

ALL-UNIVERSITY TRAFFIC & TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

April 27, 2017

PRESENT

BARNETT, CALDWELL, CERBIN, GROLL, HUSSAIN, KINNEY, KIRBY, NICHOLLS, PETROFF, POTTER,
PRUSH, RIFIOTIS, RONNEI, RUTAN, TROOST, WINOWIECKI

ABSENT

EDWARDS, GRANT, HAENER, KOHLI, MARTENIUK, PEKUROVSKY, RHODES, SHROYER, SILVER,
SLOAN, WEBBER, WOLFE

GUESTS

Kate Rice
Doug Monette
Katherine Ramp
Lauren Bernhardt
Ben Roggenbuck
Brianna Seymour
Adam Majestic
Moriah Dufrin
Evan Brook
Mateusz Leszczynski
Ryan Mayer
Alex Burns
Seth Killian
Chase Lindecker
Kaycee Artman
Emily Harper
Shelby Weber
Nick DeLong
Ryan Champagne
Jacob Fenton
Matthew Gudenau
Chris Gustafson
Aleks Oslapas
Tess Huelskamp
Matt Hammerly
Nate Zelent
Danielle Roberts

Camerin Elkin
Sahira Melo
Colin Copeland
Hannah Reed
Sawyer Curtiss
Meghan Gilman
Lorenzo Santavicca

CALL TO ORDER

1303

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

NICHOLLS welcomed the committee and attendees introduced themselves.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

PRUSH moved to approve agenda.

KINNEY 2nd that motion.

Approval of agenda.

ALL in favor.

NO abstentions.

NO oppositions.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF FEBRUARY MINUTES

POTTER moved to approve minutes.

RUTAN 2nd that motion.

Approval of February Minutes.

ALL in favor.

NO abstentions.

NO oppositions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

- 1) Evan Brook commented: He purchased a moped last semester and he is a full time student working 2 jobs and a volunteer researcher and the reason he purchased a moped was because he has 10 minutes between classes and work and he works a 30 minute walk from where he leaves. This commute is not feasible when he works 2 shifts in one day. Not having a moped close to where he lives and where he works does not support him as a student and a professional. One reason he has this job on campus is because this summer he will be

working in Washington DC for Senator Stabenow as a legislative intern. Without this job on campus, he would not be able to afford the expensive rent in Washington DC. So effectively not letting him park close to where he lives and works he would no longer be able to work one of the jobs that supports his professional development. Without being allowed to park at bike racks near where he lives and works therefor, makes him, disabled in a sense from pursuing the professional development that he would like to pursue. He is currently allowed to park at the bike rack outside his building in East Holmes Hall, and outside the bike rack at the Forestry building where he has class.

- 2) Lorenzo Santavicca commented: He is to this moment getting emails from students. The beginning of this year students came back and realized the women's lounge was gone. That was when students were vacant from the university. This is the end of the spring semester and implementing a change to mopeds making sure that students are here to learn about the change. MSU as an institution needs to do better about communication about policy and procedures. As students, not only is this procedure coming into effect in the fall going to negatively affect a large amount of the community that he has gotten emails from and several different colleges and from different communities on campus. For MSU as an institution to continually assume students will be made aware of changes at the last moment is a sham. He thinks that as a student body, they are supposed to be recognized that they have certain needs and certain requirements. The student body has very unique needs. For the institution to assume that putting this out at the last minute is very distressful. As an association of the student government of 40, 000 Spartans they would like call for this procedure to be reviewed, and should not be implemented in the fall semester, should be taken in to further consideration, and that the student body should have more of an impact in changes in parking. As he mentioned, the student body is requiring different needs. He is so tired of the fact that the institution has not recognized that they have unique needs. He stated that to assume that a wide-open ban of changes on parking is going to positively affect one community on campus is not fair. He stated that he does want to recognize that this change would change the public safety on campus. Mopeds are a challenge on campus on sidewalks and whatnot, it is a personal safety issue. He thinks there is not enough parking at neighborhoods on campus. The student body has much more to ask of committees like AUTTC, to assume that they have a diverse voice on campus. He has received emails about price and fees associated with this procedure. That is something that needs to be considered with the increase of tuition and residence hall prices. He urges the committee to think about what will be said today and read the emails and understand what the unique needs of the student body are. That is unacceptable if they don't.
- 3) Ben Roggenbuck commented: He stated that he is a representative of ASMSU and the college of natural science. Thank you for inviting them in to the meeting and voice their concerns. He has been receiving emails and Facebook messages from constituents and people from college of natural science and fellow coworkers. There has not been a lot of information released to them. They did not see this coming. They don't know whose fault that is. Current concerns from the students are about safety. Almost every single student has been hit by a moped. How this behavior can be corrected and what they can do about it

is a statement they don't know a lot about. Students are looking for a basis for these decisions and reasons why these procedures are being made.

- 4) Seth Killian commented: That he is a living at Abbot Place off campus. He stated that he is here today representing 4,726 students who have shown opposition to the moped proposal in the last 24 hours. In the annual report and recommendations for the 2015-2016 academic year this subcommittee states there are very low levels of compliance with registration by moped users, bike parking has been over crowded due to mopeds, and mopeds are regularly seem illegally riding on sidewalks and pathways often at high speeds, creating an unsafe environment for pedestrians and moped users themselves. He stated he would like examine each accusations one by one. In regards to registration compliance, the subcommittee has failed to provide any data. Of the 78 mopeds parked at the library the previous night only 4 were found to not have the state of Michigan registration. Well over 2/3 that were had MSU registration. That is a 5% non-compliance which is a stark contrast to the subcommittee's claim that lack of state of Michigan moped registration is found to be quite common. The subcommittee's statement that there is a lack of enforcement is no fault of the moped users. In regards to the statement that the mopeds have created an unsafe environment for pedestrians, the subcommittee has failed to provide evidence to this claim. Not once has he been informed of a situation where a pedestrian has been hit by a moped on a sidewalk. If that is the case, there should be published statistics supporting this claim. If mopeds are so dangerous why is there a whole crowd supporting the use of mopeds. He stated that these accidents are not the norm, if they actually do occur. He stated that the claims by the committee are uncommon and unsubstantiated. He stated that the real reason the moped rules have been put in place is not for safety it is for money. He quoted from the AUTTC report that a "considerable amount of potential parking department revenue is lost for MSU from moped", he stated that the MSU Parking Department issued 429,530 parking citations 2013-mid April this year. At \$25 per citation, that is \$10.7 million. \$10.7 just for parking citations of people parking illegally, with the meters and paid permits it is much more than \$10.7 million. He stated that the University of Minnesota issued similar rules and regulations for moped users and theirs is free. On 2 separate websites MSU is one of the worst colleges in the USA for parking. He stated that there plenty of bike racks not being used. Students have limited time between classes, mopeds allow them to quickly move across a large campus, by bypassing the slow and expensive bus system. A semester bus pass will cost a student \$50, a commuter pass \$103, parking in a ramp is \$250 per semester. The moped is the solution. Regarding safety he stated that by allowing females to park mopeds close to the dorms the risk is removed, especially when ¼ female MSU students has reported being sexually harassed. He stated that there needs to be a better priority list, communicate better with the MSU community and a better use of \$10.7 million.
- 5) Katherine Ramp commented: She is a member of Lyman Briggs College and that her biggest concern is that not all students are being fairly represented within the conveniently placed moped parking. She stated that 3 of the available parking are around Spartan Stadium and that almost none are on east campus or in Brody Neighborhood. She stated that she

purchased a moped because last year she lived in Holmes Hall and had classes out at the sheep and horse farms. Getting to those locations on a bus was not possible. She stated that the buses are unreliable.

- 6) Brianna Seymour commented: that she lives in East Holmes Hall and is Lyman Briggs College. She stated she has a car in lot 91 and that is one of the proposed spots for moped parking. She stated that she was told she needed to move her car due to the solar panel installation that causes her an extra 5-minute walk. She stated about a month ago she was 5 feet away from getting hit by a train while trying to get to her car. She stated that she purchased her moped about a week ago because of sexual harassment reasons, for convenience and for safety. She stated that she works late and night and gets home around midnight for some of her jobs. She stated she does not feel safe walking from lot 91 to Homes hall at 11pm alone. She stated she has been whistled at and cat called because she was alone. She stated that she is at greater risk of being sexually assaulted because of walking alone at night due to moped parking. She stated she came to MSU because of the convenience of having a moped and being close to classes instead of going to the University of Michigan.
- 7) Alex Burns commented: that he lives off campus at Glenwood Apartments. He stated that he is in the Spartan Marching and Spartan Brass and has to go to and from rehearsal every single day except Sunday. He stated he is privileged enough to not have to have a job, but that his job is the marching band. He stated it is a 45-minute walk from his apartment to Demonstration Hall. He stated that, outside of the areas he needs to be there are always empty spots on the bike racks but that according to the proposed moped parking there would be none where he needs to park.
- 8) Moriah Dufrin commented: that she is a junior at MSU and just transferred last year and she lives off campus at Capital Villa. She stated she bought a moped 3 weeks ago because she works so often it would be a much faster commute and gives her more personal time to get things done she needs to get done. She stated college students are tight on cash, and a \$50 parking permit is 2 week's worth of groceries for her. She stated that she works a full time job and that having a moped helps with that. Having to park it farther away is a lot of time even if it is only 10 more minutes. She stated that she has not heard of any accidents with mopeds and she has not seen any statistics of moped accidents. She stated that she has not seen people drive on sidewalks. She stated that rides on the sidewalk to get to the bike rack. She said she would be more than happy to get off her moped and walk it to the bike rack instead of pay a fee to be farther away from classes. She stated she has some suggestions to increase safety. One would be to add more bike racks because there is lots of sidewalk space that could be used for bike racks. She stated she would be more open to paying a \$50 fee to add more bike racks instead of paying to park farther away from classes. She suggests removing the \$50 fee all together. She is concerned about the safety of the mopeds and says she uses the bike racks because she locks her moped to the bike rack.
- 9) Sahira Melo Commented: she is from the college of engineering and lives off camp and is also from out of state. She stated she has a car and has received over \$500 in parking tickets. She stated there is a safety issue with mopeds and with bicycles. She links there

should be a speed limit on sidewalks for bikes and mopeds. She stated she think the moped parking should be right next to the bike racks.

10) Lauren Bernhardt commented: Residents Hall President and former member of AUTTC. She knows a passed concern of the committee was a lack of input from the student body. The new moped regulations are detrimental to RHA's constituents and their on campus living experience. She stated that moving moped parking further away from halls where students live, limits their mobility and is a hindrance to their transportation on campus. She stated she is disappointed with the student feedback solicited by decision makers and the fact that this decision was made public alarmingly close to the final meetings of the student governments on campus. The student input that AUTTC has been seeking is now present and sharing their collective voice.

11) Hannah Reed commented: she is a biker representing bikers and the fact that she has never had an issue with a moped being in the way. She stated she has never had a concern about being hit by a moped on the sidewalks and she has never not been able to park her bike due to mopeds parking at bike racks.

12) Aleks Oslapas commented: He has some questions for the board. What are the qualifications to be a member of the board of AUTTC?

NICHOLLS stated that AUTTC is an appointed group that has faculty members, representatives from various units on campus who are solicited. There are bylaws stating the different designations. There are multiple spots for students to be members.

OSLAPAS questioned if there were any qualifications for members to have experience in community planning, infrastructure planning.

NICHOLLS stated there is a planning unit representative present, but that this unit is here to represent different constituents with respect to traffic and transportation.

OSLAPAS stated that when he read the press release from the previous day, the release stated there were a growing number of incidents with mopeds in comparison to bicycles and skateboards. What were those numbers?

NICHOLLS stated that those questions could be addressed when it comes to the discussion period.

13) Matthew Gudenau commented: representing the Broad College of Business for the ASMSU student government and that he is part of the bike riding group. He stated that he sees through the thin claim of these new regulations being about campus safety. He stated that this is about cash, a reprehensible act of extortion of tuition paying students at Michigan State University. First to debunk the claim of campus safety. As a sophomore he stated he has ridden his bike year round and in all weather, and has never once had an issue with a moped on sidewalks or when trying to park his bike. Additionally mopeds are already outlawed from riding on sidewalks. He stated he is not sure what data is being used for the campus safety claim. He stated there is no evidence or data that has been released to the

- public. He stated that this is a cash grab at the expense of MSU students. He stated that MSU already makes enough revenue in parking tickets and that this is nickel and diming students who are already paying enough in tuition. Making the claim for campus safety insults the student's intelligence. He stated on behalf of the more than 6,000 students of Broad College he would like the policy to be reversed, and that this is not something that is better for the students, and it is not something they support.
- 14) Nate Zelent commented: currently lives in west circle and he is concerned about next year when he will be living off campus at a distance that is not feasible to bike, which is why he has his moped. The addition of moped parking spaces would not help him at all. He stated he is in the college of music and the college of communications, which are at opposite sides of campus. Mopeds are very green which is a motto of MSU. The new regulations are taking away the incentive to decongest the university and save the planet.
 - 15) Danielle Roberts commented: she currently lives in Brody Neighborhood and will be living off campus next year. She stated that last January she bought a moped. She stated the bus system is unreliable, and car parking is unreliable. She stated she is concerned that there will not be enough space for all the mopeds in moped parking spots.
 - 16) Ryan Mayer commented: lives in south neighborhood and currently bikes and he plans to live off campus next year and buy a moped. He stated that for the public safety concern, adding moped parking further away from building will increase the risk of sexual assault. The pedestrian moped safety concern with mopeds riding on the sidewalk is already illegal, so changing the rules won't have any effect on the people already doing so illegally. The claim that mopeds take up limited bicycle space is false because moped users park next to bike racks and not in them, and if these regulations pass more people will buy bikes instead of mopeds which will make bike racks more crowded. He stated that if they are already adding additional parking just add it to the end of bike racks so mopeds can park there.
 - 17) Chris Gustafson commented: he lives off campus and in the college of communication arts and sciences. The new regulations wouldn't really affect him except that he drives a car and the moped spaces being made would be taking away vehicle spaces from car parking. He stated that he would like more details moped incidents on campus and not in the East Lansing area.
 - 18) Chase Lindecker commented: he appreciated the opportunity to speak. He stated he biked all last year until he decided to get a moped instead of having a car on campus. He stated he had classes that would be very tight on time schedules with no alternate options for class times. He stated he worked on campus. He stated he witnessed 3 bike accidents and has seen bikes hit bikers and bikes hit pedestrians. He stated that he has not seen any moped accidents.

19) Colin Copeland commented: that he is a freshman and lives in Brody Neighborhood. He is concerned with the public safety issue of mopeds riding on sidewalks. He admittedly bikes on sidewalks, and states that it is not even efficient for mopeds to ride on sidewalks due to pedestrian traffic. He stated that he has only seen mopeds on sidewalks in Brody Neighborhood and on rare occasions other places on campus. He stated that limiting the amount of mopeds will increase the amount of bikes which will increase the danger of all people walking.

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS:

NICHOLLS stated that the role of AUTTC is to make recommendations to the Chief of Police and the ultimate goal of AUTTC is to achieve the Chief's goal of Harmony in Mobility. She stated that there are faculty staff, students, and visitors on campus, all of which use different modes of transportation from their feet, cars, bikes, different kinds of boards, mopeds, scooters, different kinds of bikes, motor bikes, buses, delivery vans, trucks etc, and AUTTC's goals is to try and help DPPS get people onto and around campus efficiently, effectively and safely.

NICHOLLS stated the main issues discussed were:

Convenience- proximity

Pricing

Timing of Announcement- lack of information

Metrics and Measures

PRUSH stated he hears all the concerns and appreciates all who came to share their opinion. The committee did not make this proposal just to make moped drivers miserable, it was intended to make campus safer. The registration price is less than half of the current permit, which is \$127 on campus, \$103 off campus.

PRUSH stated that the infrastructure we currently have for cars is what the goal is for mopeds, since they are a vehicle. Mopeds are required by state law to drive on roadways and to park in designated parking areas.

RONNEI stated costs are primary concern for all and that the proposal is not about money it is about the public safety concern that has been addressed. He stated parking is an issue all around campus.

RIFIOTIS stated that she has been a member this whole year and that student opinion is very important and that more students need participate and share their voice about concerns.

HASSAN stated that many student seats on the committee have been vacant from the beginning and that students should participate more in the future.

TROOST stated that in his opinion mopeds are a motor vehicle and belong on the roads and in vehicular areas. He does not believe that adding to the bike parking will help and that we just need to make sure there is adequate parking for mopeds in their designated spots.

POTTER stated bikes are a hazard on sidewalks and he and the committee continue to try to make transportation on campus safer.

KINNEY stated mopeds have been brought up twice in the previous AUTTC meetings and the decision was never mentioned before being implemented.

NICHOLLS stated that the recommendation implemented was coming from the previous years (2015-2016) committee.

PUBLIC stated they don't understand why they aren't alerted to campus changes before the changes are implemented.

KILLIAN stated there should be more enforcement of the current laws regarding mopeds on sidewalks.

PRUSH stated he hears the concern.

OSLAPAS asked if there were plans to put out more officers at night because young girls are going to have to walk further to the dorms. He stated that MSUPD is more focused on parking fees than stopping sexual assault.

PRUSH stated he did not have an answer to that.

MAYER stated that he doesn't think that if there is already a law against mopeds riding on sidewalks, what changing other unrelated parking laws will prevent people from driving on sidewalks.

PRUSH stated that the most likely reason mopeds drive on sidewalks is to get to the bike racks to park. If the location of the moped parking is changed, the driving habits will change.

SEYMOUR stated that there have been motorized bicycles driving on campus, what that would be classified as.

PRUSH stated that according to the Michigan Secretary of State those bicycles with a motor attached are considered a moped.

SEYMOUR stated she would like to see a distinction made for motorized bike users and non-motorized bike users for these new regulations.

BURNS stated moped parking was going to be added as needed, and was wondering how people could alert MSUPD to the need for more spots at a certain location.

PRUSH stated current moped parking is taken into consideration and then student input is brought in, to where students most want and need moped parking.

DELANG stated the previous evening at the engineering building there were 35 mopeds parked outside and there are usually 3 times that amount and is curious how that amount of mopeds parking there will affect vehicle parking.

PRUSH stated that there may be some displacement of car parking in order to make space for mopeds. They will try and find a balance between additional moped parking and current car parking.

FENTON stated that the students feel blind sided about the new moped regulations but he feels it is not the AUTTC's job to inform the students of these decisions. He stated that he didn't know why the student organizations weren't making fellow students aware that these issues were being discussed.

RIFIOTIS stated that false information was being released to the State News previously and that she strives to bring forth the information from the meetings to fellow students.

KINNEY stated that any decision that is made is brought up in the RHA meetings to be shared with students and is posted to socials to share.

REED stated that she would like to see the evidence that people are getting injured from mopeds driving on the sidewalks.

PRUSH stated that moped and pedestrian crashes are not always reported. He stated that everyone has seen mopeds driving down the sidewalks, which is illegal even if it is not reported.

REED stated she has never felt in danger from vehicles driving on the sidewalks.

PRUSH stated that MSUPD does not want mopeds driving on sidewalks even if people do not feel in danger.

GILMAN stated her brother was hurt and the reason he got a moped was so he could park near buildings. She feels that moped parking location should be considered for injured or handicapped people.

EMERLY asked if motor vehicle law stated mopeds are allowed or not allowed to park at bike racks and if there is, it should be labeled somewhere stating that.

BROOK stated decisions like the new moped regulations should be made from real evidence and statistics and not assumptions.

DUFRIN stated that she does not believe people will change their behavior of riding on the sidewalks even with the new regulations be implemented.

ZELENT stated he is concerned with the safety of the mopeds in secluded areas further away from buildings.

PRUSH stated MSUPD is looking into a locking mechanism that will secure mopeds in designated areas.

PUBLIC asked how moped permit parking will be assigned.

PRUSH stated MSUPD intends to sell permits based off space available.

Motion to have an additional AUTTC meeting:

RONNEI moved to approve additional meeting.

KINNEY 2nd that motion.

Approval of additional meeting.

ALL in favor.

NO abstentions.

NO oppositions.

POTTER moved to have current agenda at next meeting:

GROLL 2nd that motion

Approval of agenda at next meeting.

ALL in favor.

NO abstentions.

NO oppositions.

NEXT MEETING

AUTTC 2:30-5pm May, 2016, MSU Police Department- Community Room

ADJOURNMENT