Measuring the Impact of Urban Amenities of Metropolitan Wages

Benjamin Burry
Illinois Wesleyan University

Margaret Chapman, Faculty Advisor
Illinois Wesleyan University

Follow this and additional works at: http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/jwprc

Burry, Benjamin and Chapman, Faculty Advisor, Margaret, "Measuring the Impact of Urban Amenities of Metropolitan Wages" (2007). John Wesley Powell Student Research Conference. 3.

This Event is brought to you for free and open access by The Ames Library, the Andrew W. Mellon Center for Curricular and Faculty Development, the Office of the Provost and the Office of the President. It has been accepted for inclusion in Digital Commons @ IWU by the faculty at Illinois Wesleyan University. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@iwu.edu.
©Copyright is owned by the author of this document.
MEASURING THE IMPACT OF URBAN AMENITIES OF METROPOLITAN WAGES

Benjamin Burry and Margaret Chapman*
Economics Department, Illinois Wesleyan University

This paper seeks to quantify the impacts of climate, crime, population density, and travel time on median hourly wage in urban areas using the hedonic approach. In accordance with the theory of utility equalization across urban areas, worker skill level, job composition, and intercity cost of living differences are held constant. This study's sample size consists of thirty-eight metropolitan statistical areas in the continental U.S. (omitting New Orleans) with a population greater than five hundred thousand. Results support a significant impact of urban amenities on wages.