

UIS Green Project Letter of Intent- Step 1

To complete your Green Project Letter of Intent, download this word document and type all answers to the questions below. Save your completed word document as a new file.

Once completed and saved to your device, return to the Green Projects website at <http://www.uis.edu/greenprojects/get-involved/>

Click the hyperlink titled, ***“Submit your completed UIS Green Project LOI”***
This can be found under **Step 1** of the “Submit a Green Project Proposal” section.

You will be redirected to an external WebQ. Upload your completed application by the deadline which can be found in the **“Timeline”** section of the Green Projects website.

If you have any questions regarding the application or submission process, please contact us at greenprojects@uis.edu.

Project Name: Green Parking Spaces

Contact Information:

Project Team

<i>Name</i>	<i>UIS Student/Faculty/Staff & Department (or Office)</i>	<i>UIS Email</i>	<i>Phone #</i>
Ben Collette	UIS Student, Biology	bcoll5@uis.edu	217-502-9667

I thought of this idea recently and have not had time to discuss this with anybody else. I would be more than willing to work with other people, but for the meantime it's just me.

Organization/Affiliation: Currently, I am not affiliated with any organizations on campus.

Project Information:

Please provide a brief description of the project. What are the goals and the desired outcomes of the project?

UIS has almost 5,000 students and almost 350 employees and everyday I see hundreds (if not thousands) of these students commuting to school, some of them even commute several times per day. The amount of fossil fuels that are burned and wasted every day to transport students to and from school is astronomical. The problem, however, is that many students live far from campus, so walking or biking to class is not feasible. I believe there is a need to promote fuel-saving alternatives and reward students for doing so. This project would help to fulfill those needs by creating specialized parking spaces or "Green Spaces" for fuel efficient vehicles (such as hybrids and electric vehicles) and people that carpool to campus. These would be desirable parking spots, which would be the closer spaces to buildings.

Please describe why this project matters to you and how it relates to sustainability.

This project is important to me because it would reward students for reducing their fuel consumption of a daily basis. Last year the United States consumed 143.37 billion gallons of gasoline, which equates to 391.73333 million gallons per day (www.eia.gov). The burning of these fossil fuels also contributes to the increase of greenhouse gases. I believe that reducing the amount of fossil fuels consumed would have a positive impact on the conservation and sustainability of the planet.

Where will the project be located?

I would create several Green Spaces in a few of the major parking areas, such as parking lot B, C, E, and I. These are the primary parking lots utilized by commuters.

Please provide a brief summary of how students will be involved in or affected by the project:

All students would have the ability to be affected by the proposed Green Spaces. Anybody who currently drives a hybrid or electric vehicle would immediately be eligible to park in the spaces. Other students would have to opportunity to park in the spaces if they were to purchase a fuel-efficient vehicle. Many college students do not have the monetary ability to purchase a vehicle, so I propose to also allow people who carpool to park in the spaces. This would promote people to ride with another student to class and take one vehicle instead of two, thereby reducing fuel consumption.

Please provide a brief summary of the project timeline (Most approved projects are proposed in the Fall and implemented in the Spring)

If this project is approved, the parking spaces could be created as early as the beginning of the spring semester or sometime in the middle of the semester.

Please provide a brief itemized breakdown of the funds needed.

I do not think the creation of the Green Spaces would cost very much at all. The parking spaces already exist, so the only pieces required are a pole and a sign. If three Green Spaces are created per each of the four parking lots, only 12 posts and signs would be needed. I found one website that sells 7' posts for \$27.95 each and customizable signs for \$26.95 each (www.myparkingsign.com). Altogether the price of creating twelve Green Spaces would be \$658.80.

Do you have any suggestions for how we could measure the success of this project?

To measure the success of this project there could be a few students who check the availability of the parking spaces at random times throughout the week for several weeks.

Additional comments:

If anybody were to violate the Green Spaces by parking a vehicle other than a fuel-efficient or carpool vehicle in the parking spaces, I propose to charge them a fine, similar to the fine that is assessed to any vehicle that parks in a lot without the appropriate hangtag. Personally, I believe the money collected from these fines should go back to the Green Fee Committee to fund future Green Projects on campus.