

West Virginia University
The Student Assembly - Student Government Association
Assembly Resolution: AR-2025-11-02
**AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION TO MAKE THE
MOUNTAINLINE BUS APP MORE ACCESSIBLE TO NEW
STUDENTS**

Short Title:	Mountainline App Promotion Act
Author(s):	Paige Tuttle, College Senator (Eberly)
Sponsor(s):	Noi Alfgeirsson, Senator Matthew Bellisario, Senator (Statler) Briar Hale, Senator (Davis) Andrew O'Neal, Senator Ashlynn Traylor, Senator (Davis) Elise Vuiller, Senator
Contributor(s):	
Committee Endorsement:	Sustainability
First Reading Date:	11/12/2025
Second Reading Date:	11/19/2025
Date of Approval:	11/19/2025
Presidential Signature:	

Whereas, the West Virginia University mission statement reads, “As a land-grant institution, the faculty, staff and students at West Virginia University commit to creating a diverse and inclusive culture that advances... prosperity for all by providing access and opportunity... and leads transformation through local, state, and global

engagement;¹ and,

Whereas, the West Virginia University Student Government Association (SGA) Vision Statement reads “To be a Student Government Association that serves the students, West Virginia University, and the State of West Virginia by... supporting economic development, enhancing environmental stewardship, participating in meaningful community service, fostering healthy lifestyles, and developing innovative partnerships with students, faculty, staff and other key Stakeholders,”;² and,

Whereas, increasing awareness about public transportation in Morgantown reduces on-campus carbon emissions through encouraging bus ridership instead of personal vehicles, as advocated for by West Virginia University’s Office of Sustainability; and,

Whereas, West Virginia University discourages first year students from bringing a car to campus, only allows first year students to apply for parking permits after their first advising appointment as part of New Student Orientation, and promotes the free resources on campus as a replacement to bringing a personal car;³ and,

Whereas, costs associated with college has been shown to be a barrier to student recruitment and retention, and the cost of on campus parking permits ranges from \$252 to \$858 a year;⁴ and,

Whereas, nationally, it has been shown to save people \$13,000 per year by using public transit;⁵ and,

Whereas, West Virginia University already funds a large portion of subsidies for the Mountain Line Transit and the entire cost of three routes; the Blue and Gold, the Valley View, and the Campus PM late night buses; and,

Whereas, Uber, a more convenient but less environmentally friendly transit option, began operating in West Virginia in 2016; and,

¹ [Mission Statement](#)

² [Student Government Association Vision Statement](#)

³ [Information Regarding Parking Permits for New Students](#)

⁴ [Parking Permit Prices](#)

⁵ [American Public Transportation Association Policy Brief](#)

Whereas, WVU's bus ridership has dropped from 661,043 rides in 2018 to 278,691 rides in 2024;⁶ and,

Whereas, students would be provided alternative transportations when the PRT is closed or inconvenient for the location they are trying to go to, allowing for students to have better access to needed areas around campus; and,

Whereas, reducing traffic and increasing on-campus parking space availability for commuting students by moving more of the student population into buses instead of single-occupancy vehicles would make WVU more accessible for untraditional students; and,

Whereas, driving under the influence is a serious public safety concern in college towns, and a leading cause of drunk driving is not being aware of any alternative methods to make it home; and,

Whereas, studies have shown that taking public transit and cities that have adapted to support public transit have lower instances of road related crimes and deaths; and,

Whereas, cars were found to have caused 96% of pedestrian injuries;⁷ and,

Whereas, promoting public transportation access to major regional destinations would significantly increase student mobility by providing them with information about more affordable and sustainable means of transportation to surrounding metropolitan areas; and,

Therefore, be it resolved by the Student Assembly of West Virginia University:

Section 1: The West Virginia University Student Government Association urges thorough explanation of the Mountainline mobile app and bus routes to be included at New Student Orientation and Visitor Center presentations and tours; and,

Section 2: The West Virginia University Student Government Association urges the university to highlight and promote all bus routes that can take students to major

⁶ [Provided in an Email from Jeremy Evans](#)

⁷ [Morency, Patric et al. Traveling by Bus . . .](#)

regional destinations including but not limited to the Pittsburgh International Airport, the city of Pittsburgh, Charleston, Clarksburg, and Fairmont; and,

Section 3: The West Virginia University Student Government Association encourages the university to prompt students to download the Mountainline mobile app; and,

Section 4: The West Virginia Student Government Association encourages receptiveness to student ideas to improve the Mountainline mobile app to make it more accessible to students and more user-friendly; and,

Section 5: Upon passage and approval, this legislation shall be forwarded to:

Mandates:

Gary G. Furbee II, Vice President of Student Life
Carrie Showalter, Dean of Students
Skylar Braithwaite, Director of Campus and Community Life
Traci Knabenshue, Director of Sustainability
Jeremy Evans, Director of Transportation
Keith Fleming, Transportation Operations Manager
Keith Pyles, Assistant Director of Transportation
Rachel Daw, Director of Recruitment, Events, and Onboarding
Terry Jackson, Director of Visitor Center
Michael T. Benson, University President
Daily Athenaeum
Colin Street, Student Body President
Rozaireo Jones, Student Body Vice President
Emma Davis, Executive Secretary
Molly Meeker, Attorney General
Shelby Davis, Historian
