

## Commuter and Carpool Facilitation Resolution Adopted April 17, 2017

### Membership 2016-2017

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USGBC Students  
Mikaela Pieri  
BEAT  
Mallory Thatch  
Student Government Association

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Architecture and Planning  
Brock Hagerman<sup>(18)</sup>  
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Business Affairs  
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Business Affairs  
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University Dining  
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Klaus Neumann<sup>(18)</sup>  
Sciences and Humanities  
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Sciences and Humanities  
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#### Community Members

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Business Leaders  
Barry Banks<sup>(18)</sup>  
Red-tail Conservancy  
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Audubon & Sierra Club  
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IU Health Ball Memorial Hospital  
Warren Vander Hill  
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#### Administrative Support

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Augusta Wray  
Green Development Specialist  
John Vann  
Resource Person  
Green Initiatives Coordinator  
Peggy Weis  
Secretary  
Jeff Culp  
Web Manager

**Whereas** Ball State University is a signatory of the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment and a leader in the area of sustainability; and

**Whereas** Ball State University seeks to provide leadership in environmental matters through numerous greening of the campus initiatives; and

**Whereas;** Ball State University has endorsed a Climate Neutral Commitment by 2030, and

**Whereas;** Transportation is listed as an area of energy conservation as part of the University's Climate Action Plan, and scope 3 carbon emissions (employee commuting and business travel) will be reduced by the implementation of the Central Indiana Regional Transit Authority (heretofore known as CIRT) plan; and

**Whereas** the Ball State University Council on the Environment membership represents the University and surrounding Muncie community; and

**Whereas** in its role, the Council is charged to recommend policies for the good of these communities; and

**Whereas** the CIRT has in place a number of provisions, such as carpool matches, bike buddies, vanpools, and emergency ride home benefits, known published literature as *CIRT Commuter Connect*<sup>1</sup>; and

**Whereas** a number of Ball State University employees live and commute from counties in the CIRT jurisdiction, including Marion, Hamilton, Hancock, Shelby, Johnson, Morgan, Hendricks, Boone, Delaware, and Madison counties; and

**Whereas** Ball State University may experience other benefits, including, but not limited to: enhanced employee recruitment from a larger geographic area, potential increased worker productivity, a reduced parking demand, a more sustainable public image, and

**Whereas** Section 132(f) of the Internal Revenue Code allows employers to provide tax-free transit, vanpool and parking benefits to their employees, and

**Whereas** such commuter benefits can be deducted when paid for by an employer (subsidy) or in the form of pre-tax flexible spending accounts for alternative modes of commuting,

<sup>1</sup><https://www.cirta.us/commuter-connect/>

**Now, therefore be it resolved** that the Council adopt the following motion:

That Ball State University explore participating as a registered employer in the *CIRTA Commuter Connect* program in order to:

- encourage staff to work with *Commuter Connect* to expand their current transportation benefits, and
- leverage *Commuter Connect* services to improve the general connectivity of the Muncie campus to:
  - 1.) Ball State's own distance education locations in the Indianapolis metropolitan region;
  - 2.) Regional, national, and international transportation hubs, including Greyhound, Amtrak, and the International airport; and
  - 3.) students and employees dwelling within the CIRTA service area that may benefit from such enhanced connectivity.