



In an effort to enhance the attractiveness of sustainable transportation modes, increase pedestrian and bicycle safety on campus, and improve availability of parking spaces for those who must drive, the [Student Association](#), at the request of the [Parking and Transit Office](#) and of the Nelson Nygaard [Parking and Transportation Study](#) decided to decrease funding to subsidized parking, a service that **all students were paying approximately \$1.3 million for, or about \$1,500 per parking spot**. By subsidizing parking with this very large amount of money, driving was incentivized, even for those that wouldn't use it otherwise. This causes large logistical problems for those that needed it most but couldn't find parking. Originally, the Student Association decided to reduce the money allocated for parking after the 2015-2016 academic year; however, the looming budget cuts projected for UWM forced the Student Association to make these reallocations sooner than expected.

Nonetheless, this policy decision will positively impact campus in several ways. For instance, reallocations encourage students living in the neighborhood surrounding campus to bus, bike, or walk, thus helping to improve the convenience of parking for UWM students who live a driving distance from campus or have other extenuating circumstances and must drive. One of the biggest student complaints received was that there were no spaces left for those commuting many miles away in the parking garages. Students were paying \$1.3 million for parking designed to help students from far away, but those students weren't actually getting to use those spots. Part of the Office of Parking and Transit's assessment included looking at other schools' parking systems, and they found we were one of the very few



- [Transit Options](#)
- [Parking Options](#)
- [Parking Rates](#)

urban universities in the country to offer “free” parking. The system was unsustainable.

This policy change will advance the UWM transportation system forward into the 21st century, cultivating a more modern and sustainable transportation culture for UWM students today, tomorrow and years to come. Ultimately, the decrease in funding will assist UWM to provide parking for those who truly need it, while making strides to become a more bicycle and pedestrian-friendly campus.

We'd love to answer any questions at [uwmpark@uwm.edu](mailto:uwmpark@uwm.edu).

UWM is excited to announce a new partnership with Bublr bikes! This is a bikeshare program that will be completely free for students in the first year. Six stations will be placed around campus and be integrated into Milwaukee's already thriving system of bikes right on UWM's campus, to go live in early October. Exploring Milwaukee and getting around quickly could never be easier, or cheaper for students. [Students can sign up for a Bublr account now!](#)



All UWM students registered for classes on the campus receive a UPASS (bus card) that allows unlimited access on the MCTS system

- Cards will automatically activate on 8/17 for students returning from Spring.
- Cards will remain active for Summer students.

Again, we'd love to answer any questions at [uwmpark@uwm.edu](mailto:uwmpark@uwm.edu).