All-University Traffic and Transportation Committee

MEETING MINUTES

October 20, 2011

PRESENT

BRIESCHKE, BUCKWALTER, DENEAU, FASHBAUGH, LEE, LI, MARTENIUK, MARTIN-STONEY (PROXY), OTTARSON, PEDRAZA, POTTER, RICE, SHAMASS, SIGNORINI

ABSENT

HARLEY, KACOS, MILLER, NOWICKI, POLZIN, RHA, STUDENT AFFAIRS

GUESTS

Cheryllee Finney: Office Administrator/CTU with Human Resources Asst Vice President

John Prush: University Police Support Unit Administrator with MSU Police Department

CALL TO ORDER

1405

ROUNDTABLE

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

FASHBAUGH motioned to approve the agenda. SHAMASS seconded the motion. All were in favor of the agenda. None were opposed. The agenda was approved.
REVIEW/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

RICE motioned to accept the September 2011 minutes as written. BRIESHKE seconded the motion. All were in favor of the September 2011 minutes as written, none were opposed. The September 2011 minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT

BRIESHKE thanked the MSU Police for the well organized traffic control during the MSU vs. U of M football game. He reported that buses were added to routes 1 and 26 during high volume games.

PEDRAZA reported that an RCPD staff member was injured while walking on the sidewalk after being hit by a bicyclist.

POTTER asked if the accident was reported to the police.

PEDRAZA replied that it had not.

DENEAU stated that bicyclists were not technically allowed on the sidewalk.

BRIESHKE inquired how often bicyclists were cited for travelling on sidewalks.

RICE replied that they were not often cited.

SIGNORINI asked how the rules for bicycles were enforced.

RICE stated that while bicycle ordinances were in place, they were not a general focus of enforcement unless there was an egregious infraction. He continued that a few of the factors that lead to not enforcing on a regular basis included the size of the campus bicycle population, police commitment to other priorities and the educational programs not yet being in place.

DENEAU stated that the University was working to expand the number of bicycle lanes on campus. He suggested that when enough designated paths and lanes were in place that educational enforcement be used versus writing tickets. He added that the educational enforcement could be a non-motorized subcommittee focus.

PEDRAZA stated that it appeared that there has been an increase in bicyclists and skateboarders on campus. He noted the increased traffic on the sidewalks along the Farm Lane Bridge near Bessey Hall and stated that posting pedestrian only signs and/or designating travel paths with paint lines on the sidewalk may help.

DENEAU noted that the campus had evolved from the last time the bicycle ordinances were updated in 1994.
DEPARTMENT UPDATES

CAMPUS PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION:

KACOS was absent. No update.

MSU POLICE DEPARTMENT:

RICE reported that he would be meeting with Dr. Poston regarding strategic planning and financing for parking.

DENEAU recommended that the motorized subcommittee look at dividing the University into quadrants and determining the ratio of employee parking spaces to employees within each section.

LEE asked who would have the information.

RICE stated that Campus Planning and Administration was the keeper of the information. He reported that there were approximately .90 spaces per employee and that the number took into consideration employee vacations, business trips and time off.

TRANSIT:

DENEAU asked if there were any new grants.

BRIESCHKE stated that CATA had received a replacement grant that would assist in refurbishing the fleet.

POTTER asked if there had always been a CATA office in the Shaw Lane Ramp.

BRIESCHKE replied that there had.

POTTER reported that The Lodges bus was stopping along the curb to unload passengers.

RICE stated that the University could not prevent them access to the road, however, that The Lodges bus may not use CATA stops. He continued that the curbside stops had not yet been perceived as a problem.

MSU BIKES:

POTTER reported that there had been approximately 1000 bicycle rentals to date since MSU Bikes’ inception. He added that bicycle rental information could be found online at their website.

POTTER stated that the bicycle stock was depleted and that there was currently not enough supply for the demand.
RCPD:

PEDRAZA reported that there were no updates.

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY:

MARTENIUK was not present at the time to report updates.

POTTER stated that The Office of Campus Sustainability was renting bicycles that could pull a trailer displaying a billboard as a means of mobile advertising for University departments.

DENEAU suggested that they may be used for the non-motorized subcommittee’s education campaign.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

DENEAU stated that he had attended a meeting with Dr. Poston which included RICE, POTTER, LEE and BUCKWALTER. He summarized points of interest that the AUTTC may want to explore:

1) DENEAU stated that it appeared that the number of bicycle users had increased, however, that the number held with the MSU Parking Office could only reflect those that had registered bicycles with the University and did not include unregistered bicycles. He stated that an increase may be impacting bicycle parking as well as building egress safety issues.

2) DENEAU reported that Bogue Street, between Shaw Lane and Wilson Road would be closed during the FRIB project and that it may not reopen. He stated that the traffic circle at Bogue Street and Shaw Lane may become a traffic signaled intersection.

3) DENEAU stated that Dr. Poston would entertain use recommendations from the AUTTC regarding the former Michigan State Police (MSP) site off Harrison Road. Current ideas included perimeter parking and bicycle storage units combined with an additional CATA route.

DENEAU reported that the new communications person assigned to the Physical Plant would have some responsibilities for handling transportation education efforts.
DENEAU stated that he and POTTER questioned whether mopeds should be ridden on the sidewalk to access parking at the bicycle racks since it appeared that their increasing numbers were impacting the safety of pedestrians. POTTER expressed concern about the high number of mopeds he saw speeding along the river trail near the Bike Center.

DENEAU asked if there was any other new business.

RICE stated that the AUTTC’s operating procedures needed review and suggested that they be considered for updates.

PEDRAZA noted that they had been updated in 2007.

RICE moved the chair to designate an operating procedure update subcommittee.

OTTARSON seconded the motion.

The vote was made on the motion. All were in favor, none were opposed. An AUTTC Operating Procedures subcommittee was formed (DENEAU, RICE, PEDRAZA and OTTARSON – added post meeting).

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Non-Motorized (POTTER chair):

POTTER reported that the subcommittee discussed the following at the last meeting:

1) The possibility of a CATA transportation hub and/or bicycle facility replacing Morrill Hall after it was razed.
2) A review of the safety of the intersection of Beal Street, Kalamazoo Street and West Circle Drive near the IM Circle with the possibility of a yield sign being added for north to east bound Kalamazoo traffic.

RICE stated he would ask the traffic engineer about that area.

3) Moped parking, registration, egress safety
4) Motor vehicle parking permits quiz – status?

RICE stated that he would check on the status.

Motorized (LEE chair):

LEE reported that the subcommittee discussed the following at the last meeting:

1) Whether there had been an increase in the Commuter Plus permits being sold.
2) Ways of informing MSU employees of their MSU ID CATA privileges – newsletters
3) Clarifying how to use a traffic circle – signs, education

DENEAU stated that BUCKWALTER asked whether he wanted to continue the 2 PM-5 PM meeting time, noting that the time frame was established to allow for general committee business, presentations and subcommittee work.

POTTER motioned to continue that time frame.

MARTIN-STONEY seconded the motion.

All were in favor, none were opposed. The meeting time remained 2 PM -5 PM.

The meeting was adjourned and subcommittees met.