Parking & Transportation Overview

George Mason University
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Josh Cantor
Director, Parking & Transportation
What is Parking & Transportation?

- Parking Services
  - Office staff
  - Enforcement Technicians
  - Garage/Event staff
- Mason Shuttles
  - Shift Supervisors
  - Drivers
- Administrative Staff
  - Director: Josh Cantor
  - Parking Services Coordinator: Ann Moran
  - Transportation Coordinator: Marina Budimir
- Parking & Transportation Advisory Committee
  - Faculty, staff, & student reps
Parking & Transportation Budget

• Self-funded auxiliary
  • Receives no tuition dollars or general funds
  • Must pay for all expenses with parking revenue and some student fee (about $88/student)
• Overall budget is $17.3 million annually
  • Goal to not draw down maintenance reserves as has been done in the past to pay for projects and cover deficits
Parking & Transportation Budget

- **Expenses**
  - Debt service-$6 million annually
    - Rappahannock River Deck-$3m
    - Shenandoah Deck-$1m
    - Founders Hall garage-$700,000
  - Parking decks cost $15,000-$20,000/space to build
    - $3000/space in average surface lot to build
    - Founders Hall(below ground): $30,000/space to build
  - Operations(SP+/Standard Parking): $3.6 million
  - Transportation: $4.9 million(shuttles/CUE)
  - Leases, maintenance, projects
Parking & Transportation Budget

• Revenues
  • Permit Revenue: $9.9 million (projected FY16)
    • About $1.9 million offsets a portion of transportation expenses
  • Visitor Revenue: $3.1 million
  • Citation Revenue: $700,000
  • Student Fees: $3 million (offsets Transportation costs)
Parking & Transportation Budget

• Due to annual deficits
  • Reduced expenses by $500,000 under SP+/Standard Parking contract over last 3 years
  • Reduced expenditures on lot paving/projects
  • Generated more revenue than budgeted
FY16 Parking Fees

- Fairfax/SciTech General Permit: $390 annually ($450-resident students)
- Arlington General Permit: $425
- Shenandoah & Mason Pond Decks: $675 annually
- Rappahannock River Deck & Founders Hall Garage: $550 annually
- Lot I: $550 annually
- Lot J: $500 annually
- Lot R: $575 annually
- Lot M/P(Field House): $265 annually
- West Campus Lot: $150 annually ($195-resident students)
  - Less than half the price of general permit
  - Convenient shuttle service every 15-20 minutes from lot
Transportation Programs

- **Commuter Choice Pre-Tax Transit Benefit**
  - up to $130/month for full-time employees
  - Limited number of complimentary parking passes
  - Discounted daily passes/deck validations

- **Carpool Programs**
  - Preferred Parking
  - Rebate Program for Reserved Lots/Decks (20%-40%/semester)
  - Carpool Zones in Lot A / Rappahannock River Deck
  - Can use Zimride (zimride.com/mason) to find/share rides
Bicycle Programs

• Bike.gmu.edu
• Recognized as Bicycle Friendly University in 2010 (one of 26 colleges at that time)
• Bicycle usage doubled on campus in past four years
• Have bike parking for 1400 bikes on Fairfax Campus
  • 400 bike spaces under shelters/cover
• Bicycle Commuter Choice Benefit
  • For full-time and some part-time employees
  • $20 vouchers at local bike shops monthly if ride 8x/month
• Bike Registration
  • Give out free bike locks and lights
• Bikeshare
  • Capital Bikeshare at Arlington Campus
  • Working with City of Fairfax on joint future program
Parking Services

- Parking Services
  - Operated by SP+/Standard Parking
  - In 1st year of new contract (July 2015-June 2020)
    - Contract renewed in 2015
    - Been on campus since July 2005
  - Doesn’t receive any profit or revenue share
    - Is paid agreed upon management fee($75,000/yr)
    - Can receive incentive fee of $30,000-$75,000/yr
    - Operates within agreed upon annual budget(approximately $3.6m for FY16)
Mason Shuttles

- Overall ridership of nearly 600,000 per year
- Operated by Reston Limousine
  - In 2nd year of current contract (July 2014-June 2019)
  - Contract renewed in 2014
  - Been on campus since 2002
  - All buses and drivers are provided by Reston Limo
  - Charter bus service
  - Discounted Mason rates
Mason Shuttles

Routes

• Fairfax/SciTech(formerly Prince William)
  • Started as van in 2002
  • Operates 6:30am-11pm M-F and 8am-7pm Sat/Sun
  • Ridership has grown from 1000 trips/month to 15,000 trips/month
  • Added departures on half-hour in August 2012
  • Added weekend service August 2012
Mason Shuttles

- Mason-Metro route
  - Started in Spring 2007 running 6am-10am & 3-7pm M-F
  - Added mid-day and evening service in 2008
  - Added weekend service in 2009
  - Added rush hour shuttles Spring 2011
  - Added Metro Express Fall 2012; added 2nd Metro Express shuttle in Spring 2013
  - Ridership grown from 4,000 passenger trips/month to 30,000 trips/month
Mason Shuttles

- Gunston's Go-Bus
  - Started as pilot project with Student Government in Spring 2009 (one bus Thursday-Sunday)
  - Added 2nd bus in Fall 2009
  - Started running 7/days week in Fall 2009
  - Provides service to University Mall, Ridge Top Road, Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax Corner, Fair Lakes, Old Town Fairfax
  - Added expanded service starting at 7:30am in Fall 2013 to serve commuter needs
Mason Shuttles

- Burke Center VRE Shuttle
  - Recommendation of Transportation Master Plan
  - Started service in September 2013
  - Allows faculty, staff, and students to take VRE train from Manassas and then connect to campus
  - Also the free VRE garage can be used as a park’n’ride facility for those commuting from the south of Burke.
  - People can walk and ride to the Burke Center VRE and use the shuttle as well
CUE Bus

• Mason has had a long partnership with the City of Fairfax
• Mason pays annual subsidy to Fairfax so students and employees can ride the bus for free with Mason ID
  • Subsidy increased from $400,000 annually to $540,000 annually in July 2010 to $720,000 annually in July 2012
• About 330,000 passenger trips made annually by Mason students and employees
• Study of CUE/Mason Shuttle coordination was conducted in 2014-15.
• Service to Old Town Fairfax is being highlighted as part of #VisionFairfaxMason planning process.
Parking Inventory

- About 14,800 spaces total
  - 11,590 at Fairfax
  - 2,094 at PWC (includes Freedom Center)
  - 1,139 at Arlington
    - Lease 567 (Metropolitan Garage)/Own 572 (Founders Hall)
    - Lease 150 more spaces after 6pm
Parking Space Detail

- 6,760 general area spaces
- 560 resident spaces (Lot R/Townhouses/Beacon Hall)
- 3,200 reserved deck spaces
- 600 reserved lot spaces (Lots I&J)
- 1,100 faculty/staff general spaces (added more in Lot J in summer 2013 and in Rappahannock River Deck in 2015)
- 900 visitor spaces (garage and meters)
Parking Loss/Addition

- Loss of parking spaces since 2005
  - Lot F (1000), Lot E (200), Lot J (120), Lot B (600), Lot I (300), Lot H (75), Lot R (300), Arlington Lot (300), Discovery B (100), Lot H (300), Lot R (175)
- Parking spaces added since 2005
  - Shenandoah Deck (1200), West Campus Lot (600), Rappahannock River Deck (2650-phase II built at same time as phase I), PV Lot (150), Lot A/K (125), Founders Hall (443), Hylton (400), Beacon Hall/The Shops (205), Tower Lot (300), and Metropolitan Garage (567)
Future Projects Impacting Parking

- Housing VIIIB (600 new beds) and Academic VII (CHHS building on Lot H) will lead to possible need for Parking Deck IV (1000 spaces-$27 million)
- Sandy Creek Transit Center
  - Fairfax County funding $1 million, will be building 6 bus bays and other commuter amenities
  - Construction planned May-October 2016
- Bull Run Hall Addition
- Potomac Science Center
- Point of View
Campus Drive

- Funded by VDOT: $15 million
- Very public process involving City, County, VDOT, and adjacent neighborhoods
- Underpass under Rt 123 connecting east/west campus
- New campus entrance at West Campus Lot
- New road behind Field House
- Divert 20-30% peak traffic off Braddock/Rt123
- Opened April 2015
South Façade/Campus Drive Bus Turn-off
Science & Technology Campus
Arlington Campus
Arlington Campus

- Founders Hall garage-577 spaces
  - Connected to existing Hazel Hall garage
  - Handles permit and visitor parking
    - Electric vehicle charging stations
- Metropolitan Garage (GMUF Garage)
  - Mason leases 567 spaces from GMU Foundation
  - Mason does not operate garage
  - Fac/Staff & Student parking on P1, Plaza, B1, B2
  - Faculty/Staff parking ONLY on part of B3 (of non-SRA spaces) - have converted some to student and fac/staff based on demand
  - Fac/Staff & Student parking on B4 after 6pm
Arlington Campus

- Truland-lease ended June 30, 2013
- Mason working with Arlington County on naming/signing alley behind Founders Hall
- Arlington III building planned for future on site of Original Building
  - Would have a new parking garage connected to Founders Hall garage
Transportation Master Plan

- Conducted in 2009-2010
- Led by consulting firm VHB
  - Done plans at Harvard, Ga Tech, UVA
- University committee of 30+ stakeholders
  - Reps from Faculty Senate, Staff Senate, Student Govt, major venues, various units, Fairfax City, Fairfax County, VDOT
- University Executive Committee
  - Sr VP, VP Univ Relations, VP Univ Life, VP Facilities, Provost
- Chaired by Director P&T and Director of Campus Planning
Transportation Master Plan

- Monthly stakeholder meetings
- Public forums
- Focus groups
- Surveys
- SWOT analysis
- Recommendations
- Final Report
Transportation Master Plan

- Final Report is living document to guide parking & transportation over next 10 years
- Supports larger approved campus master plan
- Supports increase in campus enrollment
- Has general recommendations
  - Details to be decided in many cases
- Has recommended physical projects
  - Pedestrian/road/parking/transportation
- Has policy/finance recommendations
Transportation Master Plan Highlights

- Recommends transition to zoned parking system
  - Phased in over multiple years
  - Addresses top complaint of not knowing where to park in general system as zoned system will lead to greater assurance of space based on controlling # of permits sold to each lot/zone
- Will reduce traffic on campus (including traffic from vehicles traveling from lot to lot)
Transportation Master Plan Highlights

• Actual zones to be determined based on many factors
  • Unique needs of each lot (e.g. Aquatics Center-Lot C)
  • Need to ensure revenue still meets budget
  • Some may include multiple lots/various times
    • Doing in-depth study of other schools (such as UMD)
    • Will be having forums to gather input on various ideas
• Will create wider array of price options
  • Some may guarantee space for higher price
  • Some may cost less (either non guaranteed or less convenient): Lot M/P $265
Transportation Master Plan Highlights

- Build three future parking decks
  - Preferred locations: Lot I, Lot L, Lot C
- Not have to build as many future decks by reducing single occupancy vehicle demand by 10% by 2020
- Keep fees lower, more land available for academic, athletic, housing, research needs
Transportation Master Plan Highlights

• Keep growing alternative transportation options so people don’t have to drive
  • Shuttles
    • New Routes
      • Added Burke VRE shuttle
      • Added morning hours to Gunston‘s Go-Bus
  • Expand existing service to meet demand
    • Already added rush hour Metro buses so service every 15 minutes
    • Added Metro Express
    • Doubled service back and forth to SciTech (formerly PW) Campus
  • New transit center - triple bus capacity at Sandy Creek
    • Receiving $1 million bond from Fairfax County
Transportation Master Plan Highlights

- Pedestrian improvements
  - Widening, improving sidewalks, trails
  - Improving wayfinding (one of top findings with every group)
- Traffic
  - Improved VDOT wayfinding signs
  - Campus Drive
  - Roanoke River Rd widening
    - New turn lane into Lot K
    - Synchronize traffic signal with University Mall
- Possible new entrances to campus
Other Areas

- Golf Cart Policy
  - Registration/Licensing
  - Rules of who can use, where can park
- Event Coordination
- Campus Access
- Disabled Point to Point Service
  - Patriot Lift program started Fall 2014
Questions?

Websites/Email:
  parking.gmu.edu/parking@gmu.edu
  transportation.gmu.edu/transpo@gmu.edu
  shuttle.gmu.edu/shuttle@gmu.edu

Social Media:
  facebook.com/MasonParkingTransportation
  twitter.com/MasonParking
  twitter.com/MasonShuttles