PRESS RELEASE
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PATRICK J. EARLY RECEIVES CHARLES L. WHISTLER AWARD

INDIANAPOLIS – On Tuesday, Mayor Greg Ballard and the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee presented Patrick J. “Pat” Early with the prestigious Charles L. Whistler Award.

The Whistler Award is regarded as the highest civic honor an Indianapolis resident can receive from the Mayor. In its 24th year, the award recognizes one or two individuals who have brought together the Indianapolis public and private sectors for civic improvement.

"This award was created many years – and many Mayors ago – to recognize people who have given selflessly of their time and talents to improve our city," said Mayor Ballard. "It’s a tradition that I am pleased to say remains strong today, at a time when we need true servant leadership more than ever."

“Among his many accomplishments, Pat Early was instrumental in making Victory Field, Conseco Fieldhouse and Lucas Oil Stadium realities for our city,” said Ballard. “He serves on the boards of Bishop Chatard High School and the Hundred Club of Indianapolis, and he devotes hours upon hours to making our city and our state greener and more sustainable for future generations through his advisory work with the Department of Natural Resources. These are all accomplishments – all sacrifices – that I am sure would have garnered praise from Mr. Whistler if he were with us today.”

A lawyer and community leader in the grand tradition, Charles L. Whistler gave his time and extraordinary abilities to the Indianapolis community without asking for power or position in return. At the time of his death in 1981, he was a senior partner at Baker & Daniels and chairman of both the Greater Indianapolis Progress Committee’s Urban Growth and Revitalization Task Force and the White River State Park Citizen’s Advisory Committee.

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