



Upcoming Events

**Swamp Rabbit Trail Tour
June 29, 2023 | 4:00 PM***

Join us in Greenville for a bike tour of the Swamp Rabbit Trail followed by a happy hour. A virtual option is available to learn about the trail.

**Leadership & Networking
Fundamentals Event
Summer 2023***

**Scholarship & Awards Luncheon
August 23, 2023 | 11:30 AM*
The Palmetto Club
1231 Sumter Street
Columbia, SC 29201**

Please join us as we honor the recipients at our 2nd annual scholarship & awards event!

**Transportation Trailblazers
September 26, 2023 | 5:00 PM***

Save the date for our annual event!

*Check your email and WTS SC social pages for more information. If our emails are going to your spam folder, please follow us on LinkedIn or Facebook to keep up to date on future events or check our events page on our website.

2023 Membership Drive!

WTS International and the South Carolina chapter are dedicated to creating a more diverse, inclusive, and equitable transportation industry through the global advancement of women. Become a member today!

SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com

President's Pen

We are wrapping up a spring full of exciting WTS events that has our chapter excited about the future of our industry. The Great Equity Transportation Intersection was the theme of this year's WTS International Conference which was held in Atlanta, GA in May. This year's conference had record breaking attendance with over 1,100 attendees, and all of the events and sessions were inspirational. Seeing so many young professionals at the event and hearing many of them say the WTS conference is the best conference they have ever attended was heartwarming. I would encourage you to attend a WTS conference if you have not had the chance. It is a great opportunity to meet transportation trailblazers who are changing the face of transportation. This is a critical time to embrace these thought leaders as we strive to create a more diverse transportation workforce and tap into the unique talents that underrepresented populations bring to our teams. WTS International also announced the conference for 2024: May 8-10 The Crescent City: Connecting Cultures, Connecting Communities in New Orleans.

Thank you to all those who participated in our recent technical programs, clothing drives, and our Equity Panel Discussion events this Spring. Please save the date for our Annual WTS Scholarship & Awards Luncheon planned for August 23rd. We are also working hard to plan this year's Transportation Trailblazers event scheduled for this Fall, and we will be sending out more information soon regarding this year's featured speakers and sponsorship opportunities. We will also have a fantastic technical tour this summer on the Swamp Rabbit Trail in Greenville, SC that will allow for some fellowship and active touring of these alternative transportation facilities.

Where does the time go? Surprisingly, it is time to start the nomination process for our next WTS SC Chapter Board for the 2024-2025 term. We have board and committee positions opportunities available if you are interested in serving WTS in a leadership role. Talk with any of our current or past board members and they will share their rewarding growth experiences serving on this board. It is a great opportunity to gain leadership experience that can be leveraged for future job growth for those in their early careers or an extremely rewarding opportunity to give back for those further along in their careers. We are always striving to create a diverse board with different perspectives from both public and private sectors across all modes and disciplines of the industry. We would love to increase our representation from rail, aviation and suppliers, so please reach out to your industry partners that may be interested in being a part of our leadership team. Thank you to all our sponsors and supporters who make all of these initiatives possible. Please do not hesitate to reach out with your suggestions and feedback on how WTS SC may better serve this industry, we are all in this together to create a more diverse transportation workforce!

Joy Riley

Joy Riley, PE, PMP, CPM, DBIA
WTS SC President



Events Recap

What has WTS SC been up to?

WTS International Annual Conference

The 2023 WTS Annual Conference took place May 10-13th in Atlanta, GA, a city known for its vibrant history and modern progress in equity and inclusion. The conference brought together transportation professionals from across North America to discuss all things transportation with a focus on equity. The South Carolina chapter had over 15 attendees and was recognized with a Silver Chapter Circle of Excellence Award for 2022. It was a great week of connecting as a chapter and growing our networks!



Events Recap

What has WTS SC been up to?

Dress for Success Drive



WTS South Carolina hosted a Professional Clothing Drive to support Dress for Success May 15 - 19, 2023. Clothing drop-off locations were available across the state. The mission of Dress for Success is to promote the economic independence of women by providing a network of support, professional attire, and the career development tools to help women thrive in work and in life. Dress for Success provides women in need with professional clothing, shoes, and accessories. Thank you to those who donated! Members from Greenville, Columbia, and Charleston collected nearly 300 clothing items, including more than:



137

Shirts/
Sweaters



35

Pants/
Skirts



77

Dresses/
Suits



6

Blazers/
Jackets



44

Assorted
Accessories

WTS SC PANEL: Equity in Transportation

Increasingly, public sector transportation agencies are focusing on achieving “Equity” in the planning, design, construction and operation of projects and programs. In considering equity, agencies are looking to foster greater social justice, economic opportunities, and more equitable access to various modes of transportation to meet the needs of the impacted community. This focus is especially critical in historically underserved populations.

The WTS South Carolina Chapter, through the Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion (ED&I) Committee, hosted a Seminar on May 24, 2023, in Columbia South Carolina covering “Equity in Transportation.” The seminar included presentations and discussions from a panel of leaders representing the South Carolina Department of Transportation (SCDOT), the Transit Cooperative Research Program (TCRP) and Federal Highway Administration.



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Transportation in the News

South Carolina Transportation News Highlight

Motorists traveling along Interstate 20 westbound from Broad River Road will notice a new exit lane for traffic leading toward I-26 westbound. The South Carolina Department of Transportation says that the opening of the new lane will help streamline the flow of traffic during peak hours. The opening of the new lane marks a milestone for Phase 2 of the Carolina Crossroads Project that has occurred ahead of schedule. Visit the project webpage scdotcarolinacrossroads.com for other project information and updates.



Carolina Crossroads Meets Phase 2 Project Milestone Ahead of Schedule



Join a Committee

If you are interested in serving WTS SC, please email: SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com



- Membership
- Technical Programs
- Communications
- Corporate Sponsorship
- Professional Development
- Community Outreach
- Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
- Scholarship & Awards

2024 WTS Annual Conference

Save the date! The 2024 WTS International Conference will be held in New Orleans May 8-10. The theme is The Crescent City: Connecting Cultures, Connecting Communities in New Orleans.



Connect with us!

We look forward to hearing from you!



WTS South Carolina



WTS South Carolina Chapter



SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com

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www.wtsinternational.org/chapters/south-carolina

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