All-University Traffic and Transportation Committee

MEETING MINUTES
October 18, 2012

PRESENT
BUCKWALTER, DENEAU, FASHBAUGH, FRITZ (for GLAZIER), KACOS, KOZAR, LEWIS, LI, MARTENIUK, MILLER, NICOLLS, PEDRAZA, POTTER, RICE, ROBERTSON, THOMAS

ABSENT
BRIESCHKE, CALDWELL, MARTIN-STONEY, MCCAMPBELL, NOWICKI, NOWLIN, O’HARA, REID, SMITH-TYGE, (4) RHA RESPRESENTATIVES, (1) ADDITIONAL ASMSU REPRESENTATIVE, (1) ADDITIONAL COGS REPRESENTATIVE, (1) GREEK SYSTEM REPRESENTATIVE

CALL TO ORDER
1410

ROUNDTABLE INTRODUCTIONS
None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
The agenda was approved.

LAST MEETING MINUTES
ROBERTSON motioned to accept the September 2012 minutes as written.
POTTER seconded the motion.
All were in favor of the minutes.
The September 2012 minutes were accepted.
GUESTS

Mr. Niroj Aryal: UACOR
Mr. Sam Jablonowski: Traffic engineering student – MSU Police Department
Ms. Stephanie ODonnell: Traffic Engineer – MSU Police Department
Dr. Thomas Maleck: University Traffic Engineer – Civil & Environmental Engineering
Mr. Steve Troost: Campus Planner – Campus Planning & Administration

PUBLIC COMMENT AND CORRESPONDENCE

DENEAU stated that solutions needed to be considered and asked if there was a communication plan drafted.

RICE reported that the Auditorium Road Ramp was currently evaluated as having approximately five years remaining. He added that there would likely be a communication plan drafted regarding its removal.

DENEAU stated that the College of Music submitted correspondence concerning planned removal of spaces along West Circle Drive south of the Music Building.

RICE stated that the College of Music had brought their concern to his attention and that expectations lead to the perception that there would not be convenient parking near the building. RICE reported that the spaces that would be removed on West Circle Drive were currently dangerous as configured with vehicles backing into oncoming traffic. RICE stated that the eventual goal was to remove all but accessible parking (parallel) along the road. He added that parking near Cowles House off West Circle Drive had been returned from metered spaces to employee parking spaces.

MILLER asked if a drop-off area would be included.

Steve Troost stated that there was a loading dock that could be used at the north end of the Music Building.

POTTER stated that an East Lansing resident had mentioned wanting curb-cuts along the south side of Grand River Avenue at main intersections to readily allow bicyclists access from the north onto campus.

PRESENTATIONS

Ms. ODonnell explained signal timing on campus. She stated that all of the campus signals were the same cycle length. She continued that following MDOT’s timing off Grand River Avenue helped obtain and maintain progression on campus.

Ms. ODonnell reminded the committee that there were audible crosswalk signals used to assist the blind and visually impaired with crossing as well as curb cuts for directional cues. She continued that with a scrambled intersection, it may prove more difficult for those who use the current cues as implemented to cross.

Ms. ODonnell reported that after looking at campus accident data over the past five years, there was no established reason to support putting efforts towards scrambled intersections.
Dr. Maleck reported that injuries had decreased from 139 reported in 1995 to 8 reported (2 peds/6 bicycle) in 2009. He contributed the decrease to being careful and consistent in traffic engineering considerations and implementations.

Dr. Maleck stated that the goal was to have progression traffic on campus so that pedestrians were not walking into/through backed-up traffic. He continued that money, signals and engineering time have been spent to obtain the least amount of traffic back-up on campus.

Dr. Maleck stated that signal timing was based on what traffic engineering wanted to happen with traffic on campus. He stated that the current control of signaling was working and that there would not be enough time in the progression to allow for scramble intersections on campus. He reported that in 1993 Farm Lane and East Circle Drive was a scramble-like intersection and 52 injuries were reported. It has since been removed.

Dr. Maleck stated that it was the goal of the University to remove as many signs as possible along bicycle lanes for safety. He reported that the G-force was over 12 when a person on a bicycle hit a sign at 15 mph. He added that the fatal G-force is 9+.

Dr. Maleck reported that between 2010-2012 there was a general increase in bicycle-related injuries - many from bicycles riding through crosswalks.

Dr. Maleck stated that education may be key in addressing bicycle safety concerns.

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Mr. Steve Troost reviewed Campus Master Plan 2011 updates. He stated that the Campus Master Plan could be found at [www.masterplan.msu.edu](http://www.masterplan.msu.edu).

Mr. Troost reported that the Auditorium Road Ramp would be removed in the future. He stated that because the ramp was located on a flood plan it would be problematic to obtain a building permit from the DEQ to replace it. He continued that the planned removal of the ramp may lead to consideration of other modal opportunities such as Zipcar, MSU Bikes and a future multi-modal hub at the current AMTRAK site (bus and rail).

Mr. Troost reported that $6 million(+) was granted for the multi-modal facility. He noted that it was only in its conceptual stage at this time.

DENEAU asked if taxi cabs may be included.

Mr. Troost stated that taxi cabs and Zipcar may be considered.

MILLER stated she witnessed people crossing the railroad tracks from the train station to access Quality Dairy and asked if fencing could be installed to deter crossing.

Mr. Troost responded that it had been identified as an issue. He added that the multi-modal facility may have a coffee shop that would help encourage people to remain within the site.

PEDRAZA commented that the brick work along curbs used as cues for cane-users was a great addition.
Mr. Troost explained that building an underground parking facility cost about $40,000/space; above ground parking about $30,000/space and surface lot parking about $4500/space.

THOMAS asked if the law required bicyclists to wear a helmet.

Mr. Troost stated that it did not and that it was an education issue.

DENEAU stated that safety education was key.

DENEAU thanked the presenters for their time.

OLD BUSINESS

DENEAU stated that after listening to Ms. ODonnell and Dr. Maleck presentations the consideration of recommending scrambled-intersections was moot and the item was removed from consideration.

DENEAU reported that recommendation #4 from 2011-2012 was being considered:

4. Install a pilot bike parking facility at a perimeter lot to encourage non-motorized transportation use on campus, and decrease the reliance on parking spaces on core campus. Consider the following:
   a. Covered to provide weather protection.
   b. Secured to deter theft.
   c. Bike lockers and a rental fee structure to recover costs over useful life.

NEW BUSINESS

DENEAU stated that solutions needed to be considered and asked if there was a communication plan drafted.

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DENEAU stated that the College of Music submitted correspondence concerning planned removal of spaces along West Circle Drive south of the Music Building.

RICE stated that the College of Music had brought their concern to his attention and that expectations lead to the perception that there would not be convenient parking near the building. RICE reported that the spaces that would be removed on West Circle Drive were currently dangerous as configured with vehicles backing into oncoming traffic. RICE stated that the eventual goal was to remove all but accessible parking (parallel) along the road. He added that parking near Cowles House off West Circle Drive had been returned from metered spaces to employee parking spaces.

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POTTER stated that an off-campus resident had wanted curb-cuts along the south side of Grand River Avenue at main intersections to readily allow bicyclists access from the north onto campus.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

Deneau asked if there were any department updates. None were reported.

COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Deneau asked if there were committee representative updates. None were reported.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned and subcommittees met.