

TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP

Scheduled: 25 October 2022, 4:00 PM EST

Minutes

Call to order: 4:04 PM EST

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Agenda Items – Presentation provided updates and discussion for the following topics:
 - Bike Share Update
 - Electric Mobility Devices
 - Pedestrian and Bicycle Initiatives
 - Roadway Updates
 - No Right on Red
 - Mason Farm Road Resurfacing
 - Construction Updates – Pedestrian Impacts
3. Bikes Share Update (Cheryl provided update)
 - Tar Heel Bikes concluded business May 2022
 - Joint RFP process between Chapel Hill & Carrboro, awarded in June 2022
 - RFP Award in Process
 - Allan Blattner Question: Are these traditional bikes or e-bikes?
 - Cheryl Answered: All electric bike fleet
4. Electric Mobility Devices: Status Update
 - Current practices and policies related to e-mobility devices presented
 - Electric Mobility Devices Next Steps: Education, enforcement, infrastructure next steps
 - Allan Blattner

E-mobility policies shared with students in Housing seems to have improved compliance related to storing in dorm rooms. Noticing that students are using bike racks to secure/lock e-mobility devices. Problems persist with how they try to charge the devices including running drop cords through windows. There are also safety and policy concerns with this practice.
 - Daniel Widis

Public communications regarding e-mobility devices should be thorough and comprehensive.

 - Daniel Question: Is this something that the university is required to accommodate? (Charging and storage of e-mobility devices)
 - Cheryl Answered: No, there is no requirement to accommodate.

- Deniz Erdal

Provided ideas for potential solutions to issues faced with e-mobility devices:

- Solar powered charging stations
- Indoor storage spaces for e-mobility devices and non-electronic mobility equipment
- A fair amount of students would be willing to pay for indoor storage and negate some of the cost associated with charging and storage opportunities; Semesterly or yearly
- Question from Deniz: How do we limit bikes from crowding public areas where pedestrians travel?
- Answer from Cheryl: Current policy allows bikes to travel on sidewalks in pedestrian travel areas.

- Hannah Darr

Cites Purdue University's e-mobility device policies and how campus approached problem by in-person outreach to educate scooter operators on campus policies. In terms of enforcement, set a trial period to see how e-mobility operators interact with ordinance/policies.

- Elizabeth Wilkes: There are empty parking spaces on campus. Empty parking spaces could be used for storage.

- Stephanie Berrier Question: Are there any logistical issues with students parking at bike racks?

- Cheryl Answered: The only concern may be that there aren't enough bike racks to accommodate bikes and e-mobility devices.

- Cheryl Stout:

The capital infrastructure costs associated with power source and storage facilities for e-mobility devices are currently unfunded. The following considerations are some of the issues that will need resolution:

- Scooter racks and charging stations will impact campus landscape and aesthetics – planning effort required.
- Registration and Permitting: The potential to register and charge operators of these devices to support the e-mobility infrastructure cost and to track issues relative to larceny.

Action Items:

- [Electric Mobility Devices Education/Communications](#)

- 5-Year Plan – Include study to develop recommendations for university's next steps to manage electric mobility devices.

5. Pedestrian and Bicycle Initiatives

- [Vision Zero Task Force](#) – Town of Chapel Hill (TOCH) initiative to eliminate pedestrian injury through increased safe, healthy, and equitable mobility. Cheryl Stout serves on the Executive Policy Group and Kurt Stolka serves on the Technical Committee.
- Recent Areas of Concern where pedestrian/cyclist accidents have occurred:
 - Pittsboro Street & Cameron Avenue: The TOCH is removing the bike lane leading to the intersection to get more bicycle operators to ride away from the curb and into a more visible location. This is a short-term solution until the long-term plan to install a curb separated lane in 2023 is devised.
 - Pittsboro Street & McCauley Street: A request to install a lead pedestrian interval – a 3-5 second head start timing– at this signal submitted to the TOCH.
 - Skipper Bowles:
 - Dean E. Smith Center and Blythe Drive crosswalks: Recommendation to install Rectangular Rapid Flashing Beacon (RRFB) lights for both areas and curb extensions at Blythe Drive.
 - S11 Lot Driveway: Bushes in this area have been trimmed back to enhance visibility.
 - Mason Farm Road Cross Walk at Marsico
 - RRFB light beacon not operational
 - Recommendation to update and replace beacon
 - Funding for Skipper Bowles and Mason Farm Road pedestrian RRFB's have been approved by Facilities Services from the Open-Space Fund by AVC Anna Wu.

6. Roadway Updates

- No Right on Red Update
 - Areas with No Right on Red signs are being evaluated for inclusion to add signage prohibiting right turns at red lights

What issues should be considered when identifying intersections for “no right on red”?

- Time of restrictions – Should the “no right on red” apply after peak travel periods?
- Other considerations – Feedback from TWG Committee requested via Qualtrics Survey.

7. Mason Farm Road Resurfacing

- TOCH is planning to resurface Mason Farm Road from South Columbia to Old Mason Farm Road. There were originally 5 scenarios being considered. The TOCH is reducing the scenarios to 3 and will be sending T&P these options shortly.
- The updated scenarios will be sent to TWG Committee as soon as they are received.

Open Discussion:

- Deniz Erdal Question: How will bike lanes fit into the proposed bus lane?
- Kurt Answered: The bike lane will go in one direction; sharing lane with buses

- Amanda Simmons Question: How is the max-multimodal different from the other options? (Mason Farm Road)
- Kurt Answered: The max-multimodal approach indicates that 16 parking spaces would be removed.

- Martha Modlin Question: Why is this being implemented? (Mason Farm Road)
- Kurt Answered: Pedestrian crossing issues in the area and a repaving project that looks to improve pedestrian and bike mobility.

- Jeff Watson Question: Is there an option to backfill the S6 spaces in the ACC lot or on some surface areas?
- Cheryl Answered: The permit oversell ratios could likely be increased in a nearby parking facility to reduce the space loss impact on Mason Farm Road and not negatively affect the overall permit availability for hospital or medical school employees.

8. Construction Updates | Pedestrian Impacts

- S. Columbia Steam Tunnel
 - Detour plan would close sidewalk until March 2023
- Generator Plant
 - Opens December 2022
- Koury Stormwater
 - Initial investigation about water and water removal efforts
 - Manning Dr. set to re-open November 2022; May close again depending on investigation results

9. Closing Statements:

Meeting minutes and presentation will be sent out to Committee members prior to posting on the website. Request that participants review minutes and information presented and offer T&P feedback. Qualtrics survey going out to committee members for feedback on “No Right on Red” restrictions at intersections and Mason Farm Road scenarios. The survey will go out as soon as the updated scenarios from the TOCH are available.

10. Adjournment: 5:05 PM EST

Attendance

Campus Representative Participants:

Stephanie Berrier, SCE Communications

Alan Marsh, Post Doc Representative

Hannah Darr, Graduate and Professional Student Government

Deniz Erdal, Undergraduate Representative

Daniel Widis, Facilities Planning & Design

Jeff Watson, Hospital Parking Manager

Martha Modlin, Associate Director at the School of Medicine

Allan Blattner, Executive Director of Carolina Housing

Jimmy Dogerl, Graduate and Professional Student Government

Samuel Robinson, Undergraduate Vice President

John Brunner, Associate Athletics Director

Elizabeth Wilkes, Graduate and Professional Student Government

Transportation and Parking:

Cheryl Stout, Executive Director Transportation and Parking

Wil Steen, Associate Director, Parking and Strategy

Kurt Stolka, Transportation Planner

Carl Walker, P2P Shift Supervisor

Amanda Simmons, Transportation Demand Manager

Candace Lindo, T&P Executive Assistant