All-University Traffic and Transportation Committee

MEETING MINUTES

September 15, 2011

PRESENT

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

ABSENT

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

GUESTS

William McConnell: Former AUTTC Chair and facilitator of the first 2011-2012 meeting.

Brian Hoort: Pubic guest

CALL TO ORDER

1503

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

All were in favor of the agenda. None were opposed. The agenda was approved.

REVIEW/APPROVAL OF LAST MEETING MINUTES

Mr. McConnell stated that there were a few minor technical amendments to be made on page 4 of the April 2011 minutes. FASHBAUGH motioned to accept the minutes as amended. POTTER seconded the motion. All were in favor of the minutes as amended, none were opposed. The April 2011 minutes were approved.

CORRESPONDENCE AND PUBLIC COMMENT

BUCKWALTER read from correspondence stating that the numerous undesignated routes used for crossing from the neighborhoods onto campus off Grand River Avenue, especially near Bogue Street, remained a bicyclist and pedestrian challenge.
KACOS stated that MSU was limited on what they could do to rectify the area as it was under East Lansing’s jurisdiction.

RICE stated that he believed that all intersections along Grand River Avenue and Michigan Avenue were included in the MIGRTRANS corridor project.

POTTER reported that East Lansing was focusing on enhancing crossing areas along Grand River Avenue between Bogue Street and Hagadorn Road.

DEPARTMENT UPDATES

CAMPUS PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION:

KACOS reported that some monies were made available for a communications person who may be able to assist with some of the AUTTC communication recommendations. He stated that it was gratifying to see the AUTTC’s work recognized.

Mr. McConnell stated that he was of the understanding that the person would work via the Physical Plant. He continued that creating a full-time equivalency (FTE) request was substantial.

POTTER asked about the proposed Red Cedar/Greenway corridor bicycle path.

KACOS stated that the proposal included a separate bicycle path along the south side of the Red Cedar River from the west side of Harrison Road along Kalamazoo Street, along Jenison Fieldhouse and then along the river corridor to Bogue Street. He continued that its construction would be subject to funding availability.

DENEAU asked where 2020 Master Plan recommendations could be found.

KACOS stated that he would need to run the request through the Vice President’s office. He added that if a list was provided, expectations would be raised. He continued that there were various factors that may affect the outcomes, including funding.

RICE reminded the committee that there was also protocol to follow when information was to be presented to the Board of Trustees.

POTTER asked about redesigning the Shaw/Farm Lane intersection.

Mr. McConnell stated that the AUTTC could ask Steve Troost of Campus Planning and Administration to present at a meeting and see where the AUTTC recommendations fall into the 2020 Master Plan.

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE:

RICE stated that there was nothing notable to report.
PEDRAZA asked the results of the Auditorium Road Ramp (parking Ramp 2) engineering survey.

RICE reported that the ramp was built in 1966. He stated that a higher level of structure assessment was being taken each summer and that it was a benign report for 2011. He continued that the ramp had approximately five years of use left.

TRANSIT (CATA):

BRIESCHKE introduced Peter Brown who would be replacing him as the TRANSIT/CATA AUTTC representative.

BRIESCHKE reported that all ‘30’ routes now track service, frequency and the number of persons riding.

BRIESCHKE stated that effective August 2011, employee IDs are no longer valid on the ‘20’ routes (which travel to or from off-campus).

BRIESCHKE reported that route 25 now included the Eastwood Towne Center.

BRIESCHKE state that Wharton would no longer be served due to the Bogue Street closure, adding that routes had to be based on running time.

BRIESCHKE stated that ‘20’ routes ran year round from off-campus to the Shaw Ramp when ‘30’ routes were not running. He confirmed that ‘20’ routes were funded by CATA and 30 routes were primarily funded by the University.

BRIESCHKE reported that fixed route ‘32’ ended at 7 PM to the commuter lot.

Mr. McConnell inquired about The Lodges buses that were travelling on campus.

BRIESCHKE stated that they were not stopping at CATA bus stops.

SHAMASS asked if The Lodges buses could stop at CATA stops.

BREISCHKE replied that contractually, they may not.

PEDRAZA added that he had noticed a rickshaw service on campus.

DENEAU asked if CATA received a grant for additional bicycle racks on buses.

BRIESCHKE replied that they had, and upgrades would be made as they could, increasing the number of bicycles that could be transported from two to three per bus.

PEDRAZA asked how the new MSU Federal Credit Union (MSUFCU) built on the proposed Lot 89 (EAST) extension affected the lots future use.

KACOS stated that the MSUFCU was under a long-term lease.
RICE stated that the projected lot 89E was segmented into three. He continued that the MSUFCU took up one segment and that the remaining two segments were viable for possible use by the University in the future.

Mr. McConnell asked if a sidewalk would be added to the front of the Mt. Hope/Farm Lane MSUFCU.

KACOS replied that the MSUFCU would be required to install a sidewalk, but had the option to wait until another sidewalk existed in the area to which it could be connected.

MSU BIKES:

POTTER reported it was the MSU BIKES five year anniversary.

POTTER stated that MSU BIKES had been attending the Academic Orientation Programs (AOP) freshman resource fair.

POTTER stated that MSU BIKES has been busy and reported an increase of the number of repairs performed.

DENEAU asked if there was a pick-up service for someone who had a disabled bicycle and wanted it repaired.

POTTER stated that they did not have one, noting that it was not cost effective. He added that persons sometimes used CATA to transport the bicycles.

RESOURCE CENTER FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (RCPD):

PEDRAZA invited all to the MSU Student Veteran and Service Members Welcome Reception being held on October 5, 2011 that the RCPD hosted.

CAMPUS SUSTAINABILITY:

MARTENIUK reported that there was nothing notable to report.

MARTENIUK asked the status of the Zip-Car program.

RICE reported that the Zip-Car representative was please with the progress and that it was expanding as projected. He continued that the locations that were established for the Zip-Cars were working well.

LEE asked if user data would be generated.

RICE replied that general, but not personal user information may be available.
Mr. Hoort asked if Zip-Car pays for the space used to park the vehicle on campus.

RICE replied that they did.

Mr. Hoort asked if the University profit-shared with Zip-Car.

RICE replied that it did not and that compensation was made to the parking system because Zip-Car paid for the use of the parking space on campus.

RICE stated that the University desired to provide a palette of transportation options and reported an array of options was being met.

POTTER asked if East Lansing would be offering Zip-Cars.

RICE replied that he did not know.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. McConnell stated that a new chair needed to be elected.

RICE nominated DENEAU for the chair position. PEDRAZA seconded the nomination. All were in favor of the nomination. DENEAU was elected as chair for 2011-2012.

DENEAU asked that the present members choose a subcommittee in which they wanted to participate. He stated that current subcommittees were Motorized and Non-Motorized. Members not present were designated to a subcommittee.

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PEDRAZA stated that the need for another subcommittee may be necessary at some point and time but could be determined as the year progressed.
RICE responded to the general statement of employees not knowing that their employee ID could be used for bus transportation on campus by suggesting that the appropriate subcommittee may want to talk with the ID office or with the new communications person working with the Physical Plant about disseminating the information.

LEE stated that perhaps the information could be added to the CTU newsletter.

PEDRAZA stated that the employee ID bus privileges could be added to the AUTTC website.

PEDRAZA stated that one of the issues that the subcommittees may want to address was the use of accessible transportation along sidewalks and other areas as the ADA Amendment act redefined the use of wheelchairs, Segways and motorized chairs.

DENEAU stated that the Motorized subcommittee should emphasize sustainability. He stated that perhaps the University could incentivize use of small vehicles that take up less space (i.e. Smart Cars).

RICE stated that Lot 37 was going to be used as a preparation area of Shaw Hall for about two years starting May of 2012; after which, it would become green space. The green space fell within the 2020 Master Plan and also addressed water quality concerns due to current parking near the river.

MARTENIUUK asked if more permeable concrete was being used.

RICE stated that the lot on the north side of the Police Department had permeable surface and due to the high traffic needed to be resurfaced. He continued that the permeable surface at Recycling was holding up well. RICE added that the permeable surface was significantly more expensive and had to be vacuumed as part of its maintenance.

MARTNEIUUK suggested that perhaps it could be used in perimeter parking or least-wear areas.

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. McConnell stated that Dr. Poston would not be able to attend the meeting as originally planned.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned and subcommittees met.