

UCR COMMUTER CONNECTION

January 6, 2017

Student Commuters:

The Transportation Services team would like to take this opportunity to address the issues and concerns you have had regarding the parking situation on campus. We recognize that Fall quarter was tough and we understand your frustrations. To keep you informed, we wanted to share the steps we have taken so far to alleviate the problem:

- For the first time in recent history, we have allowed Gold permit holders to access the excess, available parking that was previously reserved for Housing residents. We will be continuing this for Winter quarter and Gold permits will be allowed to overflow into the parking facilities at Falkirk in the gold striped spaces. Additional lots will be opened on an as-needed basis.
- We will be piloting an Undergraduate Carpool program to encourage commuter students to carpool. Please see our website for the complete details and procedures to obtain one.
- We have been working with the County of Riverside and have obtained free parking at the Hunter Park Metrolink station. [RTA Route 52](#) will be providing shuttle service directly from this location to the bus stop in front of the Gateway Café from 5am – 7:30 pm, after 7:30 pm UCR's [Point-2-Point](#) shuttle can get you back to your vehicle.
- The opening of Lot 50 has been delayed slightly due to the demolition of Highlander Hall. We will let you know as soon as the lot opens up.
- We have been in contact with the local churches and shopping centers to see about leasing some of their spaces for overflow parking and will let everyone know if additional spaces become available.

We would also like to make you aware of alternative transportation options that are available to commuters as well:

- UCR students can take unlimited rides on any [RTA](#) fixed route for free. There are several routes that take you directly to campus. [Route 1](#) is a good option for those living in Corona or Riverside as it travels down Magnolia Ave. all the way to campus. [Route 16](#) runs regularly between Riverside and Moreno Valley. There are also [CommuterLink Express](#) buses for long distance commuters coming from Murrieta/Temecula, Beaumont, San Jacinto/Hemet, and Montclair.
- Students are encouraged to carpool and can use [Zimride](#) to post messages to find other students driving along the same route so that you can potentially share the ride.

- Long distance commuters can look into the UCR [Vanpool Program](#) to see if there are open spaces on vanpools that come to campus. Or, take the [Metrolink](#) to a nearby station and then connect to campus via a RTA bus.
- Students that live within 3 miles of campus are encouraged to leave their cars at home and walk, bike, or take the bus. If you end up staying late on campus, UCR's [Point-2-Point](#) service can help get you back home.

Using alternative transportation just a couple of days a week can make a big difference. And instead of spending your time sitting in traffic or looking for parking, you can read, study, or just relax!

If you drive onto campus, we encourage you to leave extra early and to plan your trip accordingly. There are typically spaces open in the early mornings in lot 30 and later in the afternoon in lot 26. Our staff will continue to do parking lot counts throughout the day and post the updates on Twitter.

While we may not have the perfect scenario, please know that we are trying to accommodate all students, staff, and visitors that come to the campus on a daily basis. We will continue to explore options and welcome your input on any out-of-the-box suggestions you might have.

If you would like assistance in finding an alternative mode of transportation, please feel free to call us at (951) 827-8277. Our staff will also be available at Commuter Pit Stops the first Tuesday and Wednesday mornings between 8am-10am each month outside of Lot 30 to provide information on rideshare options.

Thank you. We hope you have a good Winter quarter.