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Mounds Greenway Resolution Adopted November 9, 2015

Whereas Ball State University seeks to provide leadership in environmental matters through numerous initiatives; 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 West Fork White River is designated an Outstanding River of Indiana, and is a natural, free-flowing river, adjoined by high-quality hardwood floodplain forest that shelters the river and its adjacent bottomlands and in combination with natural wetlands provides natural habitat in a largely agricultural landscape; and

Whereas, Mounds State Park is located along the river and includes mature hardwood forest, a unique natural area, the Mounds Fen Nature Preserve, and high-quality prehistoric Adena and Hopewell earthworks; and

Whereas a proposed linear park and trail system connecting Muncie, Yorktown, Daleville, Chesterfield, and Anderson, known as the Mounds Greenway, would protect a free-flowing West Fork White River and its adjoining natural areas and parks, provide a safe and accessible non-motorized transportation route that connect local communities to these natural and cultural resources, provide trails, river access and other outdoor recreation opportunities, and contribute to the region's quality of life by encouraging sustainable business opportunities and healthful physical activities; and

Whereas such a multi-use trail system would provide an amenity that attract people and businesses to the East Central Indiana region and enhance the lives of people in this region and beyond.

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

- That Ball State University express its support for the development of the Mounds Greenway, including the installation of a multi-use trail with associated access points that provide for parking, rest stops, and connections to municipal business areas.
- That Ball State University engage with relevant city, county, and state government leaders and agencies, including the Governor and Indiana Department of Natural Resources, business and community organizations, and citizens of relevant communities and the surrounding region, to establish a multi-use trail (Mounds Greenway) that connects the communities of Anderson, Chesterfield, Daleville, Yorktown, and Muncie.
- That Ball State University promote preservation, restoration, protection and the appreciation of ecosystems along the White River.