

TSAC Minutes
October 2, 2019

Members Present:

Mr. Bill Cox
Mr. Joe Dillard
Mr. Purna Doddapaneni
Dr. Andrew Klein
Dr. Angie Hill Price
Ms. Erin Jones
Mr. Jim Kovar
Mr. Peter Lange
Ms. Regan McGuill (Ms. Natalie Parks)
Ms. Lisa Pierce
Mr. Robert Pottberg

Mr. Tom Reber
Dr. John Stallone
Ms. Deborah Wright

Absent:

Mr. Thomas Barrow
Dr. Fuller Bazer
Mr. Andy Deuel
Dr. Eleanor Green
Dr. Julie Harlin
Ms. Flora Reeves

1. Mr. Peter Lange opened the meeting at 11:50 a.m., and welcomed new committee members.
 2. Mr. Lange asked everyone to review the minutes from the September 4, 2019 meeting. Dr. Angie Hill Price motioned to approve the minutes; Mr. Tom Reber seconded; minutes approved.
 3. Mr. Lange provided an update on Polo Road Garage and the MSC Streets project. Polo Road Garage construction is on schedule and is anticipated to be online for parking in August 2020. The MSC Streets project continues, with anticipated completion by the end of February 2020.
 4. Mr. Lange mentioned that periodically we will dedicate a segment of the TSAC meeting for a "TS by the Numbers" presentation highlighting our operations. He then gave a brief update about bus ridership and new routes, and parking permit sales.
 5. Dr. Jerry Strawser, Executive Vice President of Finance and Operations and Chief Financial Officer, addressed the committee. He lauded Transportation Services (and other departments in the division) for another successful Thursday Football operation.
- Dr. Strawser said he is putting together a group in the next month to address the Unrelated Business Income Tax (UBIT) and implications for our campus. Once they evaluate the issues and study what other universities have done, they will make a recommendation to the Provost and University President on how to proceed.

6. Ms. Therese Kucera presented the Transportation Services Waiting List Process. See presentation: <https://transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx#presentations>. She also showed how the waiting list process is clearly presented at our website: <https://transport.tamu.edu/parking/faqpermit/waitlist.aspx#work>.

7. Mr. Byron Prestridge gave a Bike Share presentation:

<https://transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx#presentations>.

He noted that we have a fleet size of 2,600 bikes, and currently have about 30,000 users. Eighty percent of the rides originate and are completed on campus, with 30% of those rides in the engineering corridor. He explained how VeoRide representatives and our staff “rebalance” the campus, and discussed warnings and violations. Since the vendor is relatively new to our campus, they want to set realistic rates on violations and explore warnings/suspensions. Mr. Lange mentioned that partnering with VeoRide gives us greater capacity to catch violators than ofo. Mr. Prestridge said we are looking at options to increase bike parking areas in highly trafficked areas. He said a senior-level engineering class is helping add layers to the Aggie Map to develop and set minimum and maximum numbers of bikes in an area.

8. Mr. Kenny Kimball revisited the UBIT in a brief presentation:

<https://transport.tamu.edu/About/tsac.aspx#presentations>

To review, UBIT is legislation that was created for nonprofits offering prepaid benefits on parking fees. Because of the resulting increased liability incurred by the Texas A&M University System, the System leadership decided to end the pretax option for all system agencies. However, after receiving feedback from faculty and staff, President Young decided to offer the pretax benefit for FY 2020, but will review the policy at the end of the FY. The intention is to use existing net operating loss carry-forward to cover the current tax liability. If the pretax benefit is continued beyond this FY, other funding will need to be identified to cover it. However, it has been determined that our Reserved Numbered Spaces (RNS) generate tax liability regardless of the pretax option. Whatever liability is assigned to Texas A&M University will likely need to be covered by an increase in RNS fees.

9. The meeting was concluded at 1:05 p.m.

*The next meeting will be November 6, 2019, Rudder 301
Please visit our website: transport.tamu.edu*