



*Advancing Women in Transportation*  
Greater New York Chapter

September 2018

**September 2018**

**2018 Learn from a Leader: Madeleine Ehrlich McDonnell**

September 12th, 2018 | 05:30 PM - 07:30 PM

Madeleine Ehrlich McDonnell is the Director of Special Projects for the Office of the COO at the New York City Department of Transportation (NYCDOT). The COO's office oversees the agency's operating divisions which are responsible for the City's bridges, roads and highways, sidewalks and pedestrian ramps, street lights and signals, street safety projects, the Staten Island Ferry, and NYCDOT's fleet of vehicles and equipment.

Register [here!](#)

**Young Professional Bike Tour 2018- East Harlem & Randall's Island Park**

September 17th, 2018 | 05:00 PM - 07:00 PM

Please join us for our second annual Autumn Bike Tour hosted by WTS-GNY Young Professionals Committee, APA-NY, and NYC DOT Bicycle Program. This year NYC DOT Bicycle staff will guide a bike tour exploring new and innovative infrastructure from East Harlem to and around Randall's Island Park! We encourage you to bring a friend who may not usually ride bikes on NYC streets. Citi Bike/Motivate will provide promotional bikes to users interested in trying Citi Bike.

Register [here!](#)

**Member Professional Development Workshop**

September 27th, 2018 | 05:30 PM - 07:30 PM

We invite WTS GNY members to join us for this Professional Development event focused on Team Collaboration. Executive Coach Carla Tillery will lead this



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2017 - 2018  
CORPORATE  
PARTNERS

Diamond



AECOM

ARUP



GPI

HDR

HNTB

session focused on developing your skills to work effectively in a team environment. The session will engage participants to be creative in finding solutions during changes within the work environment.

Register [here!](#)

## October 2018

### WTS-GNY 2018 Annual Gala at Battery Gardens

October 10th, 2018, 5:30PM - 8:30PM

Woman of the Year: **Catherine Rinaldi**, President, MTA Metro-North Railroad.

Register [here!](#)

### TransportationCamp NYC 2018 at NYU Landon School of Engineering

October 13th, 2018, 9:00AM - 5:00PM

For more information about the conference and registration, visit [here](#).

Please check [our website](#) for event updates.

## Monthly Discussion Topic: Transit Statistics

NYC Mobility Report 2018 by the DOT says that the demand on the city's transportation system remains the overall trend since 2019. While the number of residents, jobs and visitors have continued to increase, subway ridership plateaued in 2014 and bus ridership has fallen each year. At the same time cycling trips have shown an increase of 84% from 2010. One of the reasons is the increase in the usage of app-based for-hire services such as Uber and Lyft. What might be some other reasons behind this? And what do you think it means for the immediate future for the city? We look forward to hearing from you! #NYCtransit #Mobility 2018

Each month in the Chapter News, we will introduce a discussion topic. If you have an idea for an October topic, please let us know. We want to hear from you!!

Follow us:

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[LinkedIn Page](#) and [Discussion Group](#)

We're not on your favorite platform yet?  
We're open to suggestions!!

## Membership Appreciation Event

**JACOBS**

**PARSONS**

**STV** 100 Years

**vhb**

**WSP**

Ruby



**AKRF**

**CUBIC**  
Transportation Systems

**Stantec**

Emerald



**LTK**  
LTK Engineering Services

**Sam  
Schwartz  
Consulting,  
LLC**

Sapphire



On Monday, August 20, 2018, the Greater New York Chapter recognized the continued support, enormous contribution, and immense dedication of its members by hosting their annual Membership Appreciation Event. The weather held out so all the attendees could enjoy a delightful evening atop Monarch Rooftop Bar & Lounge in Midtown Manhattan. Guests were treated to a spectacular view of one of New York City's most iconic structures, the Empire State Building, as they mingled with friends and made new connections over summery drinks and delicious hors d'oeuvres.

Midway through the evening, members were welcomed with inspiring words from Alexa Gangemi, President of the Greater New York Chapter. Raffle prizes, including WTS gear, an at-home relaxation package, and bourbon glasses were then auctioned off to deserving participants. New members of the organization were recognized and welcomed with a letter and honorary WTS pin. The entire night was a huge success and the WTS Membership Committee wants to wholeheartedly thank all members of the Greater New York for their hard work this past year. We would like to thank all the wonderful volunteers who helped make this event a success! The Committee looks forward to many more accomplishments in the upcoming year and celebrating again next summer.



[Click here](#) to see full photo album.



W/M/S/DBE



On August 22<sup>nd</sup>, WTS Greater New York Chapter, the New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII), and the North Jersey Transportation Planning Authority (NJTPA) invited participants to join in the exploration of the future of transportation with welcoming remarks from NJ Commissioner of Transportation Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, as well as panel discussions and interactive showcases.

The event was held at the state-of-the-art Agile Lab at NJIT, an innovation in of itself. The New Jersey Innovation Institute (NJII) is an NJIT corporation focused on helping private enterprise discover what's possible. Whether it's working to solve the grand challenges shared across an entire sector or helping a single company find an innovative way to pursue a new product or marketing opportunity, NJII brings world-class intellectual and technological resources to bear. The organization is unique in its role as a not-for-profit corporation in pursuit of economic development and its agility to transform intellectual capital into commercial success.

After about a half hour of networking with a capacity crowd of over 140 attendees, including the NJDOT Commissioner Diane Gutierrez-Scaccetti, Former NJDOT Commissioner Steve Dilts, several other public and private sector transportation leaders, as well as numerous innovators, it was time for the official welcome.

Zenobia Fields, WTS-GNY NJ Vice President, introduced the first speaker, Dr. Don Sebastian, CEO and President of NJII and Vice President of Technology and Business Development at New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT), emphasizing that the audience was there to hear about how these emerging technologies - such as virtual reality, real-time operations data, smart kiosks, drones, Mobility as a Service (MaaS), and expanded ride hailing services- can be leveraged for a more efficient transportation delivery system as well as new partnerships that can be fostered. Dr. Sebastian spoke about the evolution of transportation and technology occurring in tandem, starting with the shaping of canals and greenways and ending with disruptive events such as ride hailing and social mobility.

The Commissioner recast Dr. Sebastian's description of technology as disruptive, saying she preferred to think of it as transformative. She continued by asserting that while we think about how automation and our roadways can be scary, it is always better to know you do not have to tackle a fear alone, but that you can collaborate. She also talked about matching up collaboration and innovation to allow for simple improvements in our day-to-day work program tasks. The Commissioner again referenced Dr. Sebastian's talk about aligning innovation with transportation delivery, giving examples of truck platooning (which comprises a number of trucks equipped with state-of-the-art driving support systems in which one closely follows the next. Together, this forms a platoon with the trucks driven by smart technology, and mutual communication.) and traffic signal optimization. And she remarked on the use of technology to manage congestion, referencing the 495 effort (RestoreNJ495.com) with the use of drones to monitor traffic conditions.

The Commissioner concluded by saying that we need to consider ideas big and small and share our thoughts for the best solutions. This includes interoperability with data and software platforms, data exchange methods, investment, and partnerships for the future.

Through panel discussions moderated by co-hosts Thomas Motyka of NJII and Ms. Fields, participants also heard from experts of various disciplines about how the travel network will adapt to a world that includes mobility as a service, expanded ride hailing services, smart kiosks, adaptive traffic signals, drones and advanced traveler information. Expert panelists included representatives from Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. (GPI); Miovision Technologies Inc.; Transportation Operations Coordinating Committee (TRANSCOM); Intersection; NJII; ICF International, Inc.; EZ Ride Transportation Management Association (TMA) and Pixida USA Inc. For those who would like to hear more, you can find the presentation on the [www.njtpa.org](http://www.njtpa.org) and [www.njii.com](http://www.njii.com) websites.





Event volunteers - Janet Sharkey, Zenobia Fields, Leticia Caviness, Yasmine Pessar, and Liz Archer

[Click here](#) for video clip. [Click here](#) for photos.

## WTS GNY Annual Gala

This year's WTS-GNY Annual Gala will be held on Wednesday, October 10, at Battery Gardens Restaurant in New York City where we will honor Catherine Rinaldi, president of the MTA Metro-North Railroad, as the 2018 Woman of the Year. More than 300 industry leaders from agencies and transportation corporations throughout the metropolitan area will be represented at this event. In addition to honoring Ms. Rinaldi, WTS-GNY will present the 2018 Scholarship awards to exceptional students who demonstrate potential to excel in the transportation field.

The Special Events Committee is currently seeking donations for the Gala raffle to raise funds for WTS scholarships. We have created a wish list of items, which can be accessed online via our [Amazon Wish List](#). Monetary contributions also are welcome and can be used by the Special Events Committee to purchase items for the raffle, crediting you with the donation. Alternatively, monetary donations can go directly to the WTS Foundation Scholarship Fund. In 2016, we raised a record \$6,000. In 2017, we saw a

slight decrease, but with your help we can achieve another record-breaking year!

Aside from acknowledging these extraordinary students and providing them with educational opportunities, donors who purchase wish-list items or offer monetary donations to buy pieces for the raffle are recognized throughout the evening via various media, including the Gala Journal/Program, Curtain Warmer presentation and other raffle-related graphics.

Some of the scholarships awarded by the Greater New York Chapter include: the TransitCenter Transit Policy Innovator Graduate Scholarship, Leonard Braun Memorial Graduate Scholarship, President's Legacy Scholarship for Graduate Studies, Susan Miszkowicz Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship, Molitoris Undergraduate Leadership Award, Trade School and Community College Scholarship, Transportation YOU High School Scholarship, and the Susan L. Kupferman Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship.

If you would like more information about making a donation to the WTS Foundation or otherwise supporting the Greater New York Chapter, please [Click Here](#).

To register for this event [Click Here](#).

## Member in the News

Alyssa Pichardo is leaving the freelance life to join Copenhagenize Design Company in September as their lead data analyst and supporting bicycle planning projects in North America from the Montreal office. She is looking forward to #BicycleUrbanism in the U.S. and Canada. Congratulations Alyssa on your new role!

## WTS-GNY Volunteers Wanted and Appreciated!

**WTS-GNY** is looking for a volunteer to develop marketing materials for the chapter.

Call for **WTS-GNY Special Events Committee** Volunteers! The Special Events Committee organizes the chapter's Annual Gala and is looking to bring on additional volunteers to help with: music selection/audio visual, silent auction/raffle sub-committee, mailing lists and administrative tasks like meeting minutes, etc. Please email Desiree Gazzo at [dgazzo2018@gmail.com](mailto:dgazzo2018@gmail.com). We look forward to working with you on this special WTS event!

**New Jersey Programs Committee** is looking for active members to assist with planning and execution of events.

The **Communications Committee** is looking for volunteers to write content for social media sites, as well as design new templates for chapter emails and our website. We also are eager for help in brainstorming new ideas for reaching out to our membership. We're especially interested in adding some marketing experts to our team!

Don't see anything of interest above, but want to help? Email our volunteer champion, [Elizabeth Hynes](#), to find a committee that's right for you!

## Transportation Job Opportunities

WTS-GNY would like to be a resource for women seeking positions in transportation and firms looking for candidates. Visit our [Job Opportunities](#) page for latest updates!

If your firm would like to post a position, fill out our [job form](#). We will share your job opportunity on our LinkedIn Page and in our next Chapter News as well as our website.

### July Opportunities (more on the [WTS-GNY Jobs Page](#))

**Employer** LTK Engineering Services  
**Job Title** Electrical Engineer  
**How to Apply** [Website](#)  
**Deadline** 12/01/2019

**Employer** LTK Engineering Services  
**Job Title** Staff Consultant/Engineer  
**How to Apply** [Website](#)  
**Deadline** 12/01/2019

**Employer** NJ Transit  
**Job Title** Manager, Superstorm Sandy Recovery Projects  
**How to Apply** [Website](#)  
**Deadline**

**Employer** Port Authority of New York and New Jersey  
**Job Title** Project Manager, JFK  
**How to Apply** [Website](#)  
**Deadline**

### *Have exciting content for the September issue?*

Article pitches, women in transportation news, member spotlights, discussion topic ideas: [Email us](#) by 9/21/2018.

***Did your email address change?***

If your email or mailing address has changed, log into the [WTS website](#) and update your information in the "My Account" page.

Communications committee  
WTS-GNY