

**University of Colorado Student Government**

**Legislative Council**

October 1, 2014 81LCR07 - CU Boulder Safety App Resolution

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**A Resolution to Support the Development of a CU Boulder Safety App**

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**Resolution History**

Last Spring, a group of students approached CU Police Department regarding an idea for a smartphone safety app specific to CU Boulder. This safety app included features such as detailed alert systems, “friend-tracker” systems, BuffBus and RTD GPS systems, and other important safety information. It has been identified that there is a great need for improvement of safety resources for members of the CU Boulder community. In the past, members of the CU Boulder community have relied on Blue Lights around campus as a way to call for help from CUPD. Data[[1]](#footnote-1) has shown that the Blue Lights have been ineffective in promoting safety and financially inefficient to our campus. After further discussions, it was determined that a Safety App would be a new and effective way to promote safety around campus and within the Boulder community. This safety app reflects the rapid advancement of technology and is predicted to be more effective in promoting safety, as well as, cost effective than previous safety resources that CU Boulder has utilized. A safety app would also provide students with an easy outlet to access information about different safety resources on campus.



Resolution Summary

This resolution seeks to support the development of a CU Safety App. At minimum, this CU Safety App must consider the following features: a link to relevant information from the CU Police Department, a detailed CU Boulder alerts system, a GPS person tracker, transportation information relevant to BuffBus, RTD, and NightRide, and information regarding health services. Additionally, an online version of this safety app must exist in order to give access to students who do not own Smart Phones. This safety app must also be approved by Disability Services and be in accordance with all university policies. This Safety App is intended to modernize safety resources on campus and phase out the campus Blue Light system. It is strongly encouraged that funding previously invested in Blue Light system should be reinvested in the development and maintenance of this Safety App, as well as, increasing campus security.



**Whereas,** every member of the University of Colorado at Boulder has the right to feel safe on this campus and within the greater Boulder community;

**Whereas,** technology has advanced since the installation of the Blue Lights, smartphone apps would provide more accessibility to safety resources;

**Whereas,** according to the Daily Camera, in 2009 to 2010 on University Hill, 351 calls were made to police dispatchers via the emergency phones, all of which were false, leading to the removal of Blue Lights on University Hill;

**Whereas,** according to data, the Blue Light system costs $1,904 per call resulting in action by the police. In the past two years 235 calls were made on campus. 214 were prank calls or hang-ups. 21 calls resulted in actions by the police.

**Whereas,** the Blue Light system is deteriorating faster than it can be maintenanced. Currently there are 70 Blue Lights on campus. Of the 70, 8 are out of service and 20-30 are in need of dire repair. According to Sam Bogan, the Emergency Communications Coordinator of CU Boulder Department of Public Safety, the estimated cost to reestablish a reliable system is a minimum of $150,000.

**Whereas,** the proposed safety app “Keep Calm CU” would cost $25,000 to be developed for the iOS system, $25,000 to be developed for the Android system, $5,000 for distribution and promotion, $10,000 for the first 2-3 years for maintenance, $2,000 per year after that.

**THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the University of Colorado Student Government THAT:**

Section 1.

It is the view of Legislative Council that the development of a CU Safety App will be greatly influential towards improving safety on campus and in the greater Boulder community.

Section 2.

Upon passage of this resolution, invested parties will take action to find financial resources to promote the development and maintenance of a CU Safety App in a timely manner.

Section 3.

Upon passage of this resolution, CU Boulder will be encouraged to reinvest the money spent on The Blue Light system in the development and maintenance of a CU Safety App and the improvement of campus security.

Section 4.

Upon passage, this resolution will be distributed to the student body, Residence Hall Association, CU Police Department, CUSG Executive Branch, Board of Regents, CU Boulder administration, and the media.

Section 5.

This resolution shall take effect upon passage by the legislative council and upon either obtaining the signature of two Tri-Executives or the lapse of six days without action by the Tri-Executives.



Vote Count

10/09/14 Passed on 1st Reading Acclamation

10/16/14 Bundled Amendments to Bill Acclamation

10/16/14 Passed on 2nd Reading Acclamation

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Juedon Kebede Mitchell Fenton

President of Student Affairs Legislative Council President

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Lora Roberts Chelsea Canada

President of Internal Affairs President of External Affairs

1. Sam Bogan - Emergency Communications Coordinator, Department of Public Safety CU-Boulder [↑](#footnote-ref-1)