Transportation Services Gameday RV Committee WebEx Meeting 3-11-2016; 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Large Conference Room, Village Center

Meeting called by: Transportation Services

D = Debbie Hoffmann L = Lynn Wiggs A = A.J. Wolf

## **Welcome & Topic Introduction**

L - Welcome to everyone who has called in. We ended our meeting in February and then had a few internal brainstorming sessions and wanted to present to you an idea that came out of multiple conversations that we have been having about consolidation. The ability to park more cars on game days is not just a desire, but a great need that we have. We are losing about onethird, or more, of the spaces we have at Fan Field. This poses a challenge to us as far as having enough gameday vehicle parking. Displayed on the screen is Lot 58 which we mentioned in our previous meeting is the new RV lot we are constructing. It is scheduled to open this fall, with electrical, water and sewer hook ups. It is planned to have 95 spaces for RVs. In our last meeting we talked about how to fill this lot. What is the best way to go about it? After all of our internal brainstorming, we feel it makes sense to fill this lot from 100e. The majority of Lot 100e people have been with us the longest as far as the dry lots go. The number of remaining customers in 100e is about equal to the spaces in Lot 58. So that is the group we propose moving to Lot 58. So, how do we consolidate the rest of the dry lots? We mentioned Lot 88 is a location that we really need to park more cars. We only had 44 season RV permits there last year. We feel that we can move the season permit holders and allow them to fill in vacancies at other locations. But then we brainstormed a little further and thought, "Is there a location that we can put all the remaining dry lot customers?" It has always been the grand idea that we have one location where we can put everyone. So, from that discussion came RV Field. We had discussed parking cars out there. But the reality is that we built it for RVs. It has 1 lane in and 1 lane out which is not desirable for parking cars. At that location, we can park just over 200 RVs. That number matches what we would need to consolidate Lots 43, 50 and 88. I know most of you know where it is, but just in case: RV field is in Research Park, near the Bush Library. The RV parking spaces there are the largest we have on campus: 50' X 30'. Tow vehicles will fit and be allowed within the RV space. Arrival time on Friday can be as early as 9 or 10 am. We may possibly even have the option of allowing Thursday arrivals. Reserved guest parking would be available in the adjacent Lot 43. There is additional gameday guest (public) parking very close to the lot, should you have other people who want to come in. Having RV customers only in the RV lot would decrease the traffic in the area and in the lot, which would increase safety. Several RV customers have expressed they still aren't in the same lot as their friends or family. Consolidating to RV Field would give us the opportunity to address this issue by allowing reassignment with groups. We may even have the ability to have RVs stay between the UTSA and the LSU games during the week before Thanksgiving. The lot has earlier gameday bus service - it starts 5 hours pre-game allowing you to head to Kyle Field earlier. We wanted to

discuss this concept as it wasn't something brought up during the last meeting or something we had even thought of until afterward when we were doing some brainstorming about Lot 58. I would like to open up the floor and have you give us some feedback.

## **Consolidation Discussion**

- Looking at the map of Lot 58, it looks like tow vehicles would have to park within the confines of the RV space. Is that correct?
- L The spaces in the middle of the lot have room to park tow vehicles in the RV space but the rest have separate tow vehicle space in the lot.
- So, if there is not tow vehicle space in your RV space there is a space elsewhere in the lot to park your tow vehicle?
- L Correct.
- There is a group of us in Lot 88. Would we have the option to move groups and still keep them together? Also, what is the all-weather condition of RV Field if we had rain like we had this week? How does it drain?
- L Let me address the first question. Absolutely! We would be able to have groups remain together. Back when we started Lot 100e, one of the major feedback items we heard was that "we want to be next to our friends". So, let us say that you were drawn as number 1, then you and those in your party would get the first assigned spaces. We would work through the list doing this. To answer the second question, RV Field is not necessarily a field anymore. When it first opened it was grass parking. It is crushed concrete now with engineered drainage, so it does drain well.
- Is there any thought about surfacing it differently? We have bikes and you see bikes a lot.
- L There has not been. There is a park area off Technology Loop that is really close and then there is also, on three sides, grass area. That might not be necessarily good for all bikes, but there are also bike lanes on Research Pkwy. Although, I might not recommend that when there is a lot of traffic. Technology Loop and Research Park would be a great area for parents to take their kids to bike and play.
- D It's a great park with lakes and ducks.
- The number you said, about 200 spaces, is that the number needed to consolidate Lots 43, 50 and 88?
- L Yes sir.
- So, what does that leave for individual game sales?
- L It leaves very little quite honestly. But we've talked previously about enhancing the Exchange page; trying to get people to use it more often.
- Well, that would help for sure.
- L Absolutely. This would help with sales from the Exchange page because they wouldn't have the opportunity to buy many individual games from us.
- D I pulled up the area on Google Earth to show you that this area (RV Field) is all crushed concrete now.
- A I just wanted to say that crushed concrete is not really like gravel. It is finer, so it is not like driving down a gravel road. There are no large chunks or stones that make it rough.
- It sounds pretty good overall. I just want to anticipate the questions that might come up.

- D That is why we wanted to broach this topic first with you; so you will help us find the pot holes or issues with this idea.
- D One other idea or comment about (Research) Park: if any one likes to play disc golf you can; there are ducks in the lakes and walking paths all within a short distance from RV Field.
- I think these are good selling points. Being able to get there earlier before the mad dash at 6:00 pm and even the possibility of having better bus service, I think will go over very well.
- L I really love being able to open earlier. We really don't have the option to do it where we have everyone now. We are really stretching it to open when we do and this gives us so much more flexibility.
- Sorry, I arrived late, can you recap what has been said?
- L There would be a consolidation for this coming fall. Lots 43, 50 and 88 would re-draw for spaces in the RV Field location. Once again the list of things we think are beneficial:
  - o Being able to come in early; possibly even Thursday night
  - o Being able to leave your RV between the UTSA and LSU games
  - Better bus service
  - Guest parking immediately adjacent to the lot
  - If you needed more parking than we offer in guest parking there is another lot to park in nearby
  - The largest RV spaces on campus 50' X 30'; so your tow vehicle would fit within your space and give you a little elbow room so to speak
  - Allows people who have been in different lots and who haven't been together, to be together in the same lot.
- Thank you, that's great!
- A couple questions:
  - What would the process be of getting people into the lot since you would have 200
  - O How would we handle generator noise with that many RVs?
- L The generators, I think, we will handle just like we always have. We have the rules already set. They have to muffle the noise if they don't have the quiet generators. We have the maximum decibel level rule. Honestly, the number of complaints have declined over the past couple of years since we have set a (maximum noise) level and have said it must comply, or you have to have a way to muffle the noise. Where we have seen issues is with the single game purchasers. So, we just have to make sure that we are getting information out to those people who are purchasing their permits off the Exchange, or who you are transferring them.

As far as assigning spaces we have a couple of options:

- We could simply go by seniority and look up everyone and the number of years they have been with us. We would start with that and go further as necessary.
- We could do it by random draw. We put everyone's name in a pot. We pull them out randomly and that person gets to tell us the other people who are in their group so they can all choose spaces at the same time. So, we have options for that.
- Have you thought about the single entrance into the RV Field? Are you looking at another entrance so there won't be a choke point going in?
- L We are not worried about it. During the Alabama game last year we had 115 RVs on the Field. Loading them in is not congestive because we have all that queuing room on the road coming in. All the rows are connected so even if we have 2 or 3 RVs we can pull them in, check them in, and then they can continue to their space. On Sunday morning not everyone is leaving

at the same time. We can even move the portable dump truck that we have had in Lot 100C out there. Then as far as having to go to a pumping station, you would only need to go to the one at Penberthy if you chose to do so instead of going to the truck in RV Field.

- OK, thank you.
- So, basically you are saying move all of 100e into Lot 58?
- L Yes sir.
- Is there enough spots to do that?
- L Yes sir. We only had 108 spaces this year (in 100E), and about 14 people did not make the renewals. So we have just the right quantity.
- Are these spaces all the same size or are they different sizes like in 100E?
- L They are all the same size. If you have ever been out to the Equine Center (also a full service lot), that is the size of these spaces. They are larger than at Penberthy or Olsen. As far as pricing, Equine Center sells for \$230.00 a game. We know that jumping from \$180.00 to \$230.00 a game would be a stretch and so we wanted to ease people into that so we thought about the \$215.00 mark as it is in Olsen and Penberthy for the first year. Then increasing to the \$230.00 the following year.
- Where exactly is Lot 58?
- L Lot 58 is on Penberthy across George Bush. If you have ever used Lot 63 for your guest parking, it is just up the road from Lot 63.
- It's across George Bush?
- L Yes sir, it is.
- From where Lot 100e is now that would be south?
- L Correct. So you would still have guest parking in Lot 63. It would just be a lot closer.
- Is there a bus you would be able to take to the stadium?
- L Absolutely.
- OK.
- One other question on the Lot 100e people, if there are those who don't want to go to Lot 58 at the additional costs will you have room for them in RV Field?
- L I think we would be able to accommodate them. Then to fill Lot 58 at that point, I guess we could take requests from those who were consolidated into RV Field.
- I am assuming there is 50 amp electrical service in Lot 58?
- L It would be a 50 amp.
- Ok, that's good information.
- I have a question on Lot 58. Is there any consideration for Olsen or Penberthy people moving to Lot 58 with full hookup?
- L For the first year we do not wish to put Olsen and Penberthy in that mix because of the wait list. When we do renewals for the 2017 season, it would be an option for them to move to Lot 58 because it would be in the queue.
- D Or if someone from 100E chose to go to RV Field, I would imagine we would start a wait list to fill Lot 58 this year and I can imagine that we would open it up to all current RV permit holders and could allow Olsen and Penberthy to potentially participate that way.
- What about the waiting list for Lot 100e?
- L There is currently not a wait list for Lot 100e.

- L It would be automatic renewals for people in the lot who have met the attendance requirement. We haven't talked about starting a waitlist for Lot 58. We haven't talked about whether we would fill it from the dry lots or from Olsen and Penberthy.
- I think you need to consider those at Olsen and Penberthy who would like to upgrade to full hookup (with sewer).
- L OK.
- D We just hadn't gotten to the point of discussing beyond the first year. But we have written that down as a consideration to add it to our plans or thoughts for the next year.
- So where is RV Field?
- L It is out by the Bush Library. Very close to Lot 43.
- You want to move Lot 50?
- L Lot 50, Lot 88 and Lot 43 would be combined into RV Field.
- Is there a possibility that I could move with a group to Lot 58 if it doesn't fill with all the people from Lot 100e?
- Yes, that can be our alternate plan.
- L We hope that it will fill from 100e for the sake of my sanity, but if it doesn't then yes.
- Well if someone doesn't want to pay, then someone else might.
- L So, we have put together a survey. Debbie was very kind to put it together to send out to you after this call. It will just give you an opportunity to advise us of your recommendations without having to do it in the open forum in case you want some privacy. So, you can singularly let us know your opinion. There will be a comment box as well to put in your opinion more specifically. We always value your advice before we make a decision. So you would choose Yes, I advise that moving 50, 43 and 88 to RV Field is good or No, I advise against doing that.
- D We are not closing the conversation now, if you have additional comments, please make them.
- Is this going to put a strain on the dump facilities at Penberthy? Will they all come here since Olsen is farther away?
- L I don't think so. I think you will actually see a decrease in the number of people that go over there because the portable truck will be at RV Field. We could even work with our contractor to put a second truck out there because that would be about double what they are used to handling in a lot. Some still might want to go to Penberthy, but I think you would see a decrease there.
- So you are going to service the lot with the Honey Truck?
- I Yes.
- Lot 100E will be an automotive lot next year? Is that correct?
- L Yes, that is what we are proposing.
- So zero RVs in that lot.
- D That is what we are proposing. Again we haven't made final decisions, we are consulting with our Advisory Committee today, but that is what we are proposing.
- Coming back to the Honey Wagon question. Having full hook-ups in lot 58 will considerably cut down on the use of Penberthy (since there will be no RVs at Lot 100e).
- D A great point.
- So if we move from Lot 50, there will be a way to keep us together if we were together in Lot 50?

- L Absolutely! Once again we have a couple of ways we can do that: We can do it by random draw which is how we did Lot 100e initially, or I can go through and look at seniority. As we go down the list either way, you would be able to keep or bring groups together. If you had two families you were RVing with, when we got to your name you would tell us the space number for you as well as them. We know it is more important who you are with than where you are.
- Exactly!
- We travel to other games and more and more they are requiring smoke stacks for generators. Are you folks going to be talking about that?
- L We won't need to do that. We already have our generator rules in place.
- The ones I am talking about throw the exhaust up top from the generator.
- L Yes that is something that we do not require. We are not that close together. With the narrower drive lanes that becomes a concern. We have wide enough drive lanes that we can park two RV's side by side and still drive another vehicle at RV Field.
- OK.
- L Any other discussion or comments? If there is something you are not willing to bring up, you can email me at any time. You know that. As we mentioned we are planning to send the survey out, and it will go to people who were unable to make the call as well.
- How do you want the feedback on the random draw, or random draw verses seniority, or is that something you all are going to decide?
- L Debbie said that if you give her a few minutes she would add it to the survey and then we can get some more feedback on that. I know either way we will need to do that for 100e as well for groups in 100e.
- A lot of RV'ers take their RVs to another spot in College Station to store them for x amount of dollars per week. If this is a dedicated lot, it might be worth considering having an extra fee to leave their RV there. I don't know if there is a University thing about that, but could it be a possibility?
- L The University's stance is they don't want to become a storage facility. So, though we can offer it for the limited time between UTSA and LSU (because of the short turnaround), it would be the longest we could get away with it. The University is just not willing to be a storage facility.
- L Anything else from the group?
- How do you determine seniority?
- L Seniority is determined by the number of years someone has been with us. How many years they have bought a season permit. Then after season permits (if there is a tie), we determine how many individual games they have purchased from us in the past.
- OK.
- L- It takes a little research on my part. But I am willing to do it, if that is what it takes.
- L Anything else?
- Good job.
- L Well thank you so much for your time. We greatly appreciate your willingness to get together with us on such short notice and for all your feedback. We will send the survey out later today, and we hope you all have a great weekend.
- Can you send a map that shows the lots you want to consolidate and Lot 58?
- L We will send that separately from the survey.
- L Thank you.