**Illinois State**

**University**

Board of

**Trustees**

**Resolution No. 2016.05/09**

**Connect Transit Agreement**

**Resolution**

Whereas, Illinois State University has partnered with Connect Transit (formerly Bloomington Normal Public Transit System) to provide certain transportation services since 1998, and

Whereas, said partnership benefits all University faculty, staff, and students by allowing them to use their Illinois State University Redbird Card as a bus pass to access Connect Transit services, and

Whereas, ridership for the various transportation services provided is expected to exceed 900,000 rides in FY2016, and

Whereas, University policies require Board of Trustees approval on expenditures of $500,000 or more:

Therefore, be it resolved that the Board of Trustees authorizes the University to enter into an agreement with Connect Transit to provide transportation services to students, faculty and staff for an amount not to exceed $532,750 for FY2017.

Board Action on: Postpone:

Motion by: Amend:

Second by: Disapprove:

Vote: Yeas: Nays: Approve:

ATTEST: Board Action, May 6, 2016

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Secretary/Chairperson

**Board of Trustees**

**Illinois State University**

**Supplemental Information for Connect Transit Agreement**

Illinois State University and Connect Transit (formerly Bloomington Normal Public Transit System) have a long standing partnership. Formalized in 1998, the partnership initially was developed with the creation of Nite Ride Service intended to provide a safe after-hours transportation alternative for students. Due to increased demand for daily ridership throughout campus and around the community, Redbird Express and Late Nite Ride offerings were implemented in 2003. All Connect Transit offerings were consolidated into a single agreement entitled Universal Access in 2013.

Connect Transit provides fixed-route, regularly published citywide public transportation that includes service through the Illinois State University campus. Monthly payments are made by the University to Connect Transit for the transportation services provided for students, faculty and staff. With the presentation of an ISU Redbird Card, all students, faculty and staff have the pleasure of riding any Connect Transit route, free of charge to the rider. During FY2017, Connect Transit may install or operate electronic card readers in buses to read and/or scan the faculty, staff and student photo identification card upon entry of an ISU passenger to a bus. Notwithstanding the implementation of any such system, both parties agree that mere presentation of the card by University faculty, staff, or student, regardless of whether the card is scanned, shall be sufficient for Connect Transit agents and bus drivers to regard the photo identification card as a Connect Transit bus pass. As necessary, the University will provide mutually agreed upon information regarding current faculty, staff, and students at the Bloomington-Normal campus that may be required to enable the operation of electronic systems to scan the University photo-identification cards. Connect Transit will abide by the terms of the University Data Security Addendum with respect to any data or electronic information provided by the University.

For the past decade, faculty, staff and student usage of the services provided by Connect Transit have steadily increased. Ridership is expected to exceed 900,000 in FY2016. Ridership was 994,138 in FY2015 and 655,484 in FY2014.

Connect Transit annually requests increases in funding in recognition of the costs to provide transit service to the University and the increase in student, faculty and staff ridership. The amount for providing bus transportation services to students, faculty and staff in FY2016 totaled $519,750. The amount for the service in FY2017 will be $532,750, an increase of 2.5 percent over FY2016. This is the second year the cost for this service reaches $500,000 or more.

Connect Transit services support *Educating Illinois* by providing sustainable transportation options to all faculty, staff, and students. Providing alternative transportation options to the campus community, at no charge to the rider, is a tangible demonstration of University commitment to sustainable initiatives. The strategic external partnership that exists between Illinois State University and Connect Transit is mutually beneficial.

Source of Funding: Student Fee Revenues