Parking Problem in San Jose State University

Lots of SJSU students complain about the lack of parking spaces on campus.

"People always complain about the lack of parking spots because you always have to compete with others to fight for a spot," Caroline Grier said.

According to the SJSU website, many of the campus parking lots (including on-site parking lots and the nearby additional parking lots) are only for employees and disabled.

"Being in an urban environment, the amount of space dedicated to parking is limited," according to the SJSU website, "During peak periods, finding a parking space on the main campus can be difficult."

SJSU has three multi-story parking garages, five parking lots, curb parking, as well as their Park & Ride Lot at south campus open for their students to park their cars; however, they are still not enough for thousands of students.

"The best way to ensure that you can find a parking before being late to class is to arrive the parking lot half hour before class, there are usually plenty of parking spots in the early morning," said Wan-Lap Jolie Ho, "The garage is most packed around ten o'clock. I usually have to wait at least 15 minutes to locate a spot, however, it does not necessary mean that I can successfully park into the spot since many people are waiting for the same one."

Park & Ride Lot is an additional parking lot which located on the South 7th Street, 8 blocks south of the main campus.

"I might try to park in the Park & Ride Lot if this parking lot is not as crowded as the 10th street garage, but I am afraid that the schedule of the courtesy shuttle service is not stable enough," Chi Hoang said, after hearing of Park & Ride Lot.

Courtesy shuttle service is available to those who park at the Park & Ride Lot; the shuttles run about every 10 minutes from the Park & Ride Lot to campus, and vice versa.

SJSU Transportation Solutions Department suggests that students can choose other alternative transportation like VTA Buses and Light Rail.

"I tried taking light rail once, but I hate to walk such a long way from the station to the classroom, even though it takes about the same time for me to walk or to look for parking," Erica Ramirez said.

According to the website of Transportation Solutions Department, SJSU students with an Associated Students (AS) Eco Pass and Tower Card (SJSU ID card) can have unlimited free rides on all VTA Buses and Light Rail for the duration of the Eco Pass sticker."

"I usually take light rail or bus to school since it saves me gas money, I will only drive if I could not catch the light rail and bus," said Eddie Belcher, "however, the buses usually come later than the scheduled time. It is really frustrating when you are late for class because the buses are running late. I would prefer using public transportation instead, because of multiple reasons: parking problem, money, and time."

"Driving to school is bothersome because a parking spot is not always guaranteed," said Trang Le, "And the parking permit is so experience too. Sometimes I would think it is not worth my time and money to park on campus but I do not like using public transportation either. It seems to me that I have no choices."

According to the website of SJSU Parking Services Department, a parking permit costs 384 dollars for one whole academic year and a parking permit for one semester costs \$192.