a consideration as well.

6. **Morrill Hall**: Dr. Poston reported that Morrill Hall would be demolished after the Wells Hall addition was finished. He noted that the language departments would be moved from Morrill to Wells. Dr. Poston remarked that he thought the addition to Wells Hall was striking.

7. **Homeland Security review of Spartan Stadium**: Dr. Poston reported that the University received positive feedback on security and it may be considered as a model.

8. **POTTER** asked if the Michigan/Grand River Avenue corridor project was still being considered.
Dr. Poston stated that MSU was not willing to give up any more land toward the project.

The motion to nominate the chairperson for 2011-2012 was put forth. FASHBAUGH nominated the current chair, LADUCA to serve as chair for 2011-2012. PEDRAZA seconded the motion. All were in favor of LADUCA serving as chair again; however, he was not there to accept and it would remain pending until September.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned.