




UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

UNIVERSITY SENATE

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Memorandum

To: Ann Wylie, Vice President for Administrative Affairs
Facilities Master Planning Committee

From: Linda Mabbs, Chair of the University Senate 

Date: November 1, 2010

Re: Request to Consider Alternate Modes of Transportation in the Facilities Master Planning Process (Senate Doc. No. 10-11-26)

The Senate Executive Committee (SEC) requests that the Facilities Master Planning Committee consider the impact of alternate modes of transportation during its review process.

In recent years there has been a rapid increase in the use of alternate modes of transportation on our campus including bicycles and motorized scooters. This could be as a result of our recent sustainability efforts as well as the increased accessibility of these vehicles. Whatever the reason, it is clear that their presence will increase in the future and it is important for us to consider this increase as we make plans for the future infrastructure of the campus.

The Senate endorsed the University Climate Action Plan in September 2010. This important plan promotes, "...the transformation to a more pedestrian-friendly campus that allows unimpeded access for lower carbon transportation options such as shuttle buses, bicycles, commuter carpools, and regional mass transit." In order to accomplish this mandate and provide for the safety of pedestrians and riders alike, it is important that we establish specific paths/lanes for bicycles (and possibly scooters) throughout our campus. The establishment of these pathways will help create an environment that promotes the use of alternate modes of transportation on campus while promoting pedestrian safety and helping to reduce our carbon footprint.

The SEC strongly supports the improvement of our campus infrastructure to accommodate alternate modes of transportation. We ask that you find ways to incorporate these improvements into the University's Facilities Master Plan. If possible, we request that you report on any actions related to this request to the Senate Office by the end of the review process. If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Ms. Reka Montfort at x55804 or reka@umd.edu.

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