

# WTS SOUTH CAROLINA NEWSLETTER



## Upcoming Events

### TECHNICAL PROGRAM July 25, 2024 | 11:30 AM\*

HNTB 3rd Floor Meeting Room  
(4922 O'Hear Avenue, Charleston,  
SC 29405)

### MEMBERS MEET UP

#### Coming Soon in August! *Members Only Event*

Date & Time TBD\*

### TRANSPORTATION TRAILBLAZERS

#### Coming Soon in September! *Signature Event*

Date & Time TBD\*

\*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.

## PRESIDENT'S PEN

Happy Summer, everyone! Happy Summer, everyone! It's hard to believe the first half of 2024 is already behind us!

WTS SC kicked off the spring with a phenomenal Scholarship & Awards Luncheon at the Palmetto Club, it was truly an honor to recognize such well deserving recipients! After the luncheon, the SCDOT Commission's first female chair, Pamela Christopher, led an intimate and inspiring conversation about her journey and the importance of service to others.

The WTS International Annual Member Conference was held May 8-10, 2024, in New Orleans, LA, with more than 70 chapters and 1,200 attendees! WTS SC members Joy Riley, Pamela Bynoe-Reed, and Candance Hladick were in attendance, and we are excited for the incoming executive board members for the 2024-2026 term, including SC member Erin Slayton! The remainder of the spring included Book Club meet-ups and an educational live webinar on FTA's Pilot Program for Equity & Environmental Justice Planning for Transit Oriented Development.

International Women in Engineering Day (INWED) was celebrated on June 23rd. It's a day dedicated to recognizing and celebrating the achievements of women in engineering and promoting gender diversity in the field. Female engineers bring unique skills and viewpoints to transportation systems. They contribute to designing inclusive systems that consider diverse needs and experiences of passengers. This diversity improves accessibility, safety, and overall user experience in transportation. Celebrating and encouraging women in engineering, especially in transportation, benefits us all!

Stayed tuned for our upcoming events, which will include an interactive DBE panel on July 25th where attendees will learn about the process of obtaining and maintaining DBE certification in South Carolina, along with the resources that are available to support this effort. An evening happy hour and networking event will take place in August, and we are in the midst of planning another extraordinary Transportation Trailblazers event in September!

We have a huge need for volunteers, especially for the following committees: Programs, Membership, and Communications. If you are interested in learning more, please reach out to me! As always, thank you so much for your support and engagement!

*Petrina Butler*  
**Petrina Butler, PE, ENV SP**  
WTS SC President





# 2024 SCHOLARSHIP & AWARDS RECEPTION



WTS South Carolina hosted its third annual Scholarship and Awards Reception on April 27th! Keynote speaker Katie Porter spoke to attendees about the importance of mentoring young women and serving as role models for students considering STEM career fields. WTS South Carolina was excited to award \$6,000 in scholarships for women pursuing careers in the transportation industry and recognize one business and two women with awards for their contributions to the transportation sector. Congratulations to the 2024 Scholarship and Award Winners! A big THANK YOU to all that came out in support of our recipients, we appreciate you!

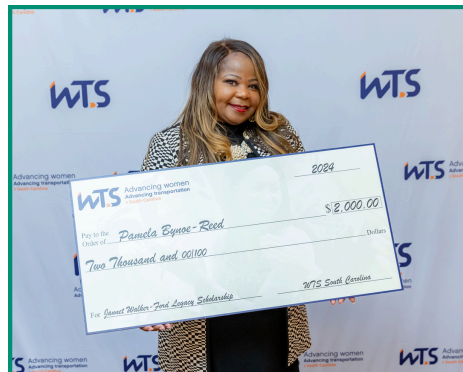


*A huge thank you to our S&A Committee for hosting such a phenomenal event!*

Congratulations to the 2024 deserving recipients!



TRANSPORTATION YOU  
HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIP  
**Mallorie Barbee**



JANNET WALKER-FORD  
LEADERSHIP LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP  
**Pamela Bynoe-Reed**



HELENE M. OVERLY MEMORIAL  
SCHOLARSHIP  
**Laura Villegas-Villegas**



EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR  
**Three Oaks Engineering**



MEMBER OF THE YEAR  
**Joy Riley, PE, PMP, CPM, DBIA**  
**HNTB Companies**



WOMAN OF THE YEAR  
**Christy Hall, PE**  
**Retired SCDOT**



## COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS

WTS SC held a members-only discussion with SCDOT Commission Chair Pamela Christopher following the WTS SC Scholarship and Awards Luncheon.

Commissioner Christopher was named chair of the SCDOT Commission on January 18, 2024, serving as the first female chair. Commissioner Christopher shared her career journey noting her deep passion for the people of South Carolina. She took time to thank those that helped her along the way, including former Secretary of Transportation Christy Hall.



## 2024 WTS International Annual Conference

The 2024 WTS Annual Conference took place May 8 – 10 in New Orleans, Louisiana, a city known for its vibrant history and unique transportation challenges – and solutions. The conference brought together transportation professionals from across North America to discuss all things transportation with a focus on connection. The South Carolina chapter was recognized with a Silver Chapter Circle of Excellence Award for 2024.



**Erin Slyton, P.E.**  
**Elected to WTS International Executive Committee**

Erin has been elected to the executive committee of WTS International. Her initial two-year term as vice chair will be followed by two years as chair and then two years serving as past chair of the 9,000-member organization committed to furthering women in transportation. Read more about Erin's new role [here](#).





## BOOK CLUB DISCUSSIONS

### THE CONFIDENCE CODE By Katty Kay & Claire Shipman



Book Club

Since the launch of the WTS SC book club in 2023, we have just completed our third book, *The Confidence Code* by Katty Kay and Claire Shipman, with participants engaging in group discussions in Columbia, Charleston, and Greenville. This book club is not like the stodgy ones of old; we often feature wine and light bites either in a host's living room or at unique community settings such as breweries and local bookstores. Our organizers create new gatherings to discuss books in these diverse locations, offering a way to explore new places in the city, network, and connect over a book. The diverse viewpoints and interpretations from our members have greatly enhanced our understanding of the books and enriched our overall reading experience.

## EDI Webinar

### Pilot Program for Equity & Environmental Justice Planning for Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

WTS SC hosted a live webinar featuring the FTA's Pilot Program for Equity & Environmental Justice Planning for Transit Oriented Development (TOD).

FTA's Pilot Program for TOD Planning supports their mission of improving America's communities and their local public transportation systems by providing funding for integrating land use and transportation planning. April McLean-McCoy, FTA's Program Manager for this pilot program, provided an overview of the TOD Pilot Program, the Office of Planning and Environment's departmental objectives as outlined in the FY23 NOFO (such as the 100% federal support for applications with a substantial focus on affordable housing), and how the program is advancing equitable TOD and supporting environmental justice communities.





## UPCOMING EVENTS

Keep an eye out for several exciting events hosted by WTS SC in the near future.  
Stay tuned for more details to be announced soon!

**WTS** Advancing women  
Advancing transportation  
> South Carolina



**Delicia G. Wingard**  
SCDOT



**Heather Robbins**  
Robbins & DeWitt



**Richard Waring**  
Charleston Metro  
Chamber of Commerce

### DBE Panel Discussion

July 25 | 11:30 AM | HNTB, 3rd Floor Meeting Room

4922 O'Hear Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405

**COMING SOON  
IN AUGUST!**

## Members Meet-Up

*Join us for a members-only happy hour and  
networking event!*

STRONG FEMALE  
LEADERS

CAREER  
DEVELOPMENT

WORK-LIFE  
BALANCE

LESSONS  
LEARNED

Asheville | Greenville | Columbia | Charleston

**WTS** > South Carolina **SIGNATURE EVENT**

## TRANSPORTATION TRAILBLAZERS

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**

**SEPTEMBER  
2024**

## TRANSPORTATION IN THE NEWS

### South Carolina Transportation News Highlight

SCDOT has started the development of the **2050 statewide multimodal transportation plan (SMTP)**  
**Momentum 2050:** Moving South Carolina Forward. The development of this new 10-year plan involves closely monitoring trends within the state, such as population growth and changing technology, including electric cars. Your inclusion and involvement are very important!

Learn more about the plan, take the survey, and share the information!

[movingsouthcarolinaforward.com](http://movingsouthcarolinaforward.com)



In addition, SCDOT is requesting feedback on the **SC Statewide Rail Plan**, which represents a long-term vision of statewide policy to improve freight and passenger rail. More information and a survey can be found here [South Carolina Statewide Rail Plan \(scdot.org\)](http://SouthCarolinaStatewideRailPlan.scdot.org).

## JOIN A COMMITTEE!

If you are interested in  
serving WTS SC, please email:  
[SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com](mailto:SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com)

Membership | Professional Development  
Technical Programs | Corporate Sponsorship  
Communications | Scholarship & Awards  
Transportation YOU | Special Events  
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

## BECOME A WTS MEMBER TODAY!



NETWORKING



PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT



Advancing women  
Advancing transportation



INCLUSIVITY



MENTORSHIP

## Connect with us!



WTS South Carolina



WTS South Carolina Chapter



[SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com](mailto:SouthCarolinaWTS@gmail.com)



[wtsinternational.org/  
chapters/south-carolina](http://wtsinternational.org/chapters/south-carolina)

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Thank you for your support!

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