

The Bus Stops Here!



PARKING & TRANSPORTATION NEWS

Survey Reveals UNM Students on the Move!

The recent bike competition at our Welcome Back Days stand proved very popular, with 527 entries being submitted at the final count. Also included on the entry card was a short, voluntary survey to try to get a snapshot of current campus transport and commuting trends. The results showed quite a diversity in transport habits ranging from skateboards to car pooling.

What was certainly encouraging was the favorable response to the suggestion of alternative transportation, with most people expressing a preference for bicycling and public transport. However, easily the largest section of respondents claimed to use personal motor vehicles to commute to and from campus (cars, motorcycles) and most of them were of the single-occupancy-vehicle mode of commuter.

PATS Program Planning Manager, Cynthia Martin said "Alternative transportation as a lifestyle has been more common in larger cities and on the coasts. But as UNM and Albuquerque continue to grow, we find a greater need for transportation modalities that better suit high-density areas."

Does this mean then that PATS finds itself addressing a broader social issue than just a commuting preference? "Once that New Mexicans make the adjustment to alternative

transportation," continued Martin "they often find that it can be easy and even life-enhancing. What is more, it is far better for the environment, and there is a great deal of personal satisfaction that comes with that!"

"Our Department is committed to helping people find the easiest, cheapest, fastest way to get to campus. Not everybody wants that, but if they do, we are here to help."

Taking on board the positive feedback from the survey, the latest initiative that Parking and Transportation Services plans to roll out is a structured, across-campus carpool program. This is very much in the planning stages at the moment, but watch please this space for further details.



We have a winner: Student Ben Vasquez (and son) accepts the \$240 Bike World bike gift certificate from PATS Director Clovis Acosta

Ideas? Information? Talk to us: bkilburn@parking.unm.edu

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