

Parking and Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes

2/17/2023

Via Zoom

Members Present: Paul Hanley, Pamella Hughes, Kevin Krause, Nick Nachtman, Kara Park, Camden Studer, Debra Trusty, Madeline Wilson
Staff/Others Present: Maria Bruno, Brian McClatchey, Jacob Odgaard, Erin Shane, Debby Zumbach and Carrie Brus
Members/Staff Absent: Connor French and Rebecca Wilson

Meeting began at 3:32pm

Carrie took roll call based on Zoom attendance

Approval of meeting minutes

- November 30, 2022 meeting
- Any comments or changes?
 - No comments or changes
- Motion to approve and seconded
 - Minutes have been approved

Staff Council Committee on Committees

- Introduction of Maria Bruno
- Encourage staff members to participate in various committees
- What are members of this committee responsible for?
 - Listen and give feedback on ideas to issues presented in meetings
 - Helpful to use current services offered to provide a personal opinion on certain things
- What are you looking for in a good member?
 - How do you get to work?
 - What is your mode of transportation?
 - Commuter, Bicycler, Bus rider, Walker
 - Willing to participate in discussions
 - Someone who will ask questions and bring ideas to the table
 - Open-minded individuals, not a one-size-fits-all decision process
- What have we all accomplished that we are proud of?
 - Tour of NADS
 - Field trip to National Advanced Driving Simulator
 - Driving Safety Research Institute – new name taking effect next week
 - Invited others as guest speakers
 - GPSG was able to attend a meeting to voice their complaints about parking
 - Left parking rates unchanged
 - Input and opinions matter in this committee compared to others
- What could be shared with new candidates?
 - Next three-year cycle will be tough road with many different construction projects
 - Members will likely receive complaints from campus
 - Once per month commitment, do not meet during the summer
- Application due date is March 31 to apply for committee openings

CRANDIC study RFP

- Initiated by City of Iowa City/MPOJC
- Rail line that runs between Iowa City and Cedar Rapids
- Interest in looking at passenger rail
- Study is completed
- Potential feasibility
- Look at some other options
 - Bus Rapid Transit (BRT)
 - Dedicated roadway for buses
 - Rail between Iowa City and North Liberty
 - Bicycle trail for corridor
 - Much discussion to happen
- Challenge will be funding/matching dollars
- Many questions to answer
- Much more to come
- Question
 - Is the AMTRAK service from Iowa City to Chicago part of this?
 - Separate from this option

CAMBUS CDL update

- Handout

- CAMBUS drivers need to obtain Class B Commercial Driver's License including endorsements for passengers and airbrakes
 - Obtaining the license requires the following:
 - Passing three (3) written tests to obtain CDL permit
 - CAMBUS new hires must pass these tests prior to their first day at CAMBUS
 - Complete entry-level driver training (ELDT) program
 - Includes both classroom and driving components
 - Must complete training program prior to taking the CDL skills test
 - Once a driver has passed all three (3) components of the skills test, then they receive the full Class B CDL needed
 - Drivers will complete additional training to practice driving routes with a supervising driver
- Scheduling tests became difficult during the pandemic
 - DOT went from first come, first serve to scheduled appointments only
 - Wait time for appointments went to 2-3 weeks for permit
 - If they didn't pass, they had to schedule another appointment
 - License appointments took even longer
 - Can lose employees because of the wait times
- New training regulations
 - New standards were established
 - Training program had to be modified
 - Required to hire full-time employees to run training program
 - Hired two new full-time trainers to meet the two years of required driving experience
- Pandemic forced CAMBUS to miss out on two hiring cycles
 - Created a significant staffing shortfall
- Change in legislation opened the door for CAMBUS to apply as a 3rd party tester
 - We have two certified testers and will have a third in the near future
 - Huge improvement
 - Could provide testing for other entities outside of CAMBUS
- Questions from the group
 - Are we monetizing training for others outside of CAMBUS?
 - Came up with a fee for that service
 - Where is the training taking place?
 - Working on a permanent location
 - DOT has to approve the location
 - Current locations being used
 - CAMBUS Maintenance Facility
 - Lot 45
- Train about 65 new drivers each year
- 160 student employees is considered full staffed
- Very busy – 30 students currently in training
- Very soon CAMBUS will be able to proxy the permit written test

West campus traffic study updates

- Handout
- Consultant attended our September meeting
- March 2010 was the last traffic study
- Needed a new study to incorporate the new 10-year facility master plan
 - 37 intersections involved in the study
 - Study horizon is 20 years
 - Weekday traffic volumes were collected in Spring 2022
 - Annual growth rate applied per MPOJC
- Existing conditions confirmed
 - Access to west campus area is limited
 - Three transit agencies service this area
 - Pedestrian network
 - Concentration of hospital ramps
- Road network changes
 - Hawkins Drive – expand to 3 lane
 - New road to connect Hawkins and Newton with a roundabout
 - Two-way traffic on Byington
- Building/Project Impacts
 - How will all the changes impact the road network?
- Hawkins Drive Reconstruction
 - Hawkins to Melrose
 - Phases
 - Accommodate both bus and bicycle traffic
 - Pursuing grant funding from a program at MPOJC
 - Options
 - Widen to add bicycle lanes

- Construct a shared-use path adjacent to Hawkins
 - Convert to 3-lane with bicycle lanes
- Funds would not be ready to use until 2027
- Question
 - Can we put a shared-use path on the right side of Ewy close to Highway 6?
 - Need to check on that

Housekeeping

- Agenda items
 - Always looking for new agenda items
 - Feel free to contact Kara, Erin, Debby or Carrie if you have any ideas
- Next meeting is on Friday, March 24

Adjourn

- Motion to adjourn and seconded
- Meeting ended at 4:42pm