



Memorandum

Facilities Planning, Construction, and Operations

To: The Rowan University Community
From: Joe Orlins, Assistant Vice President, Facilities
Date: 9 March 2009
Re: Proposed Parking Plan for 2009-2010 Academic Year

As we are all aware, parking on campus is a significant issue for students, employees, and visitors. Currently, the University has over 4,500 parking spaces for almost 12,000 students, employees, and visitors, with over 8,900 parking permits issued this year. Students are charged a \$40 fee for an annual parking permit. Employees in some of the bargaining units are entitled to free parking as part of their state-wide contractual agreements.

The University has made many improvements in our parking situation over the years, but we are still faced with a number of pressing challenges. Foremost among these is the need to provide on-campus parking for students that will be living in the new apartments under construction as part of the Rowan Boulevard project (a commitment the University made to the Borough of Glassboro).

The University is in the early design stages for a new parking garage to be constructed on Route 322 in front of the heating plant, but that will not be ready for several years. In addition, the University is working on creating additional surface parking lots, but these may not be completed in time for the fall semester.

In the meantime, Rowan's Public Safety and Facilities Management teams have developed a proposal for parking for the 2009-2010 academic year. The proposed plan has been reviewed by President Farish, members of the Cabinet, and senior staff in Student Affairs.

Now it is time for input from the campus community and our myriad constituent groups. The Pedestrian Safety, Transportation, and Parking subcommittee of the Campus Master Plan Committee (in short, the "Parking Committee"), chaired by Ed Ziegler, will be the formal venue for feedback and recommendations to the Administration. In addition, recommendations and feedback can be directed through the bargaining units (for employees) and the Student Government Association (for students).

The main elements of the proposed plan are:

- Reassignment of some parking lots (*e.g.* from commuter student to resident student)
- Creation of short-term metered parking near the Recreation Center
- Restricting overnight parking to resident-only lots (*i.e.*, no overnight parking in commuter lots)
- Creation of new 'Overnight' parking permits to allow students that live off-campus to park overnight in Resident student lots
- 'De-coupling' Townhouse Garage parking from Townhouse room fees (to encourage greater use of the garage by other resident students)

- Creation of 'Reserved Space' permits for employees (for an annual permit fee, amount to be discussed), with the majority of spaces in employee lots kept as free parking on a first-come, first-served basis, and the understanding that employees can continue parking in any parking lot
- Increased parking fees for students from \$40 per year to \$100 for commuters and \$200 for residents & overnight parking (to discourage use of vehicles & generate revenue to support shuttle service and garage debt service)
- Additional controls for access to parking lots

With this plan, there is an overall increase in Resident/Overnight student spaces from about 1,680 to 2,190 (to accommodate the increase in residential population with the new housing, as well as the new 'Overnight' permit for non-resident students), and an increase in employee spaces from about 950 to almost 1,000. By the same token, there is a decrease in commuter spaces from just over 1,800 to about 1,325. We anticipate recouping the commuter parking when the new surface lots and garage are completed.

To help offset the loss of commuter spaces in the near-term, the University will explore with the Borough of Glassboro the possibility of daytime parking on Carpenter Street and Whitney Avenue.

President Farish has requested that recommendations from the Parking Committee be made by the end of March. I ask that you share the attached information broadly, and work with the Parking Committee in crafting any suggested revisions to the plan. The Parking Committee will schedule several meetings & forums over the coming weeks to discuss the proposed plan.

Again, please bear in mind that this is an initial proposal, and as such is as a starting point for discussions among the unions, the Student Government Association, the University Senate, Administration, and CMPC subcommittee on Pedestrian Safety, Transportation, and Parking. In addition, please note that any revisions to employee parking are the subject of contractual negotiations, and will ultimately be handled as a labor relations matter.

Feedback on the proposed parking plan should be directed the following individuals:

Employees – send feedback to:

Ed Ziegler
Chair, Parking Committee
Ziegler@rowan.edu

Students – send feedback to:

Phil Castro
President, Student Government Association
rowan.sga.president@gmail.com