

STAC Meeting

5.18.20 3pm

Attendance:

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1Ik_w-XHqMXmq11Kmu6alQc4C2mt80tZFGLvvG6d6U08/edit?usp=sharing

Manu: Paul Jeblonski CEO of metropolitan transport passed away last week, champion of public transportation especially for students so we will hold a moment of silence

Livestream of MTS ceremony is available online

Josh: he got his start at UMass and led MTS for the last 15 years or so, neat to think about the future for our current transportation student workers

Manu: member introductions

Manu: STAC Chair, AVP T&T

Melina: AS VP Campus Affairs

Curt: Senior transportation planner

Josh: Director of Transportation

Patty: AVC Student Life

Darren: Grad GSA Rep

Eleanor: AS President

Clarissa: Sixth Rep

Anna: GSA Rep

Heather: AS Director

Nina: ERC Rep

Princess: ERC Rep

Manu: Agenda was sent late but hope you all saw it

Next item is to modify agenda, message me if needed

Fairly straightforward today, I would like input from STAC about grocery shuttle project and whether AS should expand collaboration with Transportation

Student parking sale options for Fall

Prepare to be flexible and meet student needs in any scenario

Alternative sale options

Quick recap of last meeting, presentation by Josh and Eric Mum

Triton Transit Service update for Fall

Presentation of updates with student feedback

Slidedecks were sent over listserv, also on shared drive

Routes will be consolidated SIO route has efficiency changes

Demand on route has increased over last few years
Regents express between main campus and Regents parking
Campus loop running counter clockwise and clockwise
Regular service on hillcrest shuttle between campus and hillcrest hospital until Trolley service begins

Next item is updates from TES and myself about Triton Transit
Most shuttles moved to an on-demand model

Josh: I will add we are delivering vast majority of service using electric carts because carts were able to be retrofitted to provide separation between driver and passenger and easier to sanitize, also more environmental and economical

Manu: any student staff and faculty on campus can call dispatch number to hail those rides

Next item is opportunity for input about grocery shuttle project, pilot last summer and implementation last fall

There aren't many affordable grocery and dining options on or near campus so this was created in collaboration with Transportation and HDH to provide access to culturally specific and more economical dining options

Goal is to continue into the future, this year was the trial year. What could be changed to improve?

Patty: definitely well-received, want to know ridership numbers, tremendous resource for our students so I am glad we were able to do it

Josh: Don't have current numbers but know they've dropped significantly this quarter
Is continuing to meet a need though, and expecting ridership during Return to Learn to increase again

Manu: Josh would Transportation be interested in service expansion with an increase in funding contribution?

Josh: Yes absolutely

Manu: Darren have any Grads expressed interest in it?

Darren: haven't been hearing any feedback, can distribute a survey. Anna?

Anna: I don't think it's very well known in the grad community as I haven't heard feedback or input from my community about using it. Could spread the word more in our Grad areas

Is there any way to know the breakdown of grads vs. undergrads who use it?

Manu: one thing we planned to do for fall is to survey riders who are boarding and potentially scan ideas so we can gather more data on usage. Definitely something we could work with TES to implement and use that to inform service changes

Josh: as we see increased rider interest, it may be necessary to take ticketing or reservations so that we don't have lines cued for limited shuttle space, would get ridership data that way

That data stream may be valuable enough to drive us to a solution like that

Darren: when I was living in mesa there was a la jolla village square route.

Josh: was it a full-sized shuttle?

Darren: I'm not certain, I know Mandeville is decently far from grad housing though

Josh: can't remember who was running the service you mention, the point about Mandeville is a good one and could impact how we shape this route for next year. Will get into sources and usage. Portion of this is funded by undergraduate fees so it is a worthwhile question about whether some of the grad-specific funding goes toward providing grad housing shuttles. Could be a strong case for that

Curt: is there enough demand to add a grad housing stop just as a trial?

Josh: we still have connecting service between grad housing and mandeville, I think that's our solution until we do a comprehensive revisiting of route structure

Manu: one of the things that came up is funding source last time STAC discussed this Mandeville is close to main campus so somewhat convenient for grads who are already on campus

Timing of east campus loop worked well to bring grads to Mandeville in time

Josh: I think we have replanning to do for commuter service to connect to grad housing, working with reduced funds, modest version of weekday service funds would make for meaningful connection between grocery stores and grad housing.

Manu: we can create a summer survey to assess student demand and perception of the project so that we can inform funding and service models which may better serve grad housing

Next discussion for STAC is parking sale options and resident parking restriction

As COVID-19 changes people's comfort level with public transit it's important to discuss what students want permit sales to look like

I think there's an opportunity to comment on proposals TES could consider
Daily parking via parkmobile app
Quarterly sale of permit
What are thoughts on that?

Josh: would not recommend revisiting resident parking restriction
Would recommend revisiting recommendation about daily permit sales
When we established discount permit we capped S permit sales
Intention was to increase predictability so students would have better sense of where they could find parking
With the hybrid learning environment we have less predictable attendance pattern for students, concerned cap on S permits will be reached and underutilized parking on central campus
If we migrate into daily sales and daily sale caps we would make better use of scarce central parking and keep more students off shuttles where physical distancing is more challenging
Better utilizes parking resource to meet daily need and provide predictability

Manu: thoughts?

In that scenario do you think only daily parking would be available or would quarterly still be an option?

Josh: a hybrid wouldn't work very well because resource would be likely to be fully subscribed on quarterly basis and not used on a daily basis. Would lead to underutilization

For on-campus residents we park on a 1-1 ratio so would continue selling SR permits to capacity

Manu: how does the committee feel about moving to a daily-only model?

Darren: do you have attendance projections for fall?

There are beginning roll-outs of proposed lab schedules and as these ideas of research emerge I am not sure daily permits for grad students would work for us visiting multiple times

Josh: unfortunately i know about as much as you do about projections for attendance. Wonder if remote learning will be more opted for than in-person

Ability to purchase quarterly B permit for grad students in that scenario could be an option since those are not restricted in the way that S permits are

Darren: were there any cost changes to B permit?

Josh: for fall quarter it is my expectation B permit pricing would return to normal, it's \$10 higher than S permits

Current state is all daily permits are priced the same as the D permit which is a temporary measure since D permits can park in any space

Manu: do you think a policy like that could continue if we stayed full virtual

Josh: probability of that would be high but we are only committing to that through summer

If we find that ridership for grad housing for example increases in on-demand need, we may bring back shuttle service

Darren: still curious about pricing, what about scratch off parking?

Josh: that's an equivalent to daily parking, this would come at the expense of no longer come at the expense of predictability

What we can do is cap number of folks purchasing daily S permits

Nina: I think daily S sales is a good idea, glad SR permits are being capped as well
I have a random question. So for Fall we have hybrid system so for those planning not to go to school in person are we still charging them transportation fee? I know for current quarter it's set in stone but what about future quarter?

Manu: we will circle back to that, glad you are supportive of daily sale and think it's a good time to endorse that option as a committee

Josh: we support that but would like that to be issued formally

Manu: will work on getting that formalized and in writing since it's contrary to what was recommended in the past

Curt can you speak to micromobility for campus?

Josh: we will only be bringing back micromobility once we have a sanitation plan in place to enable it, but think we should switch to focus on fee question with the remainder of our time

Contract for transportation fee is very favorable to students long-term but we don't have an option within it to account for the current situation. Can't back out of it short-term without doing away with contract long-term

We have an internal brainstorm with procurement and will be opening a conversation with MTS. expecting conversation to go slowly with leadership change at MTS since they lost a member of

their leadership as mentioned, but will need to use summer to get a better answer to those questions about the fee for Fall

Nina: thank you so much

Josh: I know it's not a very satisfying answer but are exploring how to allow student fee dollars to remain with student body even if fee continues to be collected

Manu: we are a little over meeting time but are there any last thoughts or comments?

Seeing none for next meeting we'll have draft of grocery shuttle survey to collect feedback
Indepth discussion about micromobility
Other regularly scheduled meeting items
Next meeting will be final one for the school year but will meet with limited frequency over summer