



UW Staff Senate

Room 320, Merica Hall
Dept. 3413 • 1000 E. University Avenue • Laramie, WY 82071
(307) 766-5300 • staffsen@uwyo.edu

March 7, 2019

Dear President Nichols, Vice President Theobald, and Chair True:

As the Parking and Transportation study moves into its final stages, the Staff Senate executive committee would like to share the following concerns with you.

Many staff members have expressed a concern over the recommendation to move to a tiered fee structure. While this proposal has been framed as a matter of preference for close parking, we feel that it raises an issue of equity. Pricing core campus parking at a higher rate than peripheral and remote lots effectively reserves core lots for faculty and administration while pricing out the lower paid employees on campus. This forces them to park in the remote lots. These employees are often the very employees who have limited flexibility in their work schedules and are required to come in early, prior to the beginning of bus service.

A second concern brought to our attention involves workplace expectations. Many staff members are currently expected to utilize their own vehicles to conduct University business during the work day. In addition, there is an expectation for many staff members that they will be at their workstation prior to the start of their work day regardless of weather or other transportation contingencies. Staff members report that they experience anxiety at the thought of relying on transit because they feel that they may experience repercussions when informing their supervisor that they will no longer be able to run errands during the work day. Additionally, there is a fear that there will be disciplinary action if they occasionally arrive late due to insufficient bus capacities and transit running behind schedule. As we enter a transitional period where parking is concerned, messaging from upper administration on these two issues would be extremely helpful to these employees. Staff Senate requests an open and transparent conversation between administration and all campus supervisors regarding the potential impacts of an increase reliance on transit and how this could affect staff.

Finally, many staff members have raised a concern that the parking and transportation study report will present an inaccurate picture of the parking situation on campus given the changes that the construction of new student housing will create. Our understanding is that the scope of the parking and transportation study did not include these changes, and that they will not be reflected in the final report. We request that the final report be expanded to include the significant changes the campus will be undergoing in the near future.

We truly appreciate your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Renee Ballard	Jennifer Heupel
Kristin Blevins	David Keto
Heather Earl	Jennifer McKenna
Lindsay Galey	Kristen Smoot
Jason Gonzales	Rachel Stevens
Jennie Hedrick	

