

## **Parking & Transportation Update Spring 2016**

As the beginning of the spring semester rapidly approaches, Mason students, faculty and staff are reminded that traffic on and around the Fairfax campus greatly increases, especially during the first few weeks of the semester. The following information is intended to serve as a campus parking and transportation guide and help minimize potential parking and traffic delays. A valid parking permit is required to park outside of visitor areas.

During the first few weeks of the semester, we suggest allowing an extra 30-45 minutes to arrive on campus. Though some parking spaces are more convenient to your destination than others, the Fairfax campus has more than enough total parking spaces to accommodate all vehicles. However, many General parking permit areas are still expected to fill at peak class times.

Below is information about road construction, parking, shuttles, alternative transportation options, and finding parking & transportation information.

### **Road Construction/Improvements**

Several road improvement projects are planned or are underway that will impact travel approaching, on and around campus.

*Academic VII Building*, the future home of the College of Health and Human Services, began construction this past July. **As a result, Lot H was permanently closed.** Patriot Circle is being rebuilt to the south of its current location and will result in additional phases of road closures during the spring semester. Updates before each phase and set of closures will be sent out. Pedestrian access is also effected by the construction. Please do not enter the construction sites and follow the marked detours.

**Starting on Tuesday, January 19, there will be a detour of Patriot Circle in place, using George Mason Boulevard by the Finley Meter area and Thompson Hall to connect Patriot Circle. Please drive slowly and carefully and use caution though this area. There will also be new pedestrian crosswalks in place.**

**As well, Occoquan River Lane will be closed at University Drive except for authorized delivery, service, and disabled parking access to the parking lot outside Subway. To access Patriot Circle to the west side of campus, traffic should enter at George Mason Boulevard and use the detour.**

**The north entrance to Lot I as well as various sidewalks around White Top and Rogers residence halls will be closed.**

**Although the detour connects around the section of Patriot Circle that has been closed since July, it is highly recommended to avoid this stretch of campus unless necessary to do so, as traffic delays should be expected through this area.**

**<http://building.gmu.edu/academic-vii-changes-adjusted-timelines/>**

**E-mail updates will be sent periodically but check the Building Patriot Pride website at**

**building.gmu.edu and Parking and Transportation's Facebook and Twitter pages for updates (see links below).**

### **Special Event Advisory: January 21-22**

In order to accommodate a special event at EagleBank Arena on Thursday, January 21 and Friday, January 22, Lot L and two sections of Lot K will be closed for bus parking only starting Wednesday night, January 20, at 11pm. The roof and Level 3 reserved areas of Rappahannock River Deck, the Field House general lots, and West Campus lot will provide overflow parking with additional shuttle service on Thursday being provided from the Field House and West Campus from 10am-3pm in addition to the regular West Campus shuttles. It is strongly recommended to head directly to Rappahannock River Deck or the Field House if arriving to the Fairfax Campus after 10:30am on Thursday. Expect heavy traffic on Thursday from 5-7pm and 10-11pm and again on Friday in the morning and from 11am-12:30pm, especially around Lots L and K. It is advised to avoid the Roanoke River Road entrance to campus off Braddock and utilize Campus Drive, Nottoway River Road, Mason Pond Drive, Roberts Road or University Drive.

### **Parking**

*Arriving to campus between 10 am and 11am on a normal basis:* General permit parking in Lots L and K is recommended as most other parking lots on the east campus tend to fill prior. If "Lot Full" signs are posted at the entrance(s) to Lot K please proceed directly to Field House Lots O & P (see below). Please note that all of Lot J requires a reserved Lot J permit except the designated Faculty/Staff general spaces on the perimeter. The General permit parking area of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck (all of Level 2 and the 2/3 of Level 1 not designated as visitor parking) is expected to fill to capacity between 9am-10am on a regular basis. The ramps from levels 2 to 3 and the non-reserved spaces on level 3 in Rappahannock River Deck are now faculty/staff general permit parking.

*Arriving to campus between 11am and 3pm (especially on Tuesdays and Thursdays):* The best option for General permit parking is to head directly to the back of Lot K, the PV Lot or the General permit parking lots by the Field House (Lots O & P) on the west side of Ox Road. *The Patriots Village (PV) Lot behind the RAC located off Mason Pond Drive is now open to General permit parking except 2am-5am Monday-Friday.* At peak times, General permit traffic may be directed from East Campus to the West Campus lot, via Campus Drive or Braddock Road. It is highly recommended to consider using the West Campus Lot as a primary option to save time.

West Campus shuttle provides service from the Field House and West Campus from 7am-12am with stops at Rappahannock River Lane, Presidents Park and Sandy Creek shuttle on east campus. <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/Westcampus.html>

Note: The average walk time from the Field House to the Johnson Center is about 12 to 15 minutes, taking the new pathway parallel to Campus Drive.

*Visitor Parking:* The Mason Pond, Shenandoah and Rappahannock River Parking Decks provide

most of the campus' visitor parking spaces. The visitor sections of the Mason Pond and Shenandoah Parking Decks tend to fill in the mornings and early evenings during the first few weeks of the semester. Additional visitor parking is available in the expanded 1st level Visitor parking area of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck (a separate visitor entrance is located off Patriot Circle) by paying in advance utilizing our Pay by Space machines or by using the ParkMobile pay-by-cell service that allows one to pay via their cell phone. You can sign up at <http://us.parkmobile.com/members/> or by downloading their mobile app.

*Additional visitor parking is available at Field House Lots O & P* utilizing the Pay & Display machine located across from the front door of the Field House. Lots O/P is our most economically visitor/daily parking at only \$3 a day with the shuttle service mentioned above to help get back and forth to east campus. ParkMobile pay-by-cell service is also available here. If the parking spaces in Lots O & P are full, please park in the West Campus lot utilizing these \$3 a day payment options.

#### *Printable Visitor Permits*

You may now purchase a daily, weekly, or monthly General permit online at [parking.gmu.edu](http://parking.gmu.edu) and print it out to use - saving you a trip to the Parking Services office to buy in person. At times, this option may only be available for the Field House and West Campus parking lots for \$3/day, \$15/week, or \$45/month. A separate permit allowing parking after 4pm Monday-Friday in East Campus general lots such as Lot K is available for \$8/day, \$25/week, or \$60/month.

#### *Visitor Payment Methods*

The **Mason Pond Parking Deck** accepts Mason Money, MasterCard, Visa, prepaid validations and cash. For a quicker exit there are three pay-on-foot machines located on Levels 3, 2 & 1 which accept MasterCard, Visa and prepaid validations only.

The **Shenandoah Parking Deck** accepts MasterCard, Visa, prepaid validations and cash. For a quicker exit there are two pay-on-foot machines located on Level 1 which accept MasterCard, Visa, prepaid validations and cash.

The **Rappahannock River Parking Deck** Pay-by-Space machines are located adjacent to the elevators and accept MasterCard, Visa, prepaid validation codes and exact parking fee cash (these machines do not provide change). ParkMobile payments are also accepted.

The Pay & Display machine for **Field House Lots O & P** accept MasterCard, Visa and coins. ParkMobile payments are also accepted.

You can pay online for **Printable Permits** using MasterCard, Visa or from your checking account.

#### **Shuttles**

Check the Mason Shuttles website at <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/> for spring semester shuttle schedules by clicking on the route name at the top, and then selecting Academic Year Schedule. All shuttles are free with Mason ID and every bus is outfitted with a bike rack and Wi-fi.

**Mason Shuttles is using a new real-time transit service called RideSystems. Download the RideSystems app, or visit <http://mason.ridesystems.net> to see when the next shuttle is**

**arriving.** The real-time arrival info for shuttles and local public transportation can be viewed in the Mobile Mason app as well.

*The Mason to Metro shuttle* from the Fairfax campus to the Vienna Metro station runs continuously with buses every 15 to 30 minutes from 6 am to 11:30 pm, Monday through Friday, with late night service on Fridays and Saturdays until 3:30 am. Saturday and Sunday service begins at 8am with weekend stops at the Mason Townhouses on Chain Bridge Road and by Fairfax Circle on Lee Highway. Mason ID card is required to board the shuttle from the Rappahannock River Lane, Commerce Building and Fairfax Circle stops. *The shuttles leaving at 15 and 45 after the hour during the morning and afternoon rush hours will no longer stop at the Mason Global Center and Mason Pond Drive. The buses will now leave from Sandy Creek at 15/45 after the hour, five minutes earlier than before.*

For more info go to: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/masontometro.html>

*The Metro Express shuttle* provides direct service between the Rappahannock River Lane stop and Vienna Metro Monday-Thursday and limited hours on Friday. Departures at 15, 35, and 55 after the hour. To see the new schedule, go to:

<http://shuttle.gmu.edu/Fall%202013%20Schedules/masontometroexpress.html>.

Commuters also have the option to park at the Science and Technology Campus (formerly known as Prince William Campus) with a valid parking permit or use Pay by Space visitor parking and ride *the Fairfax-SciTech shuttle* to the Fairfax Campus. Shuttle service Monday-Thursday between 6:25am- 10:25pm with departures every half hour for most of the day. *Departure times have been moved up ten minutes from prior semesters and the RAC is no longer a timed stop, with service beginning at Chesapeake River Lane.*

Service is every hour on Fridays. An additional departure at 11:10pm from Sandy Creek to SciTech and at 11:45pm from the Occoquan Building back to Sandy Creek has been added Monday-Friday. Weekend service every two hours is also available for the Fairfax-SciTech shuttle. A Mason ID card is required to board the shuttle from the Manassas Mall stop (bus stops at Entrance #4 at the mall). Check <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/pwshuttle.htm> for information and schedules.

*The Burke Center VRE shuttle* provides a connection between the VRE and Fairfax Campus. Free parking is located at the Burke Center VRE garage and may be used as a park'n'ride lot. Also, many students and employees that live in the Burke area can walk or ride a bike to catch the shuttle, which now has extended morning hours. For schedule information, go to:

<http://shuttle.gmu.edu/13-14%20schedules/burkevre.html>

*The Gunston's Go-Bus* provides service between Sandy Creek and Fair Lakes, Fair Oaks Mall, Fairfax Corner, Ridge Top Road, and University Mall. The Fairfax Connector 605 Route travels between Reston Town Centre and Fair Oaks Mall, the Mason Route on Gunston's Go-Bus was adjusted to allow for easy transfer from the bus to our bus. For the updated schedule, see: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/13-14%20schedules/burkevre.html>.

## Alternative Transportation Options

To avoid the worries of parking and traffic, consider the many alternatives to driving. Besides the Mason Shuttles, students and employees may ride any of the four *Fairfax City CUE buses* from and to the Rappahannock River Lane stop throughout the City and to Vienna Metro for free simply by presenting their Mason ID. Check [www.cuebus.org](http://www.cuebus.org) for schedules.

*Bicycling:* Recognized as a Bicycle Friendly University, there are more than 1400 bicycle parking spaces scattered around campus with covered bike parking under shelters around campus and on the 1st and 2nd levels of Rappahannock River Deck. A new bicycle registration program started last year with registrants receiving free bike u-locks and free bike lights. Go to <http://bike.gmu.edu/> for more information! A bike rental program is coming soon!

*Carpooling options:* The Carpool Zones in Lot A and on the first level of the Rappahannock River Deck general permit area will resume on Tuesday, January 19. To park in a carpool zone, show up between 6am-11am, Monday-Friday with a total of 2 or more people in your car and a general student or faculty/staff permit and you can park in carpool spaces we are setting aside each morning. No special permit as we will have a parking officer to screen vehicles. It's first come first serve. Visit <http://transportation.gmu.edu/lota.html> for more info.

Students and employees can also receive a 20%-40% rebate in a reserved parking deck or Lot I or Lot J permit for carpooling. Read <http://transportation.gmu.edu/studentpool.html> and <http://transportation.gmu.edu/employeespool.html> for information on the student and employee carpool programs.

To find a carpool partner you can use *Zimride*, a ridesharing network that helps match people with similar commutes to and from campus. Sign up with your Mason Net ID and password at <http://zimride.com/mason>

*Zipcar*-wheels when you want them. Two cars located on Mason Pond Drive, one on the first level of the Rappahannock River Deck, and another in Lot R behind Taylor Hall are available for rental by the hour. For info and to sign up for Mason discounts for Zipcar, go to <http://zipcar.com/gmu>.

### *Uber*

New to Uber? Sign up with George Mason's promo code MASONIDEA for your first two rides free up to \$20. Uber is an app that connects you with a driver at the tap of a button. Visit [www.uber.com/go/MASONIDEA](http://www.uber.com/go/MASONIDEA) or download the Uber app and enter the promo code MASONIDEA.

*Motorcycle Parking:* Motorcycle parking spaces are available in various locations around campus, including in front of the Aquatics and Fitness Center, by the Northeast Modules, Lot J, Lot C, on the 1st level of the Rappahannock River Parking Deck inside the General permit area

and adjacent to the Sandy Creek Way Circle. Additional reserved deck parking for motorcycles is also available in the Mason Pond, Shenandoah and Rappahannock River Parking Decks (deck motorcycle permit required).

*Moped Parking:* Please note that scooters and mopeds are now required to purchase motorcycle permits and use motorcycle parking areas. Mopeds and scooters may not park at bike racks or in other areas around campus.

At times during the morning, late afternoon and early evenings, campus police cadets will be directing traffic around campus. Please be alert and follow the cadet's direction.

To assist you in planning your commute, information regarding construction updates and changes to parking and traffic patterns on and around campus will be emailed to you periodically throughout the semester.

### **Science and Technology (SciTech) Campus Parking-formerly known as Prince William Campus**

Fairfax-SciTech General area, Lot I, Lot J, Lot R, and reserved parking deck parking permits are valid in the Occoquan, King, Discovery, Hylton, and the newly opened Tower Lot parking lots at the SciTech Campus. Please follow signage in these parking lots as parking spaces may be designated for various uses or permits. Beacon Hall resident parking permit holders may only park in the Beacon Hall resident lot or the Tower Lot. The Shops parking lot in front of Beacon Hall has faculty/staff and event permit and 30 minute parking on the northwest side of the lot. The southeast side (left side facing the building) of the lot is for retail parking only.

Visitor parking is available in the Occoquan and Discovery parking lots utilizing the pay-by-space machine in the kiosk at the front of the Occoquan lot. Visitor parking is also available in the Tower lot utilizing a pay-by-space machine located at the entrance. The Pay-by-Space machines accept MasterCard, Visa and dollar coins. Visitor rates are \$2/1st hour, \$1/hr for each additional hour, with a \$6 maximum for the day. Printable daily permits for the SciTech Campus may be purchased online or in the SciTech Parking Services office for \$6/day. For more information, go to <http://parking.gmu.edu/princewilliamcampusparking.html>

### **Arlington Campus Parking**

One must work or be attending class at the Arlington Campus to be eligible to purchase an Arlington Campus parking permit. Fairfax-SciTech Campus permits are not valid at the Arlington Campus without authorization from Parking Services. All the General permit parking is in the Metropolitan Building Garage (formerly known as the GMU Foundation garage at 3434 N. Washington Blvd). Faculty/Staff and Student parking is available on levels B3-P1 and on level B-4 after 6pm. There is no guarantee of space in the General permit parking area. Please pay careful attention to signage as some spaces are designated for retail use only. Reserved and

visitor parking is available in the Founders Hall garage, including discounted daytime only (5A - 6P) and evening only (2P - 2A. For more information, go to <http://parking.gmu.edu/arlingtoncampusparking.html>

### **Parking & Transportation Information**

For more information on parking rules, options and programs, go to the parking website: <http://parking.gmu.edu/> or email parking@gmu.edu.

For more information on transportation options, go to <http://transportation.gmu.edu/> or email transpo@gmu.edu.

For information on Mason Shuttles and the different routes and schedules, go to: <http://shuttle.gmu.edu/> or email shuttle@gmu.edu

You can also follow Parking & Transportation on Twitter and Facebook at: <http://www.facebook.com/MasonParkingTransportation>, @MasonParking, and @MasonShuttles

Building Patriot Pride can be accessed via <http://building.gmu.edu/>