



Advancing Women in Transportation
Greater New York Chapter



December 2015

Issue: 10

What's Happening at WTS-GNY

Congratulations and welcome to the newly elected 2016-2017 Board of Directors!

President: Polina Knaster, HDR
 Vice President, NY: Sandra Forte, VHB
 Vice President, NJ: Colleen Connelly, Malick & Scherer
 Treasurer: Elizabeth Hynes, Parsons
 Secretary: Donna Tafro, MTA

Directors-at-large:
 Keri Cibelli, AKRF
 Lisa DiTaranti, VHB
 Ella McLeod, MTA NYCT
 Portia Henry, PANYNJ
 Aimee Jefferson, NJTPA
 Ani Toncheva, Wilson Ihrig

Happy holidays and best wishes for a happy healthy and prosperous 2016 from WTS-GNY

Save the dates for these upcoming events!

Tuesday, December 8, [Holiday Party!!](#) [Need we say more?](#) Join friends and colleagues for a cheer-filled holiday celebration! Morton's Grille, 233 Park Avenue South (enter on 19th St.) [Register here.](#)

Wednesday, January 20, [Winter Solstice.](#) Taste Venue in Newark, NJ, 47 Edison Place.

Thursday, January 28, 2016. [Annual meeting and chapter awards ceremony.](#) Club 101, Park Avenue at 40th Street. Hors d'oeuvres, buffet

**2015-2016
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dinner and cash bar. [Click here to register.](#)

Check our website

www.wtsinterational.org/greaternewyork

for updates on events, and watch your email inbox for invites!

Call for Volunteers - 2017 WTS International Conference

WTS-GNY is delighted to announce that the Greater NY Chapter will host the 2017 International Conference. WTS members and industry colleagues will gather at the Brooklyn Marriott to network and to listen to industry experts and trendsetters.

We are seeking volunteers to lead and participate on the committees listed below.

- **Technical tours** sets up three to four tours showcasing New York and New Jersey transport facilities. Once the list is decided, the committee chair spearheads the arrangements for the tours with facility owners and handles the logistics.
- **Technical sessions** develops four program tracks, each of which reflects the conference theme. The committee suggests moderators and panelists for ultimate approval by WTS International. Once approved, the committee invites speakers; confirms attendance; and assists the moderators in creating agendas and talking points.
- **Poster session** distributes an invitation for session abstracts. The committee communicates specs for the poster display and coordinates with the WTS International event staff and poster exhibitors.
- **Silent Auction** solicits auction items from all WTS chapters and coordinates the receipt and display of the items, and runs the auction during the conference, including the collection of payments and distribution of items at the appropriate time.
- **Hospitality** staffs the various registration, speaker, reservation desks at the conference.
- **Blue Ribbon** compiles the list for WTS International approval and once approved; invites members; and assists with the blue ribbon reception as necessary.
- **Fundraising** coordinates fundraising targets with WTS International; develops the levels of sponsorship; develops the ask; and follows up with targets to secure the fundraising goals.

We are hosting an information session on Wednesday, December 16th at 6:00PM in Lower Manhattan to review committee roles/responsibilities and answer any questions you may have.

JACOBS



RUBY



CUBIC
Transportation Systems

If you are interested in attending the session or helping to organize the 2017 conference, please contact Julia Kerson at jkerson@gmail.com.

INDUSTRY NEWS

Veronique "Ronnie" Hakim to become MTA New York City Transit President on December 28, 2015!



Exerpt from the MTA press release:

On Tuesday November 17, MTA Chairman and CEO Thomas F. Prendergast announced the appointment of Veronique "Ronnie" Hakim as the eighth permanent president of the agency, which moves more than eight million daily customers on subways, buses, Staten Island Railway and paratransit service.

Hakim is a career transportation professional who returns to the MTA after an earlier 23-year career at the agency. For the past year and a half she has served as the executive director of NJ Transit. She previously served four years as executive director of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority.

"Our transit network is the lifeblood of the entire region, and I am glad to welcome [Hakim] back to New York City Transit and to entrust her with the responsibility of ensuring safe and reliable service even as ridership grows every month," Prendergast said.

In her time at the MTA, Hakim served as special counsel for New York City Transit as well as executive vice president and general counsel at MTA Capital Construction, where she provided senior management with policy and legal advice on megaprojects such as the Second Avenue Subway, East Side Access and the 7 train extension to Hudson Yards. She holds a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Rochester and a juris doctorate degree from the Pace University School of Law.

"Having spent more than two decades of my life at the MTA, I am deeply honored to have the opportunity to lead New York City Transit at a time when surging ridership is affecting every element of its operations,"

EMERALD



AKRF

ARUP

ch2m

Dewberry

PARSONS

Hakim said. "Subway and bus customers have high expectations for the network they rely on every day, and I look forward to meeting their expectations of safety, reliability and quality at New York City Transit."

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

TransitCenter seeks a **Program Analyst** to join its **New York City office**. **DEADLINE EXTENDED TO FRIDAY DECEMBER 11!**

The successful candidate will be an integral member of a unique, dynamic, and growing organization and contribute research; develop and implement programs and projects related to improving transportation in cities; administer grants; and build organizational capacity.

Responsibilities

As part of a team, the program analyst will research issues, develop opportunities, and execute projects that promote sustainable urban mobility, with oversight from senior staff. Some projects may be executed through the use of program consultants with specialized subject matter expertise, who the program analyst must be qualified to oversee. A sample of work we have previously commissioned can be reviewed at www.transitcenter.org/ourwork.

The program analyst will also share responsibility for communicating TransitCenter's initiatives through articles, blog posts, and social media.

TransitCenter is a small but growing organization, so the program analyst may also be expected to play a hands-on role in operations and shoulder a portion of the organization's administrative and clerical duties as assigned.

The position is based in New York City. The salary range is \$55,000-\$70k commensurate with experience, with a competitive benefits package.

[for more information and to apply click here.](#)

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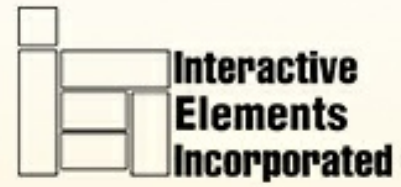
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Communications committee
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