

COMT@ COLUMBUS

NEWSLETTER





MESSAGE FROM OUR *PRESIDENT*

HAPPY 2022, COMTO COLUMBUS!

In July of 2021, Pete Buttigieg, USDOT's newly appointed Secretary, addressed the national leadership of COMTO and in his comments he said, "COMTO was the voice of Equity in Transportation". These words resonated in our spirits and has motivated COMTO to take this fifty-year organization to new heights. One of the major decisions made in late 2021 was the hiring new national President and CEO, April Rae. President Rae promised to expand the COMTO organization and become the advocate of equity in Transportation. COMTO Columbus will be on the forefront of this expansion and raising our voices of equity even louder.

I am truly excited about what is in store for the COMTO Columbus chapter this year. Going into our third year of virtual reality,

we have had to adjust our mindsets and transition into a hybrid environment. With our new paradigm shift we have created both virtual and in-person programs and events that support the mission of COMTO going forward into the future.

This newsletter is just a glimpse into what COMTO Columbus is planning and has done over the last few months. We could not have accomplished any of it without the commitment and efforts of our invaluable corporate partners and chapter members.

If you would like to learn more about our organization and get involved with COMTO Columbus, please feel free to contact me at president@comtocolumbus.org. I look forward to working with each and everyone one of you in 2022.

Quincy J. Howard
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COMTO Columbus President
Contract/DBE Program Administrator



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COMTO NATIONAL UPDATE

In November 2021, COMTO announced Strategist and Association Leader **April Rai** as New President & CEO.

Rai Brings over 15 years of experience to the Transportation Organization as it builds upon its 50-year legacy as the Voice of Equity in the industry.

Rai will assume leadership from Dr. Gwendolyn Boyd, who has served as Interim President and CEO since June 2021.





2022 **GOLF FORE EDUCATION** SCHOLARSHIP OUTING

ANOTHER YEAR OF FUN WITH A SPECIAL PURPOSE!

The Annual Golf FORE Education Scholarship Outing is our #1 fundraiser to raise scholarship funds, bringing together local and national organizations and agencies.

COMTO Columbus will return to the Lakes Golf and Country Club for our 7th Annual Golf FORE Education Scholarship Outing.

Net proceeds from this fundraising event will provide much needed financial support to college and high schools students pursuing a degree in the transportation industry and STEM Programs.

EIGHT SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE!

We need your support to be a sponsor! COMTO is a 100% volunteer organization, all proceeds from COMTO Columbus partnership agreements are dedicated to covering the costs of events as well as raising funds for college scholarships for local students. All net proceeds will go to the COMTO Columbus Scholarship Fund, and your contribution is fully tax-deductible.

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE EVENT?

Contact Golf Fundraiser Co-Chairs Jared Love at jared.love@wsp.com or Scott Porter at scott.porter@aWecmep.com.



COMTO COLUMBUS'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS SUPPORTS OUR STRATEGIC GOAL OF ENSURING THE CONTINUING LEGACY OF MINORITIES IN TRANSPORTATION

SAVE THE DATE:

Monday, May 16, 2022

WHERE:

The Lakes Golf and Country Club
6740 Worthington Rd, Westerville,
OH 43082





**APPLY
TODAY**



ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- All applicants must be a U.S. citizen or legal resident
- Applicants can apply for more than one scholarship if the applicant meets the scholarship's specific requirements.
- All applicants must live in or have previously lived in the Central Ohio area.
- Scholarship recipients are expected to be available to participate in an awards ceremony on June 1, 2022.

SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE

Application deadline April 8, 2022

2022 SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

"Mobilizing Equity in the Transportation Industry"



**PURCHASE
TICKETS TODAY!**



**Wednesday,
June 1st 2022**



11:00am to 1:30pm



**Grand Event Center
820 Goodale Blvd.
Columbus, OH 43212**



Keynote Speaker

April Rai

*President & CEO
COMTO National*



Honoree

Ayanna Howard, Ph.D.

*Dean of Engineering
The Ohio State Uni.*



Honoree

Kenneth N. Wilson

*County Administrator
Franklin County*



Master of Ceremony

Andrew Kinsey

*Anchor
WBNS-10TV News*



CREATING THE COMTO COLUMBUS *STUDENT CHAPTER*

ANOTHER YEAR OF FUN WITH A SPECIAL PURPOSE!

COMTO proposes to work with state and private universities and colleges to “bridge the gap” between the academic and professional environments. The goal of a COMTO Student Chapter is to build both the technical and professional qualities that students need to pursue a career in the transportation industry but are not necessarily a part of the academic classroom.

Student members represent the next generation of forward-thinking professionals ready to take on the challenges and rewards available in a transportation-related field.

Building a professional network. COMTO offers students the opportunity to meet a variety of people in the transportation industry, from recruiters and executives to graduates

and other undergraduates. COMTO Student Chapters also provide an opportunity for deeper connections to local professionals in a transportation-related field.

Meeting other students with similar interests outside the classroom. This helps in **finding out about job opportunities**, including those that are not widely advertised. Sharing with peers information about the transportation industry, and individual companies that is not available online, including current trends and challenges.

Enhancing the visibility to the array of scholarship opportunities. Many students are searching for scholarships to help fund an expensive education. COMTO offers its in-depth familiarity with the variety of scholarships



available on the local, state, and federal levels.

Applying for mentoring and internship programs. COMTO will work to provide students with access to local professionals. COMTO is also committed to growing its student members as leaders through volunteer opportunities at the local, regional, and national levels.

Collaborating with other students who share an interest in the transportation industry on project assignments and competing with other student chapters. Collaboration is not a one-way street; it is about offering help as well as taking it. COMTO will work to provide a cooperative “win-win” environment for its student members.

Hosting local professionals, outreach events,

and competition teams throughout the year to get students further involved through hands-on activities. COMTO offers an opportunity for student members to interact with seasoned professionals and apply what they learn in the classroom into developing innovative solutions to real-world transportation-related issues.

GET INVOLVED WITH COMTO COLUMBUS

The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) is the leading national advocate for employment diversity, inclusion and contracting opportunities in the multi-modal, multi-billion-dollar transportation industry.

Our mission is to **eliminate barriers for minority individuals, veterans, people with disabilities and certified MWDBE businesses** through leadership training, professional development, scholarship and internship funding, political advocacy, partnership building and networking opportunities. Membership in COMTO conveys numerous benefits to members in all categories:

Get **access to fellow professionals** in the transportation industry for a sense of community and to share knowledge.

Participate in COMTO's National Meeting and Training Conference and take advantage of the many opportunities for networking and learning offered by a schedule filled with great sessions, workshops, and events.

Attend an event hosted by COMTO Columbus chapter. Events are often educational and allow members from the local community to meet and share knowledge.



If you have any questions about membership in COMTO or the benefits of membership, email us at info@comtocolumbus.org or call (614) 427-3083.

BECOME A COMTO PARTNER

Become a COMTO Columbus Chapter Sponsor today!

Coporate members are able to benefit from the programs and events sponsored by COMTO Columbus, including quarterly networking breakfasts, annual Scholarship Awards Luncheon, annual Company-Named scholarships, the annual Golf FORE Education Outing, and internship partnerships.

Your company receives complimentary and/or reduced-cost access to programs and networking events with transportation agency partners locally and nationally. COMTO Columbus partnership agreements are dedicated to (1) covering the costs of events, and (2) raising funds for college scholarships for Central Ohio students, which over the past seven years has exceeded \$87,000.

Additional information on the membership levels and benefits can be found on our website at www.comtocolumbus.org/partners.



THANK YOU 2022 SPONSORS

COPORATE PARTNERS

Central Ohio Transit Authority

Columbus Metropolitan
Housing Authority

Franklin County Engineer's Office

New Flyer of America, Inc.

Ohio Department of Transportation

Veregy Inc.

WSP Global, Inc.

FRIENDS OF COMTO COLUMBUS

2LMN Inc.

Advanced Engineering Consultants

Columbus Regional Airport
Authority

DHDC Engineering Consulting
Services, Inc.

Ebony Construction Company, Inc.

Franklin County Board of
Commissioners - Office of Diversity,
Equity, and Inclusion

Mid-Ohio Regional Planning
Commission (MORPC)

MS Consultants

S&ME, Inc.

Stone Environmental Engineering

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