



MEMORANDUM

TO: UAH Community

FROM: Robert A. Altenkirch, President

DATE: March 5, 2017

SUBJECT: Parking Study

With the campus population growing, the demand for parking is increasing, particularly “convenient” parking. In order to address a number of concerns over parking and vehicular movement on campus, we engaged Skipper Consulting, Inc. from Birmingham, Alabama to assess our parking needs, roadway capacity, traffic flow and traffic flow patterns, and make recommendations regarding vehicular parking space, transportation, and traffic management.

Major recommendations from their report are to move from open parking that we now have to a “zone parking” system and to implement a transit system on campus. It would appear, with possibly minor exception, that we are the only public university in Alabama that does not have in place zone parking.

Skipper Consulting, Inc. worked with the UAH Police Department during their study, and the UAHPD has additional recommendations, including instituting a visitor parking pass system, using hangtags rather than stick-on decals, prorating parking fees for the spring semester, and designating special parking spaces, e.g., for those visiting Parking Management or the UAH Police Department, and for those visiting the Faculty & Staff Clinic.

The report from Skipper Consulting, Inc. is posted on myUAH for review. Appendix E of the report is a draft Campus Bicycle Use Policy. The draft policy only applies to bicycles as defined in the draft policy. There are a few recommendations in the report regarding the use of skateboards on campus, but the draft policy applies only to bicycles. It is becoming important, due to the increased bicycle traffic on campus, to regulate the use of bicycles on campus in order to enhance pedestrian and rider safety, to regulate the orderly parking of bicycles in designated bicycle racks, and to provide accountability for bicycles on campus. This draft policy will be reviewed for consideration according to the Policy on Policies (#01.01.01) posted on the Policies and Procedures website <http://www.uah.edu/policies>.

Posted along with the parking study report is a “White Paper” on salary-based parking fee structures. Currently our parking fees are a flat rate for all purchasers of a parking permit. Parking fees are collected in order to cover the costs of parking management and maintaining and upgrading the transportation and parking infrastructure. The salary-based parking fee structure document is provided for information only, as an alternative to a flat

rate fee structure, that other institutions have instituted. As we solicit input from the campus community over the next several months regarding parking and traffic management, the parking fee structure will be part of the discussion.

Focus groups of various campus constituencies will be established to receive feedback regarding the consultant's report and recommendations. If you have particular comments on the report or specific suggestions regarding parking and traffic flow on campus you may send them to parkingzones@uah.edu. They will be archived and reviewed along with input from the focus groups.

Thanks,

Bob