

Queensborough Community College, CUNY
To: The Faculty Executive Committee
From: Committee on Environment, Quality of Life, and Disability Issues
Amended Report on Parking, April 7 2016

In response to emails from the FEC related to the on campus parking situation for faculty and staff the Environmental, Quality of Life Disability Issues Committee (EQDL) added this topic to the agenda for the March 23rd meeting inviting Mr. Locke, Lt. Jack Black and William Faulkner, who are normally present at the EQDL meetings.

In the past 10 years there has been a marked increase in the student body and additional faculty and staff who drive to the campus. So there is an unavoidable overload at certain times of the day. Also currently because of construction some spots are not available.

The FEC made the following three recommendations:

- (1) Create a new TAG for autos to sell to students who are employed at the college part time so that they will not have access to the main lot but may park in the rear lot.
- (2) Do not permit any vehicles without a QCC TAG to enter the main lot to drop off anyone. If people arrive at the main gate in need of transport closer to buildings, then security can provide a ride in one of the electric vehicles.
- (3) Vigorous and vigilant enforcement of the parking regulations- vehicles found in the lots without the appropriate TAG need to be identified and their operators fined or denied future access and denied the right to purchase a TAG.

Enforcement of rules against illegally parked cars and cars parked without faculty/staff tags

In response to recommendation 3, Ed Locke and Lt. Black explained multiple ways that the parking lots are currently monitored and restricted:

- Manned entry gate by security staff person at all times
- A security staff member roving in the lots checking on cars
- Security cameras
- Student drivers with parking fines are denied campus parking until they clear their fines
- Restricting faculty/staff drivers with parking fines is not a current practice

Some problems pointed out.

- Some faculty and staff show their tag and then do not put on dashboard.
- Security accommodates taxis and others who pick up and drop off students and faculty. Restricting these cars, per recommendation 2, would not likely increase parking spaces in the lot and would result in dangerous, increased traffic on the streets surrounding campus.

It was mentioned that occasionally cars are parked in the main faculty and staff lot without tags because guests visit our campus for job interviews and guest lectures. Security tries to accommodate those as well.

The committee discussed these suggestions:

- Increased carpooling efforts
- parking on neighborhood streets
- leasing off campus lots from local businesses,
- providing shuttle buses to and from nearby LIRR Stations,
- looking into getting Citi Bikes stationed nearby campus and nearby LIRR stations
- charging more for parking passes as other CUNY campuses do [Queens College \$250]
- removing the on-campus bus stop to create more spots
- as per suggestion 1 above, restricting parking passes to full time employees only or different type passes for students to only park in rear lot.

Many ideas were brought forth including those mentioned above, but there were important problems or challenges discussed with many of them. For example: the on-campus bus stop took a lot of work to get and to disband it may not be the best solution. Citi-bikes may at any time have all bikes by QCC or at LIRR. Shuttle buses between campus and MTA stations, which are used by Queens College, added an additional fee to all students and those students who do not use this are complaining about the fee. The college is paying attention to the shuttle buses currently in use at Queens College to determine whether something similar would be feasible for QCC. Regarding the FEC's suggestion 1, as the committee understands it, students cannot park in the main lot except during evening times which are less busy. As far as restricting part time employees to the rear lot, the committee did not feel this was a good solution because it would create a division between full time and part time employees and would restrict part timers who may work during later hours to a lot farther away.