6 — OUTSTANDING CORPORATION – UAW 2209

In 2016, Fort Wayne Trails (FWT) received information that the local UAW #2209 planned to have a 5K run at a local park and was going to donate the money to Fort Wayne Trails. FWT staff reached out the organizers and began working with them to assist, and make sure that their event was a success. The event, "The Monster Dash" raised almost $1000, and was the beginning of a happy partnership.

Since that time, UAW #2209 has organized and held 1-2 events annually on behalf of Fort Wayne Trails and have donated almost $28,000 for trail development activities. In addition to the Monster Dash, the Local also holds an annual "Pedal Poker Run" in downtown Fort Wayne, utilizing trails and bike lanes. In addition, Local members helped to make possible two grants from General Motors, that funded a bike-safety program, weekly trail rides, and the annual Trail maps.

UAW members also volunteer and assist with Fort Wayne Trails events and programs, and one member now serves on the Fort Wayne Trails Board of Directors. UAW employees volunteered on a trail-safety video produced by FWT and the local CBS television station.

In the summer of 2021 FWT's administrative assistant was taken ill and has only been able to work half or less of her normal hours. A volunteer from the UAW has come in weekly to help input information into the FWT database, send Thank You letters and help out in other ways. This has saved the organization thousands of dollars that would otherwise have been spent on a temporary employee.

In recognition of their commitment to local trail development, the Greenways Foundation is proud to award the United Autoworkers Local #2209 as our Outstanding Corporation for 2022.