



## **UW Parking and Transportation (2022)**

### **Summary**

The parking and transportation portion of the ASUW Fall Issues Survey opened on Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup> and has received feedback from over 1,315 students. We acknowledge this feedback is limited, but are confident it is a representation of student concerns across campus.

Beginning at Question 39 of the student issues survey, 51.69% of students at UW knew that the Union Parking lot would be removed in December of this year to be turned into a green space. 48.31% of students were not aware of this plan.

The results of the union parking lot being removed will have a severe impact on 326 (29.85%) students that attend UW. Students have shared their own comments about this parking lot being removed and ASUW recognizes student comments regarding the removal of the union parking lot.

Students were asked what mode of transportation they used most often to travel to campus. A majority of students (32.35%) responded that they use their vehicles to get to campus on the s on a daily. Followed by 31.43% of students walking, 17.10% using campus buses, 11.67% riding their bike, 4.96% using alternate means of transportation, and 2.48% utilizing carpooling.

Students were asked what modes of transportation they use to travel to campus for extracurricular activities. 64.60% of individuals responded that they use their personal vehicles to travel to campus for extracurricular activities.

Students were asked if they utilized parking permits on campus, 57.61% of students utilize parking permits that are provided from the City of Laramie and UW—these range from different colored parking permits and vehicle parking areas. Students provided additional information on why they do not have or need a parking permit on campus.

Concerning transportation via safe ride, most students (31.94%) know what Safe Ride is but have not utilized it. Students then had the opportunity to share their particular concerns and comments on different matters and comments including transportation and parking at UW.

## Survey Results

| <b>Starting in December of this year, the main Union parking lot will be taken offline in order to begin construction of a new green space. Were you aware of this plan before the release of this survey?</b> |       |              |     |
|--|-------|--------------|-----|
| #  | Field | Choice Count |     |
| 1  | Yes   | 51.69%       | 565 |
| 2  | No    | 48.31%       | 528 |

| <b>To what degree will the removal of this parking lot (union parking) impact your ability to travel to campus?</b> |                  |              |     |
|---|------------------|--------------|-----|
| #   | Field            | Choice Count |     |
| 1   | No impact at all | 22.07%       | 241 |
| 2   | Minimal Impact   | 23.17%       | 253 |
| 3   | Moderate Impact  | 24.91%       | 272 |
| 4   | Severe Impact    | 29.85%       | 326 |

| <b>What mode of transportation do you use most often to travel to campus?</b> |                  |              |     |
|---|------------------|--------------|-----|
| #   | Field            | Choice Count |     |
| 1   | UW Busses        | 17.10%       | 186 |
| 2   | Personal Vehicle | 32.35%       | 352 |
| 3   | Bicycle          | 11.67%       | 127 |
| 4   | Walking          | 31.43%       | 342 |
| 5   | Carpooling       | 2.48%        | 27  |
| 6   | Other:           | 4.96%        | 54  |

### Other Responses Included:

- Apartment Bus
- Safe Ride
- Online Student
- Skateboard
- Combination of modes

| <b>What mode of transportation do you use most often to travel to campus for extracurricular activities that occur outside of business hours? (e.g. Club meetings, campus events like Trivia Night, etc.)</b> |                  |              |     |
|---|------------------|--------------|-----|
| #   | Field            | Choice Count |     |
| 1   | UW Busses        | 1.02%        | 11  |
| 2   | Personal Vehicle | 64.60%       | 697 |
| 3   | Bicycle          | 7.69%        | 83  |
| 4   | Walking          | 20.57%       | 222 |
| 5   | Carpooling       | 3.71%        | 40  |
| 6   | SafeRide         | 0.93%        | 10  |
| 7   | Other            | 1.48%        | 16  |

| <b>Do you currently have a parking pass for the 2022-2023 Academic Year? If so, which type of permit do you have?</b> |              |              |     |
|---|--------------|--------------|-----|
| #   | Field        | Choice Count |     |
| 1   | Green Permit | 28.73%       | 183 |

|   |                                |        |     |
|---|--------------------------------|--------|-----|
| 2 | Electric Plug-in Permit        | 0.31%  | 2   |
| 3 | Purple Permit                  | 6.28%  | 40  |
| 4 | Motorcycle Permit              | 0.47%  | 3   |
| 5 | Orange Zone 202 Permit         | 11.93% | 76  |
| 6 | Red Permit                     | 2.67%  | 17  |
| 7 | CITY OF LARAMIE parking permit | 7.22%  | 46  |
| 8 | Other                          | 42.39% | 270 |

**Other Responses Included:**

- None
- UW apartment
- Brown
- Fraternity Parking
- Online
- Institute of Religion Parking Pass
- Disabled permit

| <b>Are you aware of a transportation service called SafeRide? Have you ever utilized their services?</b> |  |              |     |
|--|--|--------------|-----|
| #  | Field  | Choice Count |     |
| 1  | Yes, I have heard of SafeRide and I have utilized their services before        | 31.94%       | 345 |
| 2  | Yes, I have heard of SafeRide but I have NOT utilized their services before    | 65.19%       | 704 |
| 3  | No, I have not heard of SafeRide and I have NOT utilized their services before | 2.87%        | 31  |

**Select Open Comments in response to “what ideas do you have to improve transportation and parking issues on campus?” (more responses available upon request)**

- “Make the new parking garage open to everyone, or build actual parking. Very poor handling of the situation”
- “Give students more parking, this is a university and the students don’t have a parking garage to enough parking spaces to accommodate, Laramie is relatively walkable but people commute, particularly those coming back to college or not of the typical age”
- “We don’t have nearly enough parking”
- “More parking places for students that is free”
- “Hire more people to drive bus so there are more buses driving around”
- “Stop overselling! Also have designated parking for those living in the fraternity and sorority houses that is separate from the freshman/dorm goers. Individuals living in the chapter houses should be able to park in front of their houses but right now are not because the spots are taken by students living in the dorms”

- “Have a bus stop over by the enzstem building”
- “Not a ton of parking for green pass”
- “More parking for extracurricular time”
- “Not take out the union parking lot, that is one of the dumbest ideas. We need MORE parking. Creating underground parking or more parking that you don’t need expensive permits for. Especially since we already have to buy permits to park on city streets, it’s awful to also buy campus parking and you can’t get a spot anywhere”
- “Bus on the west side of town would be helpful and more student parking on streets”
- “More parking and parking spaces for people who live off campus”
- “Build a parking garage for students”
- “More inclusivity and availability”
- “Parking is already terrible as it is. Taking out the only parking that is available to us after 5:00, it’s the worst idea I’ve ever heard. We do not need a new green space as much as we need more parking. Do union parking lot is the only way I am able to get to the library what I need to study after school hours. This will upset me greatly if this is taken away from the students. Not only does this affect peoples access to campus for afterschool activities, but it will also affect peoples education if kids cannot find a way to get to the library due to the fact that there is no parking at the bus system is no longer running at later times of the day. I don’t know how to express this enough. But the union parking is extremely important and multiple people utilize this area every single day especially what is made available to people after five. This is when I’m able to finally get to campus and get homework done in the library. If I am not able to get to the library due to no parking this could affect my education greatly as well as multiple students on this campus. We should be focusing on students education rather than giving them more greenery.”
- “Keep available parking”
- “Allowing student employees on campus to have access to parking passes”
- “Allow the new parking garage to be for off campus students”
- “The only parking should NOT be located several blocks in most directions from people’s classes. It’s an accessibility nightmare, especially given our winters.”
- “I don’t understand why they’re making the union parking lot into a green area, we don’t use the green areas that we already have and now students will have even more trouble parking than they already do”
- “Dont get rid of the parking at the union. There wont be ANY parking on campus until the parking garage is finished and who know when that make the will happen. I think this is a really dumb move. We have sooo much green space already. Why make the already awful parking situation worse”
- “More parking space closer to campus buildings”
- “Offer parking that isn’t insanely expensive and/or take away parking. As someone who works in admissions, this is going to affect yours too. Prospective students often find that lot and park there and if they can’t find parking, they may not come here”
- “UW should invest in making more parking garages, and ones that students can use. They need to find ways to utilize the shrinking amount of car space for the most amount of cars, so a parking garage for on-campus residential student would be smart in my opinion”
- “Need significantly more student parking”
- “Allow more free parking”
- “Parking garage with shuttles to and from”
- “Get rid of one of the huge grass fields between sorority and fraternity row and add parking”

- "...stop giving us green spaces, and give us MORE parking! We have Prexy's, and it's plenty of green space. I want to be able to find parking and get to class on time, not struggle even harder to find parking!"
- "More shuttles and stops"
- "Don't take away the limited parking that there is and chill with the tickets we're college students not your tax slaves"
- "Making more available spots for students or a parking garage for students"
- "Personally I'm in the purple lot and it's a long walk"
- "I think there is need for additional parking that is close to the west side of campus, there are several lots on the east side, but parking on the west side is much more limited"
- "The buses need to be way more efficient if possible. Students are waiting 15-20 minutes to get on a bus which packs the buses so that some students may not even get on"
- "To no remove the union parking lot. It's where a lot of students can park after permit hours to go to half acre of the library"
- "Don't remove parking lots that are consistently full of student vehicles"
- "Make the lot behind mac hall open for parking"
- "Maybe stop giving so many areas to staff. It makes students feel like they're not important if staff get all the parking. Bring back the areas by STEM and don't get rid of the union lot. Also make meter parking 10 min/quarter again."
- "busses need to be CONSISTENT!!! Faculty/employee parking is NEVER FULL, so they need to share it with commuters. There is little to no places to park for commuters which is ridiculous because we are paying to be here and have to park 8 blocks away or have to take the bus from a lot and it is never reliable"
- "Carpool app"
- "Focus more on working with the city to improve parking (at the very least during school hours). The commuter lots are too far from the main campus to be accessible to undergraduate students. More dorms will increase the number of people needing residential parking which there also is not enough of already"
- "Parking structures and more parking and shuttles near the softball fields"
- "It would have been nice if the parking garage was also accessible to students. There could have been more levels. It upsetting that more parking is getting taken away when there is minimal parking as is. It will be a damper on the committee because more students have to park in residential areas"
- "Buses on weekends for purple parking"
- "Not get rid of parking lots when not necessary yet and before the replacement lots are not finished. More free past 5pm parking"
- "Parking in Orr and McIntyre should be for students"
- "Quit starting new projects that do not help every student"
- "Please don't get rid of the main parking lot that is used. The parking garage will not fix this issue. The union lot is located in the center of campus and is crucial to its operation"
- "Bus schedules are confusing. Not a single map has the flow of stops, and it would be much clearer how the buses worked if the maps online had arrows that designated which direction the buses travel from stop to stop"
- "Staff orange 203 parking is rarely used especially behind chi omega. I am a member and have to walk almost half a mile from where I can park to the chi o house. I had hip surgery and try to avoid walking so far. I'd appreciate if the orange 203 parking either actually got used or went to students who actually live neat those parking areas or are common visitors to those areas"

- “Run more buses. During peak class hours these buses are not very frequent. Also extend hours that buses run, if you take away parking by the library how are many off campus students going to get to the library to use the resources that our provided for us. Green space seems like a waste of money and a waste of prime parking for not only your faculty, but the students. Day lots are very convenient and I’m assuming make the university some money, so why would you take those away for green space?”
- “Build more parking lots and spaces to park and allow more permits to the student population each year. Also the passes need to be affordable, it is absolutely ridiculous that we have to pay tuition to come to a school in the middle of nowhere and then have to pay \$800 to park a SEMESTER. truly ridiculous and inappropriate of the campus to steal the money from their broke ass student population (college kids who are suffering and struggling already).
- Quit taking parking away. Building a parking garage that is taking way to long but isn’t even for students. Open up more spaces for students. Buses take forever, it takes forever for them to actually get you anywhere between waiting for them and managing the poorly managed system. Parking is the worst managed system at UW compared to any students and do not care about us at all.
- “More lots like south and east lots”
- “Bus routes running more often with more stops? I don’t have a car and the bus system is very convenient, and I would feel comfortable using it to get more places if I had a smaller wait time”
- “There needs to be closer parking options for anyone who has a disability regardless of having a placard. I struggle daily! The bus needs to have more stops all around campus. It would be nice if scooters were provided for student to use (or electric bikes, etc.), or at least for those with disabilities”
- “Buses NEED to run on time. There also needs to be more parking around campus. Placing a bike rental program at commuter parking lots would help. As it stands, those lots are too far away and buses too inconsistent to be viable to myself and some other commuter students”
- “Running buses later”
- “More bicycle racks”
- “Providing a parking lot or garage close to campus for student. Students are currently forced to park far away from campus which can discourage students to go to class or utilize various resources here on campus”
- “Crossing 15<sup>th</sup> needs to be improved”
- “Create more parking for students in general. There’s a huge safety issue for students walking at night and/or walking in adverse weather conditions”

**Select open comments in response to “Please provide any additional comments on campus parking and transportation you may have” (more responses available upon request):**

- “I ride my bike to school but once it gets too cold I have to start driving. There is hardly any parking so I have to wake up at 6am so I can find a spot by 7am and it’s miserable. I also study at the library every night and now it’s going to be much more inconvenient to even do that without the Union lot. I’ll probably stop going to the gym if I can’t find parking which is depressing. I also work for admissions and whenever we host big events the families park in the Union lot. How are they going to react when I tell them they have to park wherever they can find parking and walk a mile to the Union. It seems like a horrible idea for people with problems ambulating who need parking as close as they can get.”

- “I seriously don’t know how to express this enough, but taking away this only parking option to most students at the university is a very bad idea. I park in the lot almost every day whether it’s to go to the gym, the union or the library. If his parking is taken away, I do not know how I will be able to get to these areas on campus and I will need to find other places off of campus to go to instead so that I am able to park my car. When the weather here in Wyoming changes, it is very important to have a vehicle to drive especially when it is later in the day and I need a mode of transportation from my home to campus and back. The weather here in Laramie can become very severe in the winter time and having the ability to drive to the library what I need is very important to me as well as multiple students at this university. Please put this into consideration and allow the students to have a vote in this. Based off of the amount of students I have talked to, everyone would prefer to have an area to park rather than an extra greenery area. We have enough grassy areas on campus, but we do not have enough parking to even get to campus to enjoy The grassy areas we already have. Please keep in mind that once the bus system closes for the day, students will not be able to get to campus if they are not able to park their car anywhere. Not only will this affect peoples accessibility to campus for after campus activities, but this could greatly affect the students education if they are not able to simply get to the library to complete the work they need or even print off papers that they may need for the next day. The library is extremely important for the students at the university and if this access is taken away this could greatly affect multiple students in many ways.”
- “I can’t even park in my ON-CAMPUS apartment parking lot because nobody tickets the lot even after numerous complains. I have to park on the street even though I pay to live here and have the REQUIRED parking permit.”
- “Keep the union parking lot, East lot express can be very inconsistent with times it takes to arrive, I’ve waited nearly an hour for busses before on what seems to be a more popular line”
- “Stop scamming students with the fake safety if safe ride it’s supposed to be a safe way to get home without driving not a way to get a ticket for being a smart person and not driving”
- “What is the point of taking out parking when students have no where to park to begin with? The parking garage is not going to make that much of a difference.”
- “They’re getting rid of the main lot for extracurricular activities as well as visitors. I would argue it’s the most important lot. Won’t look good to vprospective students having them park so far from the heart of the campus.”
- “Please, please, please make more student parking. We don’t buy parking passes because there is no reliable location to park/use my own vehicle for transportation to class which doesn’t take 45 min or more.”
- “I’m concerned about walking at night to parking from late classes”
- “Please do not tear out the union lot. We are begging you.”
- “Students need more parking around campus. Closure of the Union lot will greatly affect the access to Half Acre Gym in the morning and evening after busses have shut down. The lot needs to remain open to be able to handle the traffic and load.”
- “BRING STUDENT PARKING BACK! We are only a walking campus 30% of the school year. The winter it is not accessible to ride a bike or walk without breaking something on the icy sidewalks”
- “Just giving everyone safe rides or busses won’t cut the issue. we need parking, stop trying to get rid of it. we don’t live in a big urban area, we need out own vehicles. taking away parking won’t just fix the problem, stop trying to address just the symptoms and not actually solve the root of the issue!!”
- “Please, Please, Please, advocate for those with disabilities that have a hard time walking so far from bus stops or far off parking spaces. It is hard to get placards, but I have a debilitating

disability (a couple actually). Parking is a nightmare! Also, in the residential areas, people are constantly parking here without permits, causing me to not have a parking space frequently.”

- “Even painting parallel parking lines on streets lining campus would be helpful to ensure space is not getting wasted.”
- “The shuttles at UofU ran past 8:30. I’m tired of having to walk from 9th to 30th to get to my car because the shuttles stop running before my obligations on campus are through.”
- “The buses are good but frequently impeded by construction projects around campus. Honestly if I had known how difficult it would be to get to campus I probably would have chosen a different university. The lack of student parking spaces is bullshit, especially considering how many spaces remain open in faculty parking lots. If just one faculty lot could be changed to be a commuting student lot things would be a lot better.”
- “A large part of the student population lives off campus grounds and making it harder to commute to campus is not good. All my coworkers and friends at UW never have anything good to say about the parking. This needs to be fixed.”
- “The University of Wyoming should expand efficient, affordable, and sustainable public transportation options around campus and in Laramie. This will improve the overall experience for students, employees, as well as the Laramie community. Ensuring the busses are more punctual and expanding routes, as well as providing incentives for those who do take public transportation or walk, would be an efficient and cost-effective way to solve the parking problem.”
- “My main concern is that Wyoming is a very weathered state and these green spaces will not be utilized to their full capacity like they might in other states.”
- “The busses are really nice, but they don’t run super late, so it is really important to have parking available around campus, especially free parking for people who don’t need to park on campus a lot, so it doesn’t make sense to buy a parking pass, but occasionally need to drive for late night tests, labs or club meetings.”
- “We pay fees to the school every semester yet none of it can go to free parking. There are metered spots, spots you can pay for with an app, and spots available if you have a parking pass but nothing for those who don’t want to or can’t pay for parking. We live in Wyoming where it is not possible for everyone to walk to a bus stop during the winter. Additionally, the police patrol city permit parking around campus unlike anywhere else in Laramie. They just wait to fine students who can’t find parking anywhere else because there isn’t any available.”
- “I have concerns around SafeRide and the notion that campus police tend to target and are more likely to pull over SafeRide cars. This also discourages students to use saferide.”
- “I appreciate the looking for comment because whoever approved the idea to remove parking areas as well as where to place them currently are clearly never asked any students about the locations and plans. I suspect this also got the greenlight since the faculty parking will remain mostly unchanged but will give the appearance of a “green” initiative at the sake of the the one group of people continuing to fund this institution. Very short sided.”
- “The campus parking is terrible and as a student and employee, I was denied a brown parking pass in which I had applied for. I now need to get here about 45-60min prior to my start time just for a place to park that’s not a mile away. I feel that the parking situation continues to get worse and the prices continue to increase.”
- “The buses say they pick up from the various lots every 10 minutes, but I have been stuck waiting for much longer before. The buses have caused me to be late to classes and work numerous times due to running late. I also have seen buses leave people at the stops and not come by any quicker, essentially punishing people who made it to the buses on time. Transportation either needs to



have more bus drivers on the route or invest in larger buses if they truly intend to be a viable option for student transportation.”

- “The University has not been very transparent about this change...let alone their reasoning behind their logic. I fortunately live on Sorority Row and I do not have to worry about parking; however, there are people who this is going to severely affect. How do you plan on aiding those folks?”