



## Airport Authority

THE UNIVERSITY is in the process of transitioning the management of the airport to the newly established Airport Authority. The Airport Authority will take over fixed base operations (runway and buildings) and flight instruction at the start of 2002. This new authority will not affect the services provided by Air Transportation Services for customers using Virginia Tech's corporate aircraft.

## Which Lot?

PARKING SERVICES is currently in the process of naming and signing all major lots on campus. This should help visitors and new students and employees locate lots on campus.

## Vendors, Businesses and Contractors to Pay for Parking

AS OF OCTOBER 31ST, 2001 all contractors, vendors, and businesses will need to purchase a parking permit to park on campus. The cost will be the same as F/S permits and will be available at Parking Services. This program will restrict where vendors, businesses and contractors can park, and is designed to control parking in the interior of campus.

## New Student Carpool Program

A STUDENT CARPOOL PROGRAM will begin Fall Semester. Two or more commuter or graduate students who choose to ride together can register to be in a carpool. If approved for a carpool permit, they receive:

- 1 Carpool Permit - \$40/year, \$20/semester - which works out to \$10/person or less per semester
- Reserved Carpool spaces in the front student areas of B-Lot, the Coliseum Lot, and C-Lot

- 4 free daily permits/semester
- Access to Emergency Ride Home service (available through Parking Services, this provides carpools with a ride to their vehicle, or local residence in case of an emergency.) This service is only available 7:30am - 5:00pm, M-F

If this program is a success, the Office of Transportation hopes to explore expanding the Carpool Program to faculty and staff.



## Ride, Don't Walk, Across Campus

### Hokie Express

THE ON-CAMPUS SHUTTLE, "Hokie Express" continues to be a success. The service provides free transportation around Virginia Tech, Mon-Fri from 8-5 so that faculty, staff, and students don't have to use their vehicles. Please consider this option when traveling across campus to meetings and class.

You can visit the BT web site for bus schedules and route maps at: [www.btransit.org](http://www.btransit.org) or call 961-1185.



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## Hokie Bikeways Funded!

## VIRGINIA TECH Awarded Funding for Hokie Bikeways!

THE OFFICE OF TRANSPORTATION at Virginia Tech has just been awarded \$97,000 by VDOT through a TEA-21 Transportation Enhancement grant. This award is for phase 1 of a 4 phase/4 year bicycle pathways project called "Hokie Bikeways."

Hokie Bikeways, which includes bike paths, bicycle safety classes, and instructional/safety brochures, will promote bike use on campus. Increased bicycle use will reduce traffic and parking congestion, while encouraging healthier lifestyles and promoting an environmentally sound transportation option.

A large part of the planning for Hokie Bikeways was done by the Bicycle Pedestrian (Bi-Ped) Working Group, which consists of Virginia Tech faculty, staff and students, as well as representatives from the Town of Blacksburg and Blacksburg residents.

## Shultz Parking Lot Improvements

FOLLOWING the success of gating the Media Lot, there will be a new parking gate installed at the Shultz Parking lot in



October 2001. This gate will be similar to the gate at the Media lot. You will be able to gain access with your Hokie passport, a key code number, or by buying a transponder (\$25). Renovation of the Shultz lot has provided 85 new spaces. The new gate and additional spaces, at a cost of over \$150,000, should improve the parking in the north east area of campus.

## Glad To Be of Assistance

### Motor Assist Program

THE FALL SEMESTER will see the return of MAP (the Motorist Assist Program). Parking Services will be available to assist motorists

with unlocks, jump starts, flat tires, and gas transports. These services will be available by calling Parking Services (231-3200) between the hours of 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM Monday through Friday.



## Auto Beauties!

### Motor Pool

This year the Motor Pool has received 47 new vehicles in response to customer request from a recent survey. They come in an array of colors including silver, blue, red, and smoke gray. All new vehicles are equipped with cassette or cd players. Enjoy!



## Hokie Bird Gets Even Safer

### Air Transportation Services

THE KING AIR 200 (HOKIE BIRD) will install a proximity alarm this year that will advise the pilots of the approach of terrain to their front. This device is often used in mountainous regions to provide aircraft with additional protection when flying in

low visibility conditions. This is just another effort to provide faculty and staff with the best, most convenient, and safest flight while they travel on business for Virginia Tech. Call us today to get a quote for traveling on our two aircraft (231-2636)

## Keeping You Safe

### Safety Issues w/15 Passenger Vans

#### Motor Pool

WE HAVE ALWAYS made a special commitment to the safe transportation of our customers. Recently, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration announced that 15-passenger vans roll much more often if they are weighted down with more than 10 passengers. Based upon this finding, we feel that it is in the best interest of the university to restrict vehicle load to 10 passengers in all our large vans (both 15 and 12 passenger vans). The rear seats have been removed from our current 15 passenger vans.

Many of the accidents involving 15-passenger vans have resulted from inexperienced drivers not being familiar with the driving characteristics of a large van. We have, therefore, added requirements for all the large van drivers (both 15 and 12 passenger vans):

- At least 2 years of automobile driving experience
- No serious violations in driving record within the last 12 months

Additionally, we strongly recommend new



drivers take a road test with the Motor Pool if they have no prior experience driving large vans. We have outfitted one of our vans to the approximate weight of a loaded van for the purpose of driver education and awareness (call for an appointment at 231-6141)

The department requesting the vehicle will be responsible for ensuring that all the guidelines are followed when using a large van. These guidelines apply to ALL vans operated by Virginia Tech personnel . . . *this includes rentals from outside vendors.*

The Motor Pool staff will work with you to resolve any problems that you may encounter as a result of this change. You may contact the Motor Pool by phone at 231-6141 or on the web at [mpool@vt.edu](mailto:mpool@vt.edu).

## Give Us Your Thoughts

### Transportation and Parking Master Plan

THIS FALL, VIRGINIA TECH has contracted the services of Hayes, Seay, Mattern & Mattern (HSMM) to conduct a detailed analysis of the transportation and parking situation on campus. The objective is to develop a master plan that will identify the transportation and parking needs at Virginia Tech for the next 10 years. Additionally, the plan will propose actions (i.e. new construction and/or procedural changes) to meet these needs. A wide range of options will be considered including:

- Expanding surface lots
- Pros and cons of building parking structures (garages)
- Identifying intersections that require increased management (traffic signals)
- Discouraging Single Occupancy Vehicles (SOVs) on campus
- Assessing the viability & benefits of a pedestrian-friendly zone in the core campus area (Drillfield)
- Expanding the use of alternative transportation options (i.e. bike/walk trails, bus transit, carpool/ridesharing, park & ride)

- Reduce the volume of drive-thru traffic on campus (traffic without a campus destination)
- Estimating the cost of new construction & maintenance and recommending methods of self-funding (e.g. increases in permit cost)

**Input from all our customers will be very important in this process.** The Transportation & Parking Committee (with representatives from Faculty, Staff & Students) will act as the point of contact for customer input. Additionally, a customer survey will be available on-line at: [www.ot.vt.edu/survey](http://www.ot.vt.edu/survey) from 17 Sept. - 5 Oct. Finally, a Transportation & Parking Fair will be conducted at Donaldson Brown Hotel, Alumni Hall on October 24th from 2pm - 8pm. The Fair will be an open house, hosted by the HSMM planning team, to solicit input and reaction to preliminary thoughts on the project. The final plan is expected by early Dec. 2001. Information and updates on this exciting project will be provided at: [www.ot.vt.edu/masterplan](http://www.ot.vt.edu/masterplan).

## Message from the Director



THE WORLD OF TRANSPORTATION and parking is never boring. The development of a Transportation and Parking Master Plan is a unique opportunity for all of you to participate in the shaping of our campus . . . *I strongly encourage your involvement.* This summer we replaced all our old mechanical parking meters with new state-of-the-art digital meters. These meters were provided at no cost by Medeco; High Security Lock (out of Salem, VA) as part of an on-going joint project with the Mechanical

Engineering Dept to provide a "test-bed" for new parking technology. An undergraduate student collected data throughout the summer on the electro-mechanical functionality of these new meters. From the customers perspective I believe you'll find these new meters to be much more reliable and accurate! Finally, we were all thrilled when VDOT awarded a \$97,000 TEA-21 grant to construct a bike trail on campus, and fund bicycle safety training classes. I think you'll agree that we have been *moving forward.*

*Steve*

Steven L. Mouras  
Director of Transportation

