

UConn Transportation Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
Facilities Conf. Rm. B
September 9, 2019, 1:30pm

1. Introductions – Alan Calandro, Chief of Staff; Exec VP Admin and CFO Office

2. Public Comment

None

3. Old Business

a) Acceptance of minutes - January 29, 2019

Alan Calandro

Alan motioned for the acceptance of the January 29, 2019 TAC meeting notes which was accepted by Keith Hood and seconded by Mike Jednak. Minutes approved.

4. New Business

a) Bicycle Friendly Campus – Power Point Presentation

Coryn Clark

Coryn informed the Committee that the Bicycle Working Group had been working throughout the past year to encourage all modes of “active transportation” on the UConn Storrs campus and those efforts included the increased use of bicycles. Coryn then informed the Committee that the following elements were essential to the growth of active transportation: Engineering, Education, Encouragement, Enforcement, and Evaluation. Each of these elements would be equally essential to the development of a campus bicycle plan. Coryn told the Committee that the Group was looking for a “home for the project” to build a “bicycle friendly campus” and shared her understanding that the Committee would be able to provide data and access to the senior administrator able to assist with the achievement of that goal.

Rich Miller shared his understanding that both the planning of bicycle routes and recommendations of supporting infrastructure fell within the Committee’s charge.

Alan Calandro recommended that the Group collaborate with Rich Miller to develop a formal list of near-term action items and longer-range objectives. Alan suggested that those items and objectives could be shared with the TAC during its next scheduled meeting. Alan also stated that the Committee’s bylaws would allow the creation of a bicycle-related subcommittee and the Bicycle Working Group could be represented on it.

Mike Jednak asked whether there is an inventory of existing bicycle infrastructure, including bike racks. Coryn stated that the Group was currently completing an on-campus bike rack

inventory. There was general TAC consensus that the inventory information collected by the Group should be confirmed and then added to the University's GIS campus map.

b) Parking Projects (Summer 2019)

i. Lot K *Dwight Atherton / Sean Vasington*

The new lot has about 700 spaces and opened for use a week before school started. Substantial completion of the project expected by the end of October 2019.

ii. Lot W *Mike Jednak*

This lot was regraded, paved, and otherwise improved during the summer months of 2019, and was available for use at the start of the fall semester.

c) CT Transit 913 & UPASS – Updates *Katharine Otto*

Ridership continues to increase on the 913 Hartford-Storrs bus route and a handout providing graphic and numerical evidence of those increases was distributed to the Committee. U-Pass usage continues to be strong and a second handout quantifying their distribution and usage was provided.

d) Storrs Shuttle – Ridership Data *Katharine Otto*

Last year we had 1.1 million riders; which was good. Fall 2019 ridership is doing very well – significant increases in ridership compared to the last two fall semesters – even when the weather has been nice. Nearly 9,000 rides per day, with heaviest ridership on Blue, Yellow and Red Lines. Summer ridership was also strong – nearly double the rides of the previous summer. Ridership data sheets that supported those findings were distributed.

e) Stamford Shuttle – Update *Dwight Atherton*

The Stamford service was transferred to Connecticut Department of Transportation (CDOT) which is now being provided by CT Transit. This operational transfer provides the same service with greater efficiency and allowed the University to repurpose its “Stamford” bus for use on its main campus. The new Stamford shuttle route is called the 355 UConn Stamford Connector. Unfortunately, CT Transit does not provide bus tracking at this time. Work is currently underway to wrap the CT Transit bus most commonly assigned to the 355 Route in a manner that advertises UConn and promotes its brand.

f) WRTD Hunting Lodge Route – Update *Katharine Otto*

Operation of the University's former “Purple Line” (2018/19 academic year), which provided service along Hunting Lodge Road, was transferred to the Windham Region Transit District (WRTD). CDOT provided the bus now in operation on the Hunting Lodge Road Route to the WRTD. Strong outreach efforts to promote and coordinate this important change started last spring. On-campus departments and off-campus apartment complex managers continue to be essential participants in those continuing efforts. Despite those efforts, there has initially been a significant year-over decrease in ridership on the Hunting Lodge Route.

g) Move in – Drone Footage *Dwight Atherton*

Dwight shared drone footage showing vehicle staging and travel patterns used during the 2019 move-in period. Dwight pointed out areas of success as well as those that required improvement.

h) Event Plan -- Drone Footage

Dwight Atherton

Dwight shared drone footage of traffic flow as it egressed campus following a 2018/19 Basketball event. Dwight pointed out areas of success as well as those that required improvement. The drone footage provided Committee members with clear evidence of the event management plan in action and the importance of drone footage to its continuing refinement.

i) Potential Partnership Opportunities – WRTD

Mike Jednak

Mike discussed future opportunities for partnership with WRTD.

Rich Miller asked if the Electric Bus grant award would be effected by those plans.

Alan told the committee that discussion between the University and the DEEP about the grant was continuing.

Peter Morenus asked if it was possible for University employees to ride non-UConn services for no-charge. Dwight responded that University employees must currently pay public fares when using non-UConn transit services.

j) Parking updates

Dwight Atherton

Dwight reported that parking permit sales are up about 10% this year. He informed the Committee that the cause of that increase was unclear. Dwight then told the Committee that he suspected that the permits were being purchased earlier in the year. If that supposition is true, permit sales volume should soon decline and the total number of permits sold may be equivalent to last year.

Dwight reminded the Committee that the academic year enforcement of permit parking regulations begins with two weeks of warnings, which lasts through the first week of classes. The following week the first fee parking citations are written. As a result, parking permit sales historically spike during the second and third weeks of classes.

k) Construction Impacts – Northwest Science Quad →

Due to a shortage of time, this topic was tabled and will be added to the next TAC meeting agenda

i. Parking

Dwight Atherton

ii. Transportation

Dwight Atherton

l) Depot Campus

i. Parking Improvements

Mike Jednak

Mike briefly described the need to add some paved event parking capacity on the Depot Campus for use by those in the Longley building and the Center for Clean Energy Engineering (C2E2).

ii. Enforcement -- Update

Dwight Atherton

Over the summer, parking areas were marked and many permit parking regulatory signs were installed. Parking and Transportation Services is now working with its departmental campus constituents and program directors to finalize those arrangements. Dwight told the Committee that some parking and transportation improvements must be made in some locations before parking permit regulations can be fully enforced on that campus.

m) Summer Projects 2020

- i. Lots Y & Z – will likely be repaved
- ii. North & South Garage Maintenance - is expected to begin and then continue each summer thereafter with approximately \$500K of repairs and maintenance to be done in each of those facilities annually.

Upcoming Meeting

November 4, 2019
1:30pm-3:00pm
Facilities Operations Building Conf. Rm B

Adjournment