Parking & Transportation Overview

George Mason University
Staff Senate Town Halls
August 2013
Josh Cantor
Director, Parking & Transportation
What is Parking & Transportation?

- Parking Services
  - Office staff
  - Enforcement Technicians
  - Garage/Event staff
- Mason Shuttles
  - Shift Supervisor
  - 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 nor general funds
  • Must pay for all expenses with parking revenue and some student fee (about $88/student)
• Overall budget nearly $15,000,000 annually
Parking & Transportation Budget

• Expenses
  • Debt service-$6 million annually
    • Rappahannock River Deck-$3m
    • Shenandoah Deck-$1m
    • Founders Hall garage-$700,000
    • Future Parking Deck IV will be added $1m
  • 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(Standard Parking): $3.3 million
  • Transportation: $3.8 million(shuttles/CUE)
  • Leases, maintenance, projects
Parking & Transportation Budget

• Revenues
  • Permit Revenue: $8.1 million (projected FY14)
    • About $1.4 million goes towards transportation expenses
  • Visitor Revenue: $2.9 million
  • Citation Revenue: $700,000
  • Student Fees: $2.9 million
Parking & Transportation Budget

• Facing annual deficits
  • Saved $500,000 under Standard Parking contract over last 3 years
  • Reduced lot paving/projects
  • Generated more revenue than budgeted
  • Still lost around $400,000-$700,000 annually-used maintenance reserves
  • Permit fee would need to be $365 for P&T to break even
FY14 Parking Fees

- General Permit: $335 annually ($350-resident students)
- Shenandoah & Mason Pond Decks: $600 annually (no fee increase from FY13)
- Rappahannock River Deck & Founders Hall Garage: $500 annually (lowered price by $100 from FY13)
- Lot I: $500 annually
- Lot J: $450 annually (no fee increase from FY13) + added fac/staff general spaces
- Lot M/P(Field House): $195 annually (no fee increase from FY13)
- West Campus Lot: $90 annually (lot closed during Campus Dr. construction)
Transportation Programs

• Commuter Choice Pre-Tax Transit Benefit
  • up to $245/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
  • Can use Zimride (zimride.gmu.edu) to find/share rides
Bicycle Programs

- Recognized as Bicycle Friendly University in 2011 (one of 26 colleges at that time)
- Bicycle usage doubled on campus in past two years
- Have bike parking for 1200 bikes on Fairfax Campus
  - 400 bike spaces under shelters/cover
- Bicycle Commuter Choice Benefit
  - For full-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
  - Patriot Bikeshare at Fairfax Campus/City of Fairfax
Parking Services

- Parking Services
  - Operated by Standard Parking
  - In 4th year of current contract (July 2010-June 2015)
    - 5 year renewal clause
    - 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 $3.3m for FY14)
Mason Shuttles

- Overall ridership of nearly 600,000 per year
- Operated by Reston Limousine
  - In 5th year of current contract (July 2009-June 2014)
  - 5 year renewal clause
  - Been on campus since 2002
  - All buses and drivers are provided by Reston Limo
  - Charter bus service
  - Discounted Mason rates
Mason Shuttles

Routes

• Fairfax/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 4000 passenger trips/month to 30,000 trips/month
Mason Shuttles

- Gunston 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, Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax Corner, Fair Lakes, Old Town Fairfax
  - Adding expanded service starting at 7:30am in Fall 2013 to serve commuter needs
Mason Shuttles

- Burke VRE Shuttle
  - Recommendation of Transportation Master Plan
  - Expected to start service in September 2013 (pending Fairfax County approval)
  - Will allow faculty, staff, and students to take VRE train from Manassas and then connect to campus
  - Also the VRE garage can be used as a park’n’ride facility for those commuting from the south of Burke.
CUE Bus

- Mason has long partnership with City of Fairfax
- Mason pays annual subsidy to Fairfax so students and employees can ride for free
  - 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
- Conducting study of CUE/Mason Shuttle coordination in Fall 2013
Parking Inventory

- About 15,500 spaces total
  - 12,400 at Fairfax
  - 2170 at PWC (includes Freedom Center and soon to be opened Tower Lot)
  - 1017 at Arlington
    - Lease 440 (Metropolitan Garage)/Own 577 (Founders Hall)
    - Lease 200 more spaces after 6pm
Fairfax Parking Space Detail

- 6600 general area spaces
- 500 resident spaces (Lot R/Townhouses)
- 2800 reserved deck spaces
- 600 reserved lot spaces (Lots I&J)
- 800 faculty/staff general spaces (added more in Lot J in summer 2013)
- 815 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), West Campus Lot (150-closed completely 2013/14), PV lot(150), Arlington Lot, Discovery B (100)
- Parking spaces added since 2005
  - Sandy Creek/Shenandoah Deck(1200), West Campus Lot (900), Rappahannock River Deck (2650-phase II built at same time as phase I), PV Lot (370), Lot A/K(125), Founders Hall(443), Hylton (400), Beacon Hall/The Shops (205), Tower Lot (300)
Future Projects Impacting Parking

- Housing VIIIIB (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
- Bull Run Hall Addition
- Potomac Science Center
- Point of View
Road Improvements

The Big Picture

WHERE INNOVATION IS TRADITION
Campus Drive

- Funded by VDOT: $15 million
- Very public process involving City, County, VDOT, 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
- Could lose West Campus lot and PV lot
  - Plan is to pave West Campus and PV parking after (Not funded by project—will be paid for by P&T)
Campus Drive Project Overview
East Campus
West Campus
Prestwick/Braddock/Campus Drive Entrance
South Façade/Campus Drive
Bus Turn-off
Macro Level Schedule Review

Areas of Construction

- Begin Work to Detour VA 123 to the East to enable Utility Relocations and Excavation for Bridge
- Area/Phase 1: East Campus Work Around RAC (Spring 2013-Summer 2013)
- Area/Phase 2: West Campus Work (Summer 2013-Fall 2013)
- Area/Phase 3: Bridge Construction and Prestwick Intersection (January 2013-Spring 2014)
Shenandoah Housing

300 Freshman beds for Fall 2014
Taken 300 spaces in Lot R
Prince William Campus

- Beacon Hall
  - Beacon Hall Resident Lot
  - The Shops Parking Lot
    - Right side is for Mason use-permit required
    - Left side is for retail only
- Tower Lot
  - Waiting for that to open
- Hylton Lot
  - Will be used by permit holders when Life Sciences Building opens
  - Will be event parking only at times-no permit parking
Arlington Campus

Where Innovation Is Tradition
Arlington Campus

- Founders Hall garage-577 spaces
  - Connected to existing Hazel Hall garage
  - Handles permit and visitor parking
- Metropolitan Garage (GMUF Garage)
  - Mason leases 440 spaces from GMU Foundation
  - Mason does not operate garage
  - Faculty/Staff & Student parking on P1, Plaza, B1, B2
  - Faculty/Staff parking ONLY on B3 (of non-SRA spaces)
  - Faculty/Staff & Student parking on B4 after 6pm
- Truland-lease ended June 30, 2013
Arlington Campus

- Mason working with Arlington County on naming/signing alley behind Founders Hall
  - Doesn’t appear it can be given official street name
- 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 as much of traffic is vehicles travelling 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 $195
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 (Burke VRE-partnership with County)
    - Expand existing service to meet demand
      - Already added rush hour Metro buses so service every 15 minutes
      - Overflow buses at PWC
    - New transit center-triple bus capacity at Sandy Creek
      - Receiving $1 million bond from Fairfax County
  - Bicyling
    - Recently recognized as “Bicycle Friendly University”
    - Working with City, County on mapping Mason to Vienna Metro
      - Added bike lanes, shelters, shower access, bike commuter choice
Transportation Master Plan Highlights

- Pedestrian improvements
  - Widening, improving sidewalks, trails
  - Improving wayfinding (one of top findings with every group)
- Traffic
  - Improved VDOT wayfinding signs
  - West Campus Connector
  - Roanoke River Rd widening
    - New turn lane into Lot K
    - Synchronize traffic signal with Univ 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
Questions?

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Websites/Email:
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- transportation.gmu.edu/transpo@gmu.edu
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Social Media:
- facebook.com/MasonParkingTransportation
- twitter.com/MasonParking
- twitter.com/MasonShuttles