



Proposed fare raise bypasses bus riders

Inflation has bypassed students riding the intercampus shuttle bus: this year they still will pay 10 cents per ride—the same rate as when the service began in 1962.

Ray Coffey, assistant to Business and Finance Vice Chancellor Miles Tommeraasen, said last spring's proposal to raise the fare to 25 cents was dropped after students needing the bus to travel to classes on both East and City Campus, or who lived near East Campus, objected.

Instead, Coffey said Tommeraasen decided to continue subsidizing the system, since he said the fare charge covers only one-fourth to one-third of the operation's cost.

UNL pays the Lincoln Transportation System (LTS) a flat rate per hour for providing bus service, Coffey said. This has risen 67 per cent in the last two years, he said.

The business office hopes to receive an appropriation from the Legislature to pay the rest of the cost, Coffey said.

If no money is forthcoming this year, it "will have to be cut from somewhere else" according to John Duve, campus police parking and traffic coordinator.

There no longer will be an all-year bus pass given away with the sale of parking stickers because parking at the State Fairgrounds is being eliminated, Duve said.

"The costs of busing very few people to campus from the fairgrounds were too high," Duve said. He said UNL paid nearly \$25,000 annually from parking fees to support one bus running the shuttle, and said Campus Police found that about 25 cars were using State Fairgrounds parking each hour.

Duve said the decline in students using Fairgrounds parking stemmed from a decline in enrollment and an increase in the amount of on-campus parking, especially since the construction of the card-operated lot on 14th and Avery Ave.

Another factor in eliminating fairgrounds parking is the desire of the Parking Advisory Board to "get away from parking fees supporting the intercampus bus system," Duve said. He said \$75,000 in parking fees were used to support the system last year.

He said UNL still will offer a \$15 annual bus pass for students without parking permits, and a \$1 pass good for 12 rides.

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