Committee on Student Life (CSL)
Friday, October 21, 2011
Room 12-196 12pm – 2pm
Minutes taken by Lisa Stagnone

Present: Lizhong Zheng, Andy Barlow, Tali Feliciano, Danielle Guichard-Ashbrook, Oz Agar, Kathy Vogel, Hamed Alemohammad, Phuree Smittinet

Guests: Larry Brutti, Operations Mgr, MIT Parking & Transportation
        Brian Spatocco, GSC
        Graham Ramsay, Video Blogging

TOPICS: Transportation

Larry Brutti presentation:
MIT Parking and Transportation

Robynn Cruz
Larry Brutti

Web.mit.edu/parking
Commuter Connections

The Logo

MIT commuter connections

Providing links to convenient options
MBTA Pass Program

• 50% Subsidy
• Available to Registered Students
• Payment by Student Account Deduction
• Apply on-line at
MIT Campus Shuttles

- MIT ID Required
- Tech Shuttle
- EZRide Shuttle to NW campus
- Boston Daytime Shuttle
- SafeRide Shuttles
  - Cambridge East
  - Cambridge West
  - Boston East
  - Boston West
- NextBus GPS tracking

• MIT Mobile Web
  m.mit.edu

www.nextbus.com
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Route Name</th>
<th>Vehicle Type and Capacity</th>
<th>Frequency of Operation</th>
<th>Weekday Hours of Operation</th>
<th>Weekend Hours of Operation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tech Shuttle</td>
<td>Mid-size transit 28 seats</td>
<td>10 minute peak, 20 minute off peak</td>
<td>6:15AM – 7:10PM</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston Daytime Shuttle</td>
<td>Mid-size transit 28 seats</td>
<td>25 minute (September - May)</td>
<td>8:00AM – 5:54PM</td>
<td>none</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge East Saferide</td>
<td>Mid-size transit 28 seats</td>
<td>30 minute</td>
<td>6:00PM – 2:25AM</td>
<td>6:00PM – 3:25AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cambridge West Saferide</td>
<td>Mid-size transit 28 seats</td>
<td>30 minute</td>
<td>6:00PM – 2:31AM</td>
<td>6:00PM – 3:31AM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston East Saferide</td>
<td>Mid-size transit 28 seats</td>
<td>20 minute</td>
<td>6:00PM – 2:37AM</td>
<td>6:00PM – 3:14AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boston West Saferide</td>
<td>14 passenger mini-bus</td>
<td>30 minute</td>
<td>6:05PM – 2:31AM</td>
<td>6:05PM – 3:31AM</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grocery Shuttle</td>
<td>Mid-size transit 28 seats</td>
<td>45 minute</td>
<td>none</td>
<td>Sunday</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:30AM-4:30PM</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
More Shuttles

- Airport
- Charters
- Lincoln Labs
- Wellesley College Tickets
- M2/ Longwood Medical Area Tickets
NextBus GPS Tracking

- Displays vehicle locations on a real time,
- Predicts arrival times of next three shuttles
- Displays all routes using a specific stop
- Displays messages for routes and stops
- NextBus Alerts: set pop ups on your PC

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

select another agency...

Select your route/direction/stop to obtain GPS-based arrival times:

Route: Tech Shuttle
Direction: West Campus
Stop: Kendall Square

Contact Info: Parking office 617-253-8510 Saferide office (After 6pm) 617-253-2997

Next vehicles for route Tech Shuttle in:

1 minute
22 minutes
43 minutes

For other routes serving same stop:
14 min (Route Northwest Shuttle, to Northwest Campus)
34 min (Route Northwest Shuttle, to Northwest Campus)
54 min (Route Northwest Shuttle, to Northwest Campus)

(Approved as of 3:30 PM Tuesday, November 3)

Go to page that can be bookmarked
MIT Mobile Web

- Accessible from PDAs, Smart phones, IPhones, Ipads
- Provides real time predictions of shuttle arrivals using Nextbus data feed.
- Shows MIT and EZRide shuttle location on campus map.
- Shows MBTA bus, subway and commuter rail real time arrival predictions.
Bicycle Commuting

- Bike Registration Program
- Secure Bike Parking
- Repair Stations
Bicycle Registration

- On-Line Registration
- Sticker mailed to you
- Helps recover lost/stolen bikes
- Easily identifies owners
- Allows card access to secure bike cages in West Garage, Building 13, Herman Garage and E62 Garage.
Bicycle Racks and Repair Stations

- Adopted DERO swerve racks as campus standard.
- 6 DERO fixit stations on campus at Building 9, W20, Stata, E15, E51 and W85. More to come
Parking Programs

- Occasional/Evening Parking
- Carpool/Vanpool
- Full Time Commuter Parking
- Residential parking
- Motorcycle Parking
Motorcycle Parking

- Available throughout campus and in the LL of the West Garage
- Permit Required
  - Full Year- $166
  - Half Year- $83
- Scooters (<50CC) and mopeds are treated as bicycles and can use bike racks.
Additional Commuter Options

- Zipcar
- Zimride
- PlanetTran
Zipcar

- Car Sharing Program
- 20 Vehicles on campus/additional vehicles throughout Kendall area
- Hourly and Daily rates
- Parking, Insurance and Fuel included in the rate
- MIT Sponsored Membership
  - 18+ program
  - no application fee
  - no security deposit
  - $25 annual fee

zipcar.com/mit
Zimride

• MIT’s Social Network for Ridesharing
• Private MIT Network empowers people to join together in carpools or for one time trips.
• Zimride developed a custom rideshare solution to serve MIT’s campus population.
• Zimriders can view profiles for common networks, interests and friends before deciding to share a ride.

Zimride is the largest online social rideshare community in North America with over 350,000 users at 80 of the nation’s leading universities and companies.

zimride.mit.edu
PlanetTran

- Environmentally friendly taxi service
- Web based reservations and billing
- Flat rate – no gratuities accepted
- 15% discount when reserved with an @mit.edu email.
Commuter Connections

The Logo

QUESTIONS?
Transportation falls under the Facilities Department.
http://web.mit.edu/facilities/transportation/index.html They just recently reworked their website for easy access to options. New section is called Commuter Connections with many programs:

- The largest used program is the MBTA which is 50% subsidized. Approximately 2,500 Students are registered users.
- Shuttles require ID’s (especially on the Safe Ride during weekend traveling)
- The Shuttles are serviced with tracking devices which is a must today. (They do more than campus traveling. They can be used for private services, airport services, charters which can generate up to $70k a year in revenues. Traveling to/from Lincoln Labs, Wesley College, and Longwood Medical are some other services offered.)
- MIT Mobile Web (real time tracking of the next bus)
- Bicycle program where you can register, repair and cage parking as well as a fix it station with Dero.
- Parking program consists of occasional parking, carpool rate, full time commuters, residents, motorcycle and scooters.
- Zip Car has 20 cars on campus
- ZimRide is a social network for ride sharing. It’s a private MIT program offered to Harvard campus also. The first week in place generated 1200 riders.
- Planet Tran is a cab environmental tax service which has a flat rate.
- Automated paystations, will be installed for lots that are used for event parking in Cambridge. It’s a fee of $5.00 per car.

MIT has 1 million riders a year. All this information is on the website. It’s easy to access. We do so much more than parking. Most people are not aware of all of our services.
Opportunities in Transportation

*Using data to create better bus lines*

Phuree Smittinet, Hamed Alemohammad, Brian Spatocco, Maokai Lin
Executive Summary

- We know exactly where graduate students live off-campus.
- Current MIT Shuttle coverage misses major portions of the graduate population.
- The need exists: graduate students walk home alone late at night. Safety is an issue.
- This is a distinct opportunity to finally create a shuttle line based off of real data and real user data to create a real improvement.
Where we live

2011 Off Campus Graduate Residences Density Map

Data Set: 93.5% of all graduate students.
A Closer look…

Off-Campus Graduate Residences in Cambridge\textsuperscript{1}

\textsuperscript{1}Group Sadoway
Where do buses run?

Source: MIT Transportation website
The Need, Part 1

Departure Time from Campus/Lab

We leave lab late…
We travel by foot…
The Need, Part 3

Method of Transportation

We travel alone…
Safety is an issue

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Crime</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/15/2010</td>
<td>Sexual Assault</td>
<td>110 Pacific Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/20/2010</td>
<td>Stabbing</td>
<td>MIT W20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/22/2010</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Broadway and Norfolk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/22/2010</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Albany Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/26/2010</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/26/2010</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Main Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/1/2010</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>Kirkland and Irving</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/1/2010</td>
<td>Robbery and Stabbing</td>
<td>Scott and Bryant Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/2/2010</td>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>MIT NW35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11/3/2010</td>
<td>Suspect</td>
<td>Apprehended</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

General safety concerns raised by Daily Beast Report on College Safety

#1 – Tufts; #3 – Harvard, #13 – MIT
So is perception of safety...

Perception of Safety by MIT Grads$^{6,7}$

- Walking alone at night on MIT campus (2004)
- Walking alone at night to NW Campus (2011)
What can we do?

• For the first time ever, we can construct a bus line based on a full geographic data set.
Current Progress

- We are in very productive conversations with Larry Brutti at MIT Transportation
- We’d like to run an optimization algorithm to determine points (stops) with the highest graduate densities around them
- Still unknown how the line could be funded or if we’d need to repurpose existing line
What can CSL do?

• Give us feedback and thoughts
  – Is our argument complete/coherent. What could we add to strengthen it?

• Support our effort by making a recommendation to DoF John Difava and Dick Amster
  – Recommendation for graduate bus line
  – Recommendation for funding for this additional line

• Work with us in our efforts to map other important trends on/around campus.
References

1 Geographic Data courtesy of MIT Institutional Research - Heat Mapping by Eric Schultheis – Graduate Student Council, HCA website

2 2010 MIT Safety Survey – Northwest Campus – Graduate Student Council

3 2010 Transportation Survey, Institutional Research, MIT

4 MIT Police Log

5 50 Most Dangerous Colleges, *The Daily Beast*, September 13th, 2010

6 2007 Enrolled Graduate Student Survey - MIT Institutional Research/Office of the Dean for Graduate Education

7 2011 Enrolled Graduate Student Survey - MIT Institutional Research/Office of the Dean for Graduate Education
Brian is a member of the Graduate Student Council. The GSC is working with the Institute using real data to get results for the future.

The GSC put together heat maps that were generated based on raw and confidential data sets provided to them by Institutional Research in the Provost's Office. Thinking on the current needs of grad students, is the need to update the shuttle route around campus where they reside. We know where every grad student lives. Eighty percent live in Cambridge. We’ve created a heat map to show the routes the shuttles currently drive and where our students reside. The need falls around the outside area of the campus where there is not a shuttle at this time.

General safety issues are a concern among grad students who usually walk everywhere they are going and at odd times of the day mostly evening hours. According to the Daily Beast Report, MIT is number 13 on their list of dangerous campuses. It has the highest property crime, the highest property stolen and high concerns about safety issues.

Constructing a bus line off of the geographical data set clearly can define the needs to serve the students. We are working collaborative within the Institute and Larry Brutti’s team to meet our needs. It takes money and planning to get this accomplished.

MIT’s shuttle service is outsourced to Charles River TMA which owns Easy Ride. [http://www.charlesrivertma.org/](http://www.charlesrivertma.org/). They service the Cambridge area. We currently use 24 of their drivers to cover our routes. Should an existing route be repurposed or a new line added? That’s to be determined.

We ask that CSL give its feedback on this subject. Any information or suggestions would be welcomed. We w