WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY'S COMMUNITY IMPACT
Public Transit
The university has a long history of support for our region’s public transit system. Our students, faculty and staff are provided university-purchased Metrolink passes for their use. Access to public transportation helps support livable, walkable communities, contributes to healthy lifestyles, and is an important component of ongoing economic growth.

Sustainability
The university is a national leader in sustainability, a top priority in all of our initiatives. The recently opened Lofts of Washington University, located at the nexus of University City and the City of St. Louis, is targeted to become the region’s first Platinum LEED-certified mixed-use development. In partnership with the City of St. Louis, the university hosted a three day Sustainable Cities Conference in 2012. The conference resulted in the Sustainable Land Lab, a competition that challenges teams to turn vacant lots into assets that advance sustainability.

Entrepreneurship
The Skandalaris Center is a campus-wide entrepreneurship initiative that serves the university and the broader St. Louis community. The center aims to ignite entrepreneurial interest and learning in all disciplines and to serve as the hub of entrepreneurial activity on campus, working to build an innovation environment across the university, where ideas and people can connect and cause action that changes lives. Over the past five years, Washington University entrepreneurs raised some $656 million from 51 companies and 53 individuals.

Community Improvement Districts
The university is a founding partner in the CORTEX innovation district and plays a key role in St. Louis City’s Forest Park South East neighborhood, as well as the East Delmar Loop. Investments in community improvement districts and neighborhood associations promote job growth and stable property values.

Washington University is located in four local governmental jurisdictions: the City of St. Louis, St. Louis County, Clayton, and University City. The university’s unique footprint enables us to contribute to each area in specific and distinct ways. Investment by the university in the St. Louis region is substantial, long-standing, and ties closely to the university’s core mission of teaching, research, and service.

Washington University’s major regional investments include:

Engagement and Service
The university actively connects students, faculty, and staff to the wider St. Louis community through the Gephardt Institute for Public Service. These collaborations are having a significant impact and account for nearly two million community service hours each year.

K-12 Education
Through the Institute for School Partnership, local schools are connected with the assets of a research university, teachers are inspired with new knowledge, and students are empowered with the best resources. Washington University serves as the sponsor of the KIPP and Hawthorn charter schools in St. Louis.

Community Health
The university is committed to improving access to health care throughout the region by delivering world-class services and inspiring innovative solutions to today’s biggest public health challenges. In fiscal year 2014, the Washington University School of Medicine provided more than 186,000 outpatient specialty care encounters to Medicaid recipients and the uninsured, and it has brought more than $460 million in medical research funding to the region. The university’s Institute for Public Health brings together many disciplines and diverse partners to address the complex health issues facing the St. Louis region and the world.

Regional Spending
In fiscal year 2014, more than $2 billion in direct spending by the university, including more than $1.1 billion in salaries, supported more than 41,000 jobs in the St. Louis region. The university purchased $246.6 million worth of goods and services from vendors in the St. Louis region and paid local construction vendors $176.3 million in the same year. Our students spent approximately $149 million in the region.

Safety and Security
The university works to promote safety on campus and in the St. Louis community by coordinating efforts with municipal police departments in surrounding neighborhoods, and through improvements such as: pedestrian lighting and walkways, closed circuit security cameras, and emergency phones.

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