

## **Goal 4: Enhancement of the Resource Base**

### **H. Quality of life issues**

#### **Parking Lots**

*An important topic of discussion for the students, faculty and staff seems to be the frustration caused by the lack of parking space within a convenient distance from their university destination. Many employees may be willing to pay extra for the convenience provided by covered parking lots.*

*Committee: James Baldwin, Jay Bradley, Nilashis Dey, Mary O'Neill, Carol Pferrer [chair], Becky Thacker, and Jeff Vessely.*

#### **Current status**

- Available parking includes 50 surface lots, 20% of them off the main campus, and 9 campus garages, providing a total of 16,775 spaces for a campus population of 29,000 students, 3000 faculty, and 5000 staff.
- The cost of building a new garage parking space is approximately \$10,000, while a surface space costs about \$2,000. Current parking permit prices make it very difficult to recoup these costs. Yet another barrier to developing more campus parking is lack of available space.
- The current shuttle system is near capacity for routes that include student housing.

#### **Recommendations**

- As an alternative to creating new parking facilities, the committee recommends improving the convenience of existing parking and making it easier to get to the main campus from more distant lots.
- Increase access to on-campus transportation serving on-campus and perimeter lots.
- Partner with city/county government to develop additional bus shelters and share stops, and to assure that the campus is adequately served by future mass transit improvements.

#### **Implementation**

- Provide the current shuttle system with larger buses.
- Add shelters and improve existing shelters at shuttle stops.
- Add express routes to the current shuttle route system.
- Supply shuttles with a Web-based GPS tracking system to provide improved arrival timing information to passengers through the Web and/or shelter displays.

#### **Resources**

- Estimated cost of larger buses is \$60,000-\$140,000 per new vehicle.
- Estimated cost of additional/improved shelter is \$10,000 per stop.

(Revised August 27, 2007)