**Transportation**

Attendees: Dave Ivey, Ximing Cai, Yanfeng Ouyang, Pete Varney, Julie Cidell, Julija Sakutyte  
Date: 12 April 2019  
Time: 10AM

1. Agenda
   1. TEM/Survey system
   2. Faculty Carpool/rideshare system
2. TEM/Survey System
   1. A voluntary survey is officially decided on for the recommendation template. An insight into people’s reasons for travelling would help create future programs to penalize undesirable modes of transport and subsidize desirable modes by using the carbon credit program at UIUC.
   2. The goal is to use the carbon credit purchasing program in order to incentivize people to use better modes of transport when commuting for conferences and such.
   3. Julie Cidell took point on this and spoke to John Dallesasse. The following is a summary of their conversation:
      1. John explained that the TEM revision was being done to deal with the experience that many people have had of reimbursement requests getting rejected for seemingly arbitrary reasons. The new version will have pull-down menus to explain the business purpose of travel, which should deal with that issue. So one possibility would be to add pull-down menus regarding mode choice and/or if other options were considered. (This would also make data collection easier, rather than trying to work with what people individually type in.) Overall, though, he thought that doing a survey would be better than adding anything to TEM.  
          He also said that his concern about carbon offsets mainly came from the question, who will pay for them? Not all grants currently allow carbon offsets as an expense, though he's part of a group that's lobbying the federal government to change that. Another option would be for faculty to pay for the offsets out of their own ICR, but then there's the question of what other work isn't going to get done as a consequence.   
          I would add, this discriminates against faculty who don't have grants and therefore ICR to work with. Should we pay out of our own pockets to help the university meet its climate action goals? If the university wants to reduce carbon emissions on the part of its employees, paying for the carbon offsets itself seems the most fair thing to do. A very rough estimate is that if faculty average 2 domestic trips and 1 international trip per year, that's about $25 of offsets per person, or about $47,000 for all tenure-track faculty.
   4. Due to the expertise of J. Dallesasse, the team decided to go with recommending a survey in place of adding questions into the TEM system.
3. Faculty Carpool/Rideshare system
   1. There has been immense interest expressed in having a program established to provide a carpooling or shuttle service to staff and faculty of UIUC. The pilot would service a small area such as Cherry Hills and be run through a basic app.
   2. There still needs to be detail-oriented work, such as deciding who can be trusted to drive the vehicles, insurance, service area, drop-off points, funding, etc.
   3. Funding will likely be sourced from either an external grant or through SSC.
      1. If a proposal needs to be written, there is access to a professional.
   4. Another issue is app development. The costs could be potentially high and the development could take a long time, up to a few months.
      1. Some potential solutions are for Y. Ouyang to offer the app development and route optimization as a course project to some of his students, if interested. This could reduce costs.