

Cela Cashel

Real-Life Story Project

Written for *The Standard* to be published as soon as possible.

After a late night Taco Bell run, Caleb Huettenmeyer parked his car in the Woods parking lot and strolled back to his dorm, excited to enjoy his late night snack. He went about the next day without a care in the world, until he approached the Woods parking lot and noticed a car that did not belong to him parked in the spot where he had left his car last night. Huettenmeyer hastened to call Campus Safety after a frantic search through several of the campus parking lots. After a thorough questioning and search, the officers looked at security footage and the unfortunate truth became clear. Caleb Huettenmeyer's car had been stolen.

Unfortunately, Huettenmeyer's story is not the only incident of its kind. Several of the campus parking lots have had security issues, and the Student Government Association decided that it was time to do something about it. They recently approved a motion to renovate the Woods parking lot to make it safer for students.

The renovation to the Woods parking lot has several components, including repaving, increasing the amount of lights and security cameras, as well as adding six additional parking spaces. This renovation was extremely necessary, as frustration with campus parking has continued to grow.

"It's really hard to find a parking spot at MSU," said MSU student Reiley Snavely. "You can only find them at certain parts of the day when other people are not on campus."

While the increase in parking spots is causing the most excitement, the improvement of security measures is extremely necessary and a huge relief to students, particularly those who have been impacted by crime in the parking lot. Missouri State sophomore Caleb Huettenmeyer had his car stolen from the Woods parking lot about two months ago, and it still hasn't been found.

Huettenmeyer is relieved that security measures are finally being taken in the Woods parking lot. "I think it is important to add more cameras and lights to the Woods parking lot," said Huettenmeyer. "If there had been more camera angles, I think there would have been more information that could've been used to find out where my car went."

While everyone is celebrating the approval of the renovation, we must not forget the hard work that went into earning the approval. Anna Pelligrini took the lead on creating the proposal to renovate the parking lot, and the process was no joke. She got quotes from the Administrative Services Division and then filed a proposal. After that, Pelligrini got approval of the project from

the VP of Administrative Services and then presented her proposal to the SGA Cabinet. Finally, she participated in an open forum about the proposal with the SGA Senate. The following week, the SGA Senate voted and the bill was approved.

Pelligrini's hard work is appreciated by Missouri State students, who look forward to a safer parking lot. The parking lot renovations will begin during summer and should be complete by the time the fall semester starts.

"Students deserve to feel safe on campus and should not have to worry about walking back to their residence hall at night," said Pelligrini. "If an incident occurs in the parking lot, these new cameras will be utilized to help students file reports and get their property back."

While Huettenmeyer still doesn't have his car back, it is a huge relief to him as well as other Missouri State students that precautions are being taken so that they won't have to worry about going through the same thing.

Cela Cashel

Real-Life Story Project Broadcast - KTTS

168 words

(Anchor)

The Student Government Association has approved a renovation to the Woods parking lot in response to security concerns in the parking lot. KTTS reporter Cela Cashel has more on the story.

(Reporter)

The renovation to the Woods parking lot includes repaving, increasing lights and cameras, and adding parking spaces. The improvement of security measures is a huge relief to students. Missouri State sophomore Caleb Huettenmeyer had his car stolen from the Woods lot two months ago, and it still hasn't been found. Huettenmeyer is relieved that security measures are being taken in the parking lot.

(Sound bite)

I think it is important to add more cameras and lights to the Woods parking lot because if there had been more camera angles I think there would have been more information that could've been used to find out where my car went.

(Reporter)

Missouri State students look forward to a safer parking lot. The renovations will begin during summer and should be complete by the time the fall semester starts. Cela Cashel, KTTS, Springfield.

Sources:

Anna Pelligrini - SGA Representative who worked on getting the renovation approved
Reiley Snavely - MSU senior who provided a comment on the status of parking at MSU
Caleb Huettenmeyer - MSU sophomore who had his car stolen from the Woods parking lot