

President's Response
Campus Issue 19-20-03

Committee or Individual: Sergio Medina

Date submitted: 02/25/2020

Issue/Concern: Bicycle Thefts

Summary of Issue:

Bicycle thefts are an ongoing issue at Sacramento City College (SCC). According to Mr. Medina, there have been more than 25 bicycle thefts within the last year, and the bicycle racks that are currently provided by SCC lack sufficient security measures to prevent theft. Mr. Medina suggests that a bike cage with surveillance cameras and key access be installed, and a security guard be assigned to monitor those who are entering and leaving the bike cage.

Background of Issue:

Students at Sacramento City College may use their own lock to lock their bikes to bike racks placed around the college. Student may also rent a bike locker for \$18 a semester, and \$9 in the summer. We have 32 bike lockers on the main campus, 2 at West Sac and 0 at Davis. Not all lockers are typically rented, leaving this as still an option for students. In Spring 2020, 8 (24%) of the lockers were rented, 12 (35%) in Fall 2019 and 7 (21%) in Summer 2019.

Action Taken:

March 2, 2020: The campus issue was presented to the Executive Council. After discussion, the Council recommended that the issue be referred to VPA Carrie Bray for logistical investigation and response.

March 4, 2020: VPA Bray responded to the campus issue via email, stating that she is working with Captain John McPeek on bicycle theft data and researching the monitoring capabilities of the bike cage that American River College (ARC) had installed. Director of Operations Margaret Lednicky has been assigned to find out more information on the logistics of ARC's bike cage.

March 18, 2020: COVID-19 pandemic moves campus operations to remote services.

April 22, 2020: VPA Bray and Malissa Kekahu communicated via email. Update pending.

May 6, 2020: Captain McPeek provided information to VPA Bray via email about security effectiveness and monitoring capabilities of ARC's bike cage.

May 27, 2020: Director Lednicky reached out to her counterpart at ARC to discuss feasibility of bike cage, as well as any logistical concerns with installing a bike cage on the SCC campus.

May 28, 2020: Malissa Kekahu communicated with the Issuer.

September 10, 2020: Due to Captain McPeek's retirement in August 2020, VPA Bray emailed Captain Valerie Cox to discuss statistics on bicycle thefts at SCC. Captain Cox responded with

suggestions for future research including before and after statistics for ARC's bike cages, and plans to discuss the issue further with ARC's Captain Chris Day.

October 14, 2020: Captain Cox emailed VPA Bray with the following statistics on bike thefts at SCC: 13 in 2017; 25 in 2018; and 19 in 2019.

December 22, 2020: VPA Bray provided information sheet via email including the following statistics provided by the Los Rios Police Department: A little less than half of the thefts were from Rodda South. Other locations with two or three thefts were Fine Arts, Library, Lillard Hall, and Student Services. After installation of the bike cage at ARC (total cost was \$21,756) LRPD found that bike thefts did decrease, but thefts did still occur after installation. In addition, LRPD noted that the cage is located at the south side of the campus and only students in that area tend to use it. The cage is kept unlocked, key access is not required, and there has been one bike theft from the cage.

VPA Recommendation: The recommendation is that given the high cost to add a bike cage, and the lack of funding currently available for this effort, as well as the cost for the requested camera surveillance, security guard monitoring and key access system, the college is unable to add a bike cage at this time. Use of the existing bike lockers is encouraged. An alternative solution recommendation is The College can start a sinking fund for a future solution to bike security at Sacramento City College. Possible solutions include stand-up lockers located inside a building with the possibility of adding a camera to the site. Stand-up lockers are preferred as they are less desirable for people using the lockers as shelter and a place to sleep. This may be a deterrent to current students who may otherwise rent a bike locker. The stand-up bike lockers can also be located in a more central location, where a cage would most likely need to be placed on the perimeter of the college. Once adequate funds are accumulated, Administrative Services can work through the Campus Development committee on the solution, including location.

March 1, 2021: VPA Bray's recommendations were discussed in Executive Council. The Council determined that there was not enough information to make a decision, and requested that C. Bray and M. Lednicky attend the April meeting to discuss the following questions: (1) Is there data for the ARC bike thefts before and after the bike cage was installed, and can we see the data? (2) How much money are students losing out on for cost of bikes vs. the cost for the cage? (3) How will the bike cage be funded if it is installed? (4) If the cage isn't monitored, will it help? Decision pending April discussion.

May 3, 2021: M. Lednicky attended Executive Council and provided C. Bray's answers to the above questions. (1) LRPD was able to provide information that bike thefts did decrease with the addition of the cage, but thefts still occurred, even from the new cage. The cage is on the south side of campus, and only students in that area tend to use it. (2) We do not have this information, as we do not know the cost of the bikes stolen. (3) General fund would pay for the locker, unless there are categorical funds available. More than likely it would be the general fund. (4) It may give a false sense of security, which is why we think the stand-up bike lockers would be a better option. Council discussed and noted the following concerns about the difficulty associated with using vertical lockers: (1) availability of space; (2) will they be used? (3) will they be safe? (4)

who will manage (Ops, etc.)? and (5) cost for students (can these fees get waived?). Council suggested that in conjunction with providing more bicycle lockers, we must also look toward providing: (1) rider education (locks, safety, etc.); (2) covering student fees by scholarship or through foundation; and (3) future funding source or current funding source for student fees. Council asked that C. Bray provide quote for traditional bike racks (do we need more); keep bike lockers that we have; purchase vertical lockers (8) at the cost above, while noting concerns if 8 new vertical lockers would be enough.

Executive Council makes the following recommendation: (1) Assess current bike mounts and keep existing bike lockers; (2) purchase and install 8 vertical bike lockers; and (3) take suggestions about rider education and concerns about financial hardship to President's Cabinet for more discussion. Campus Issue closed.

May 3, 2021: President's Response completed, and Issuers notified. Campus Issue is closed.

President's Response to Executive Council:

I have heard the discussion on Campus Issue 19-20-03.

To follow-up on this campus issue the following actions are directed in accordance with the Executive Council's response: Current bike mounts will be assessed and existing bike lockers kept; (2) eight vertical bike lockers will be purchased and installed; and (3) suggestions about rider education and concerns about financial hardship will be discussed at President's Cabinet.

Campus Issue 19-20-03 is closed.



Michael Gutierrez, President

05/03/2021

Date