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Measuring the Impact of Urban Amenities of Metropolitan Wages

Benjamin Burry Illinois Wesleyan University

Margaret Chapman, Faculty Advisor Illinois Wesleyan University

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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.