



For Immediate Release
Wednesday, January 17, 2024

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The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) to Honor 10 Outstanding Women Leading and Advancing America's Transportation Industry at the 13th Annual Celebrating Women Who Move the Nation (CWWMN) Awards Breakfast

Arlington, VA—The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) has announced the 10 women who will be honored this year for their outstanding leadership and exemplary dedication to the transportation industry. The 13th Annual Celebrating Women Who Move the Nation (CWWMN) Awards Breakfast will be held on April 10, 2024, from 8:00 – 10:00 am at the Smithsonian Art Museum and National Portrait Gallery. This highly anticipated event uplifts women across modes and sectors who have positively contributed to the transportation industry. Attended by a sold-out audience of National leaders since its inception, the CWWMN Awards breakfast has become an annual highlight for the transportation industry. Tickets and sponsorship opportunities can be purchased at <https://members.comtonational.org/page/CWWMN2024>.

In observance of Women's History Month, to date, COMTO has inducted 142 women into its Celebrating Women Who Move the Nation signature class of leaders in the transportation industry. The honorees encompass a diverse spectrum of multi-modal transportation, spanning both the public and private sectors. These women embody excellence – despite their various areas of influence and affiliations, the significance of their contributions to advance and fortify our nation's infrastructure is unparalleled.

2024 COMTO Women Who Move the Nation Honorees

- **Monica Backmon**, CEO, Northern Virginia Transportation Authority
- **Donna Berry**, Deputy Director of Project Delivery and Chief Engineer, California Department of Transportation (CDOT)
- **Veronica Davis**, Director, Transportation and Drainage Operations, City of Houston Public Works
- **Dr. Shelley Francis**, Co-Founder, Managing Partner, EVNoire
- **Gloria Frank**, Chief of Police, Port Authority New York, New Jersey

- **Carmencita Mitchell**, Chair, Palm Tran Public Transportation Service Board, Palm Beach State College Professor
- **Rear Admiral, Ann C. Phillips**, Administrator, U.S. Maritime Administration
- **Yovannie Rodriguez**, Executive Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, Greater Orlando Aviation Authority
- **Charlotte Shaw**, Executive Director/CEO, MAX Transit, Birmingham Jefferson County Transit Authority
- **Janice R. Thomas**, Deputy Executive Director, External Affairs, METRA

“We are thrilled to commemorate and acknowledge this year’s awardees for their diligent and unwavering dedication to the multi-modal transportation industry. These women bring a diverse set of skills and perspectives to the industry that helps to foster innovation, embrace inclusivity, and navigate the ever-changing landscape of our world with remarkable resilience and adaptability,” said Tanya Adams, Chair, Board of Directors, COMTO and Senior Vice President, Inclusion and Diversity, WSP USA.

“Uplifting women in leadership roles propels the wheels of progress in the transportation industry,” said April Rai, President & CEO COMTO. “Recognizing their contributions is an intentional act of appreciation, inspiring the next generation of transportation leaders to emulate their strength, resilience, and perseverance. It is a privilege to honor these 10 women who embody these qualities and so much more.”

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About the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials

The Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO), founded in 1971, is a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing underrepresented groups in the transportation industry. With 39 chapters in the U.S. and Canada, COMTO's mission is to ensure opportunities and maximum participation in transportation for minorities, veterans, people with disabilities, and certified minority, women, or disadvantaged-owned businesses through leadership training, professional development, scholarship and internship funding, advocacy, partnership building and networking opportunities. For more information, please visit www.comto.org.