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## **CIRTA's Ehren T. Bingaman to join private sector**

Six years after he became the first executive director of the Central Indiana Regional Transportation Authority (CIRTA), Ehren T. Bingaman is leaving for the private sector.

Bingaman will join HNTB as director of planning for HNTB Indiana.

"We are thrilled to have had Ehren's expertise at CIRTA for as long as we did," said board chair and Hamilton County Commissioner Christine Altman. "His diplomacy skills, combined with his urban planning knowledge and communications savvy, were invaluable to the board as we moved forward the discussion of improving and expanding mass transit in Central Indiana."

CIRTA is one of three lead partners in Indy Connect, a unique and comprehensive transportation plan and process that defines the future multimodal network of transportation alternatives for Central Indiana.

In addition, CIRTA's eight employees oversee the Commuter Connect regional rideshare program, which has increased active participation in carpools by 20% and grown vanpools by 200% in the two years since CIRTA began managing the program.

CIRTA also operates the Indy Express Bus between Carmel and downtown Indy and Fishers and downtown Indy, as well as the Plainfield Connector, which provides service between the Plainfield industrial parks and IndyGo's west side termination point.

Created by state statute in 2004, CIRTA is governed by a 17-member board of directors who represent 11 counties in the region, as well as municipalities, the Indianapolis Regional Transportation Council and the labor organization for IndyGo employees.

The CIRTA board plans to refine the executive director job description and begin a search to replace Bingaman.

"We're at a critical juncture in our mission to improve and expand mass transit in the region," said Altman. "We need a strong executive director to help us continue the work."

Bingaman added, "On a personal level, I will continue to champion the message that mass transit is critical to Central Indiana's future as a prosperous, competitive region."

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