

Subject: A Path Forward for Parking and Transportation at TXST

To: Texas State University Faculty, Staff, and Students

Date: September 2026

Dear Bobcats:

Many of you have shared your experiences and ideas about parking and transportation at TXST, and I've heard you. As our university continues to grow and evolve, we have an opportunity to think differently about how we move around our campuses and where we park. We are ready to take the next step toward significant changes.

That is why we are preparing to invest as much as \$100 million over the next several years to address these issues. Knowing that these are significant, long-term decisions that will impact future generations of Bobcats, I want our students, faculty, and staff members to have a voice in how we make them.

Over the past two years, we commissioned two independent studies to evaluate our parking and transit systems. Those studies included surveys, town halls, and one-on-one meetings with hundreds of Bobcats. Once completed, they offered two very different sets of recommendations, and we do not believe either provides a one-size-fits-all solution for TXST. Both, however, give us valuable data and ideas to consider. Now it is our turn to determine the right path forward for TXST.

Parking at TXST operates as a self-supporting auxiliary service, meaning its facilities and services must be supported by the revenue they generate. Because the improvements under consideration represent a significant investment, the auxiliary model requires us to plan carefully for how they are funded and sustained over time. Addressing our parking challenges will take more than simply building more garages. We need to consider where new parking is needed most, make better use of the spaces we already have, expand transportation options, and look carefully at how parking is allocated.

To lead this work, I am establishing the Campus Parking Strategy Working Group, with representatives from our faculty and staff, students, and key stakeholders. The group will be co-chaired by University Chief Financial Officer Cristine Black and Chief of Police Matt Carmichael.

I am asking the group to focus on several key areas:

- **Permits and Parking Zones:** Reviewing how spaces are allocated, the types and cost of permits, and the needs of commuters, residents, and employees.

- **Transit and Remote Parking:** Looking at how the Bobcat Shuttle and perimeter parking can help reduce congestion in the heart of our San Marcos campus.
- **New Facilities and Technology:** Prioritizing future parking construction, technology such as real-time space availability, and how we fund these improvements.
- **Campus Growth:** Making sure parking and transportation keep pace with future campus growth and construction.

Every option will involve trade-offs. Our decisions must be informed by good data, be financially responsible, and be focused on what best serves our entire Bobcat community.

The Working Group will begin meeting as soon as possible this fall and will share its draft recommendations with the university community for feedback. A final plan will go to the President's Cabinet in early spring, with implementation beginning next summer. To help keep you informed, please visit [this webpage](#) for updates on the Working Group and its progress.

Thank you for continuing to share your experiences and ideas with us and for helping us get this right for our Bobcat community.

Best,

Kelly Damphousse  
President, Texas State University