

# Sustainable Transportation Committee | '23-24 Annual Report

## **Background**

The California State University Transportation and Parking Policy states that each campus shall establish and maintain an alternative (aka *sustainable*) transportation committee, which shall remain independent from existing campus parking committees<sup>1</sup>. In Spring 2022 the ad hoc Sustainable Transportation Committee (STC) was established to assist the university in identifying and prioritizing opportunities to improve - and to reduce barriers to the use of - more sustainable modes of travel including transit, bicycling, walking and carpooling. Composed of staff, faculty, students, transit agency representatives and CSU Transportation analysts, the STC meets once a month, with additional sub-committee work outside of regular meetings, to discuss and take action on the tasks set forth in the committee's charge.<sup>2</sup>

#### 2023 - 2024 Members

Chair		
Morgan King	Climate Action Analyst	
Student Appointments		
Natalie Luna/CJ Paulsen	CCAT Co-Directors	
Zachary Meyer	Green Campus Coordinator	
Local Transit		
Netra Khatri	Arcata Chief Engineer	

Staff Appointments	
Frank Herrera	SJEIC Coordinator
Andrea Alstone	Energy Manager
Krista Paddock	Parking Coordinator

Faculty Appointments		
Jessie Cretser-Hartenstein	Env Res Engineering	
Will Fisher	Economics	

CSU Chancellor's Office	
Hank Kaplan	CPDC Transp Analyst

### **Deliverables**

STC completed the following activities in the 2023-24 academic year:

1. Sustainable Transportation in the Campus Physical Plan Update. The committee held meetings with the Smith Group, Fehr & Peers and their partners to discuss transportation demand management and the incorporation of sustainable transportation into the campus physical plan update. The committee received presentations, reviewed their proposals and provided comments and feedback. Committee members also participated in workshops and forums hosted by the Smith Group and its partners.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See B. Procedure, Item 1. Alternative Transportation Committee in the <u>CSU Transportation and Parking Policy</u> (2020).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Go to the <u>Sustainable Transportation Committee</u> webpage for more information.

- 2. **Meeting with Cris Koczera.** The committee held a meeting with AVP of Resilience and Response Cris Koczera to discuss university transportation planning and programming and transportation-related infrastructure projects.
- Annual Campus Commuter Survey Updates. The committee reviewed and discussed the annual campus commuter survey questionnaire, recommending updates and additional survey questions in advance of its release to the campus community in April 2024.
- 4. **Support for Campus and Community Transportation Initiatives**. The committee received regular reports from the Office of Sustainability, Transportation & Parking Services, and local transit agencies and provided feedback and support for their activities. This included but was not limited to:
  - a. Outreach and engagement activities to expand awareness of Ride Match, Virtual Ride Board, Bike Share, Jack Pass and other programs.
  - b. Feedback on Sunset Ave/LK Wood Blvd Improvements project, Highway 101 cap proposal, and other multi-modal accessibility and safety improvement projects affecting the university.
  - c. Art Supplies Exchange on behalf of the Art Department
- 5. **Sustainable Transportation Walking Tour**. The committee held a walking tour of campus to see sustainable transportation in action as well as areas for improvement.

### Planned Activities for AY 2024-25

- 1. Boost awareness of sustainable transportation resources via orientations, Fall/Spring Preview, campus tours and other venues. Activities may include:
  - a. SWAT exercise to develop a transportation outreach plan
  - Study session with Enrollment Mgmt & Success to discuss how best to reach new and prospective students
  - c. Transportation-themed public forum
  - d. Create ads for KRFH, social media, etc.
- 2. Review and update annual campus commuter survey
- 3. Build stronger connection with Transportation & Parking Services
- 4. Discuss and make recommendations on parking policies that will encourage non-SOV commuting, such as:
  - a. Restricted parking on campus for first-year campus residents
  - b. Restricted parking for students/faculty/staff residing within a certain distance from campus
- 5. Seek ongoing synergies with groups on campus and in the community, and represent interests of sustainable transportation within those groups.

# What You Can Do to Support our Efforts

Commuter emissions account for 15-20% of the university's carbon footprint. Single occupant vehicle (SOV) commuting to and from campus contributes the most to traffic congestion, parking constraints, noise and air pollution and emissions. According to the 2022-23 Commuter Survey<sup>3</sup>, we saw a 1% decrease in the number of staff commute trips by single occupant vehicle, but a 4% increase by faculty and a 3% increase by students. We ask that the university take aggressive action to reduce the number of single occupant vehicle (SOV) trips, foster alternative transportation programs and infrastructure, and improve access to public transit. By lessening our dependence on fossil fuels, Cal Poly Humboldt can positively impact human and ecological health while

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Results from the annual commuter survey can be found on the <u>Sustainability Dashboard</u>.

supporting local economies and equitable transportation systems. These actions are in line with the CSU Transportation and Parking Policy, which requires campuses to prioritize bicycle, pedestrian, and transit (BPT) commute modes over additional vehicle parking infrastructure. We also call on campus leadership to engage with the STC to analyze and report on the feasibility for restricting campus residents from parking a vehicle on campus, and restricting general parking permits for campus members living within a certain radius (e.g.½ mile) of campus.

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