



Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
> Atlanta

APRIL 2023



## A Message from our Diamond Sponsor

Atkins is one of the world's leading professional services and project management organizations, dedicated to engineering a better future for our planet and its people. We create sustainable solutions that connect people, data and technology to design, deliver and operate the most complex projects across the world.

View full message [here](#).

WTS ATLANTA  
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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# ENGINEERING A BETTER FUTURE

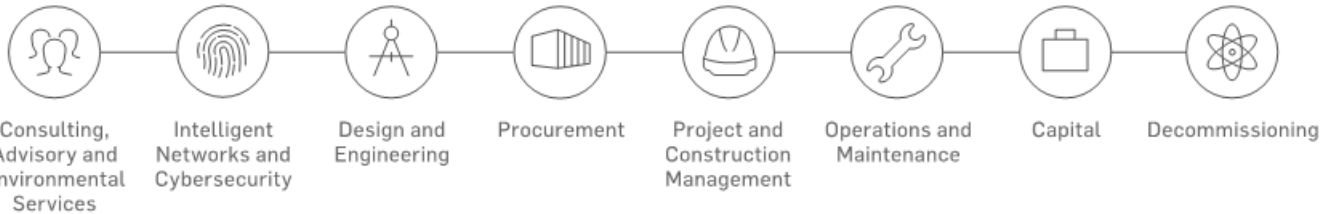
## FOR OUR PLANET AND ITS PEOPLE

We're one of the world's leading professional services and project management organizations, dedicated to engineering a better future for our planet and its people. We create sustainable solutions that connect people, data and technology to design, deliver and operate the most complex projects across the world.

As residents, commuters and consumers ourselves, we have a vested interest in leveraging our capabilities to meet the demands of the future for our Georgia clients by connecting people, data and technology.

Our services can be offered individually or as a seamless, integrated partner, on small projects, long-term frameworks, and through collaborative roles on major projects.

We deploy global capabilities locally to our clients and deliver unique end-to-end services across the whole lifecycle of an asset, including:



## SERVING THE ATLANTA REGION SINCE 1973

ATLANTA TRANSIT LINK ENTERPRISE ASSET MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	ATLANTA DOT RENEW ATLANTA PROGRAM	MAJOR MOBILITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM – EASTSIDE EXPRESS LANES	VARIOUS GDOT ON-CALL PROGRAMS	SOUTHEAST REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITY (SRTA) GENERAL ENGINEERING CONSULTANT (GEC)
COBB COUNTY SPECIAL PURPOSE LOCAL OPTION SALES TAX (SPLOST) PROGRAM MANAGEMENT	CANTON WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION	SOUTHERN COMPANY	GWINNET COUNTY TRANSIT ON-CALL	CID PROGRAMS – NORTH FULTON/ PERIMETER/ TOWN CENTER



**Save the Date**  
**2023 WTS Annual Conference, May 10-12th**  
**Pre Conference events: May 9th**



**SAVE THE DATE**

**WTS** Advancing women  
Advancing transportation

**Registration for the annual conference is still OPEN  
and will also be available on site!**

[Register Here](#)

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

If you would like to sign up to volunteer on or before the day of the event,  
please sign up [here](#).

For more information, visit: <https://wtsannualconference.org/>

# Welcome

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## NEW MEMBERS

On April 13th, the Membership committee hosted a webinar to welcome our Chapter's newest members. Iris Ortiz, VP of Membership, led the webinar and provided information about upcoming events and volunteering opportunities. The Membership committee will continue to host these webinars periodically throughout the year. Contact Iris ([iortizehntb.com](mailto:iortizehntb.com)) for more information about future new member webinars or any membership questions.

Join us for our next  
quarterly new members  
webinar!



by Beth Ann Schwartz and Ligia Florim

**T**

he ACEC Georgia chapter hosted its annual Introduce a Girl to Engineering event on April 15th. WTS Atlanta Chapter was well represented at the event. Approximately 300 girls along with 250 parents, volunteers, and booth sponsors attended the event. The participants spent the day visiting each engineering booth and learning about math and science while participating in a fun engineering related activity.



*Photo (above): WTS booth at Introduce a Girl to Engineering Day event*

*Photo (top): WTS Members, Alice O'Brien and Ligia Florim, and winners of the WTS Jelly Beans Challenge*

WTS Atlanta participated with a booth activity that challenged the participants to build the tallest, self-standing structure, using toothpicks and jellybeans within a time limit. To celebrate the beginning of summer, each girl was given a WTS mini beach ball as a souvenir. After roaming through the booths, the girls participated in a team trivia bowl, which one of our WTS Atlanta Chapter member's daughter's team won. Congratulations to Team Super Star! Congratulations also to members of Girl Scout Troop 383 for winning the WTS building with Jelly Beans Challenge! They won a special gift package donated by Parsons. Thank you to all the volunteers, parents, and participants. It was a fun day for all!



**WTS Atlanta** Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
Atlanta

**MISSION**

WTS Atlanta seeks to close the workforce gap in the Atlanta regional transportation industry by promoting lifelong careers in transportation for women. By attracting, retaining and advancing women in the industry, WTS Atlanta will be the recognized network of transportation subject matter experts.



Talia

BOOTH 123





TRANSYSTEMS  
WWW.TRANSYSTEMS.COM

Aylin

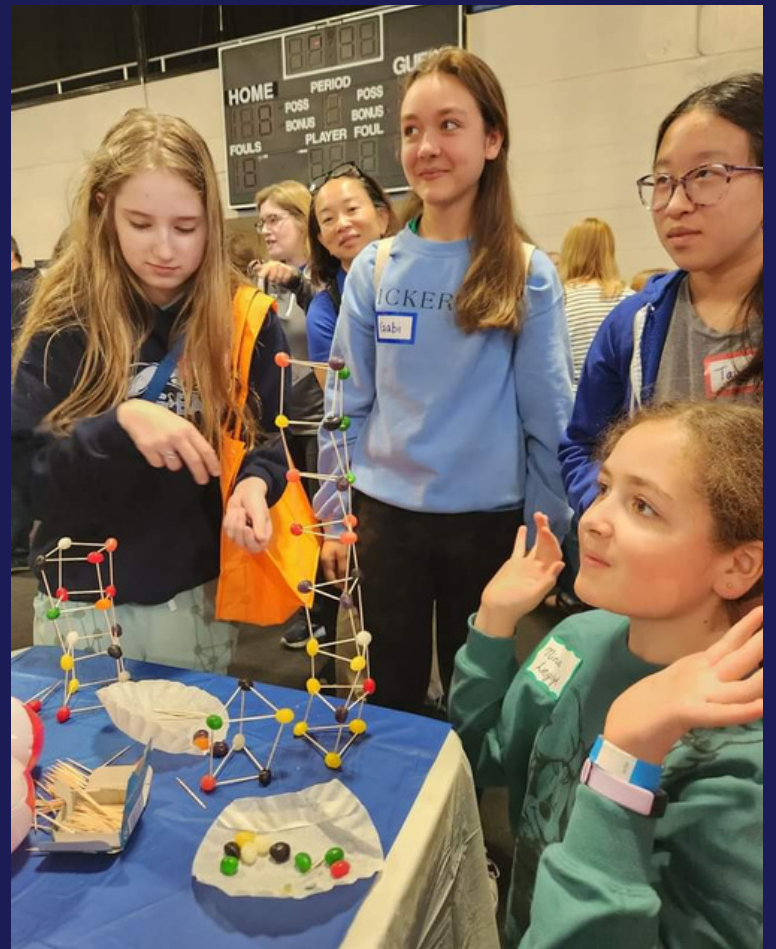


Photo (above right): Keynote speaker, Jennifer Aulick

Photo (top and right): Participants at WTS booth





Photos: WTS members, Audra Rojek, Dania Aponte, Alice O'Brien, Emerald Smith, Sherl White, Iris Ortiz, Deborah Mobulah, and Ligia Florim with participants

# EMERGING LEADERS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

by Heather Collins

**W**

hether you are a recent graduate trying to map their way to financial health or a seasoned professional looking for tips on the best way to grow their wealth, Richard Slaton, CCIM provided advice for all during the April 20th WTS Atlanta Emerging Leaders Series. During this virtual event, titled “How to Grow Your Finances As You Grow Your Career,” Slaton, Executive Director at JP Morgan Chase Commercial Bank, presented seven steps that he said serve as a roadmap to managing your finances. steps that he said serve as a roadmap to managing your finances.

“Follow these steps, in this order, and you will be successful,” he said. Slaton has spent most of his career working with real estate and development and his current work focuses on providing financial solutions for affordable housing developers. Though Slaton did caution that immediate progress won’t always be evident. “It’s a marathon, not a sprint. It requires some discipline and a lot of work.”

He encouraged the nearly 30 WTS Atlanta members who joined the event to regularly review the steps he highlighted and track their progress. While Slaton personally reviews his finances quarterly, he recommends reviewing them twice per year at a minimum.



Photo (above): Richard S. Slaton, CCIM

WTS Atlanta members attended the event and peppered Slaton with questions after the presentation, asking about selecting financial advisors, growing your income, and property investment. He offered actionable advice on all items and members were excited to reach out to him for further advice at the end of the session.

The WTS Emerging Leaders series is a series of professional development webinars designed to equip young professionals with the necessary tools and teach them skills that will help them thrive in their personal lives and professional careers. The webinars cover an array of topics including financial literacy, work-life balance, mental health and wellness, leadership, emotional intelligence, and many more. Though the webinars are aimed at young professionals, the information provided is intended to inform professionals at all career levels.

Please reserve the date to join WTS Atlanta at the next Emerging Leaders event on July 20, 2023. More details about the event will be communicated as we approach the date.

## Speaker Bio

Richard S. Slaton is Executive Director within JP Morgan Chase Commercial Bank in Community Development Banking where he focuses on providing financial solutions for affordable housing developers. Prior to JP Morgan Chase, he was Senior Vice President within Bank of America Merrill Lynch's Global Commercial Banking Group, Community Development Bank. Prior to Bank of America, he was Director of Real Estate with MARTA, a part of the Office of Transit Oriented Development and Real Estate. The Office oversees prospective developments of transit oriented development projects.

From 2004 to 2015, Mr. Slaton worked as Real Estate Investment Manager within the Real Estate Services Group at U.S. Trust, Bank of America Private Bank. In his role, Mr. Slaton provided real estate asset management, investment management and advisory services to U.S. Trust, Bank of America clients.

Prior to US Trust, he worked as a Real Estate Development Manager with The Integral Group, LLC where he focused on the development of affordable housing and mixed-use projects. During Mr. Slaton's career he also worked at Wachovia Bank as Real Estate Lender and Fulton County Government as a Real Estate Manager.

Mr. Slaton graduated from Morehouse College with a BA in Finance and minors in Real Estate and Accounting. He holds a MBA in Finance from Kennesaw State University. He is a Certified Commercial Investment Member (CCIM) and a licensed real estate broker in the state of Georgia. Mr. Slaton is on the business school faculty at Morehouse College where he lectures on topics related to Corporate Finance, Investment Finance and Real Estate Finance.



# GEORGIA LEGISLATIVE WRAP UP EVENT

by Deborah Mobulah

**O**n Thursday April 27th, WTS Atlanta held a Georgia Legislative wrap up hosted by Impact Public Affairs team, comprised of Director of State and Local Government Relations, Natalie Knight and Director of Policy and Legislation, Emily Yona, and partners, Brad Alexander, Nick Juliano, and Russ Pennington.

Widely acknowledged as one of the most effective government relations firms in Georgia, the Impact Public Affairs team has an extensive record of playing and winning on most of the top policy issues in Georgia. They are known as a firm that is built to tackle the more difficult and complex issues in our state.

Last Thursday, we got to hear from some of Impact Public Affairs lobbyists, who shared about Transportation policy updates in the state of Georgia. Many conversations were sparked from their updates and a lot of connections were made. Overall, it was a helpful and very informational session we had.



# 100 Most Influential Women in Georgia Engineering

Congratulations to WTS Atlanta Members recognized by Engineering Georgia! Our outstanding WTS Atlanta members are helping to improve transportation in our communities every day. Each year WTS Atlanta members are recognized for these contributions in Engineering Georgia magazine's Top 100 Influential Women in Georgia and Women in the Know lists. This year 43 WTS members were included in these lists. Congratulations to these accomplished individuals on this significant honor and thank you for your commitment to this industry and the people it serves.



**Marsha Anderson Bomar**

AICP, ENV SP, F.ASCE, F.ITE  
President & Founder, Mentor Smarts



**DeLois B. Babiker**

CEO & Managing Partner,  
Intellectual Concepts



**Bridgette Beato**

Founder & CEO, Lumenor  
Consulting Group



**Rhonda Briggins**

JD  
Vice President, Client  
Account Manager of  
Transit Services, Jacobs



**Norma Click**

C.D  
Director of Airside/Landside for  
Planning and Development,  
Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta  
International Airport



**Jennifer Aulick  
Etheridge**

PE  
President, Aulick  
Engineering



**Caroline Evans**

AICP  
Founding Principal/  
Community Planner, Blue  
Cypress Consulting



**Ligia Florim**

PE  
Development Services  
Engineer, Cobb County  
Department of Transportation



**Andrea Foard**

AICP, LEED AP BD+C  
Senior Program Manager,  
Cincar Consulting Group



**Regan Hammond**

AICP  
Transportation System  
Director, VHB



**Ann Hanlon**

Executive Director,  
Perimeter Community  
Improvement Districts



**Krystal Harris**

Program Director, ATL  
Airport Community  
Improvement Districts



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# 100 Most Influential Women in Georgia Engineering

Congratulations to WTS Atlanta Members recognized by Engineering Georgia!



**Kimberly Hudgins**  
Director of Government  
Relations, HNTB



**Debra James**  
Vice President & Client  
Service Leader, Barge  
Design Solutions



**Jenny Jenkins**  
PE, SE, AIA, LEED AP  
Marketing Lead,  
Southeast, VHB



**Daveitta Jenkins  
Knight**  
PE  
Vice President, Atlanta  
Area Leader, RS&H



**Mi Hyeon  
(Christy) Jeon**  
PH.D, PE, PTOE, AICP  
Senior Engineer IV/ Senior  
Project Manager, Atkins



**Keli Kemp**  
AICP, PTP  
Co-Founder & CEO,  
Modern Mobility Partners



**Karyn Matthews**  
PE  
Program Manager, Arcadis



**Qiana McKoy**  
Manager, Infrastructure  
and Mobility Equity, HNTB



**Helen McSwain**  
Senior Vice President &  
National Transportation  
Director, Rohadfox



**Jannine Miller**  
MPA, MBA  
Director of Planning/  
Executive Director, GDOT/  
GRTA, SRTA, & ATL



**Holly Painter**  
PE  
Associate, Senior Project  
Manager & KCI Board  
Member, KCI Technologies



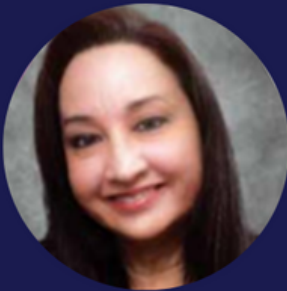
**Erica Parish**  
PE  
Deputy Director, Paulding  
County Department of  
Transportation



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# 100 Most Influential Women in Georgia Engineering

Congratulations to WTS Atlanta Members recognized by Engineering Georgia!



**Tamae Partain**  
PMP  
Global Business Area  
Program Manager -  
Mobility, Arcadis



**Hiral Patel**  
PE  
Director of Engineering,  
GDOT



**Meg Pirkle**  
PE  
Chief Engineer, GDOT



**Anna Roach**  
Executive Director, Atlanta  
Regional Commission



**Carrie Rocha**  
PE, CCM  
Interim Chief Capital  
Officer, MARTA



**Alisha Smith**  
Director of Projects and  
Planning, Town Center  
Community Improvement  
District



**Angela Snyder**  
PE  
President, Practical  
Design Partners (PDP)



**Krystal Stovall-  
Dixon**  
PMP  
President & CEO, Paradigm  
Project Leadership Group



**Rukiya Thomas**  
Vice President, Senior  
Regional Business  
Development & Strategy  
Director, Atkins



**Charlotte Weber**  
Director of Environmental  
Services, Lumenor  
Consulting Group



**Malika Wilkins**  
PH.D  
Chief Strategy and  
External Affairs Officer,  
Atlanta Regional  
Commission



**Kristin Winzeler**  
Deputy Director, North  
Fulton Community  
Improvement District

# 35 Under 35 Women to Know in Georgia Engineering

Congratulations to WTS Atlanta Members recognized by Engineering Georgia!



**Kelsey Baldwin**  
PE  
Water Group Leader,  
Jacobs



**Janine Payne**  
Transportation Engineer,  
VHB



**Molly Rea**  
PE  
Project Engineer, Alfred  
Benesch and Company



**Lindsay Shiffman**  
Lead Engineer, WSP



**Erika Sutton**  
EIT  
Transportation Engineer,  
VHB



**Aimee Turner**  
PE, PTOE, RSP1, IMSA TS III  
Traffic Department  
Manager, Croy



**Katie West**  
Senior Planner, Atkins



Connect with  
us on our new  
LinkedIn Page



**Out with OLD...IN with the NEW**  
**Our new public LinkedIn page is**  
**WTS Atlanta**



**Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS ([wtsinternational.org](http://wtsinternational.org))**

# Member Opportunities

## WTS Atlanta Mission

WTS Atlanta seeks to close the workforce gap in the Atlanta regional transportation industry by promoting lifelong careers in transportation for women. By attracting, retaining and advancing women in the industry, WTS Atlanta will be the most recognized network of transportation subject matter experts.



## Get Involved!!

There are many ways to get involved this year! From joining a WTS Atlanta committee to participating in local events throughout the year. If you were unable to attend this year's membership event, take a moment to view the presentation below.

Want to learn more about our amazing benefits, like professional and leadership development, networking, educational programming, volunteering and mentorship, and events? Please contact our Vice President of Membership, Iris Ortiz at [iortiz@hntb.com](mailto:iortiz@hntb.com).

[View Membership Presentation Here](#)



## Connect with WTS Atlanta

We love connecting with our WTS community on social media. Please follow, like and share WTS Atlanta!

Also, check out our industry [job postings here](#).



**Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS ([wtsinternational.org](http://wtsinternational.org))**

# 2023 WTS Atlanta

## Upcoming Events Calendar

April	May	June
<p>Introduce a Girl to Engineering</p> <p>Quarterly New Members Webinar</p> <p>Emerging Leaders Professional Development Series: Financial Literacy</p> <p>GA Legislative Wrap-up Event</p>	<p>WTS Annual Conference</p>	<p>GDOT Board Breakfast</p> <p>New Members Webinar</p>
July	August	September
<p>Emerging Leaders Professional Development Series: TBD</p> <p>Family/Community Event</p>	<p>DBE Mixer</p>	<p>Multimodal Transportation Panel Discussion</p>
October	November	December
<p>Emerging Leaders Professional Development Series: TBD</p> <p>New Members Webinar</p>	<p>Scholarship Luncheon</p>	<p>Holiday Mixer</p>

[View Events Here](#)

**Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS ([wtsinternational.org](https://wtsinternational.org))**

# Member Opportunities

## WTS International Vision

Equity and access for women in transportation.

## WTS International Mission

WTS attracts, sustains, connects and advances women's careers to strengthen the transportation industry.

.....

## Get Involved!!

Check out these WTS International events for 2023:

### 2023 Distinguished Speaker Series

### WTS Member Meetups

**2023 WTS Spring Policy Symposium - March 15-16, 2023**

**2023 WTS International Annual Conference - May 10-12, 2023**

**Transportation YOU Capital Summit - June 25-29, 2023**

**Signature Leadership Training - October 10-14, 2023**

**Chapter Leadership Development - November 14-16, 2023**

For more information on these events:

[View Events Here](#)

**Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS ([wtsinternational.org](https://wtsinternational.org))**

# Member Opportunities

## Get Scholarships!!

Check out these WTS Foundation scholarships for 2023:

### Strategic Partner Scholarships

**Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship**

**Helene M. Overly Memorial Graduate Scholarship**

**Molitoris Leadership Scholarship for Undergraduates**

**Jannet Walker-Ford Leadership Legacy  
Scholarship for Graduates**

**Junior College/Trade School Scholarship**

**WTS Transportation YOU High School Scholarship**

For more information on these scholarships:

[View Scholarships  
Here](#)

**Not a member yet? Join at Membership | WTS ([wtsinternational.org](https://wtsinternational.org))**



## Help WTS Atlanta Raise \$40,000 for Scholarships for Our 40th Anniversary



To celebrate WTS Atlanta's 40th Anniversary this year, our chapter has set a goal to raise \$40,000 for our scholarship program to support women pursuing transportation careers. Please help us reach this goal by scanning this QR code to donate.

Track our progress on the donation thermometer here:  
[Fundraising Wall](#) | [WTS Foundation](#) | [GiveSmart Fundraise](#)

In 2022, WTS Atlanta awarded 5 scholarships for a total of \$15,000.

Your donation today will help us raise \$40,000 to expand our scholarship program in 2023.

Thank you for your donation and support!

# 2023 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

*Thank you to all our partners and welcome to our newest corporate partners!*

## 2023 Presenting Partner



## 2023 Diamond Partners



**ATKINS**

Member of the SNC-Lavalin Group



## 2023 Platinum Partners



# 2023 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

## 2023 Gold Partners



Heath & Lineback Engineers, Inc.





# 2023 WTS Atlanta Corporate Partners

## 2023 SBE/Non-Profit Partners



BLUE  
CYPRESS  
CONSULTING



PERIMETER COMMUNITY  
IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS



SJH Engineering P.C.



UNITED  
CONSULTING

## 2023 In Kind Partners

SRTA/GRTA

Odonnell Company

Impact Public Affairs