

PRESS RELEASE

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COTA Celebrates Dump the Pump Day this Thursday with Columbus Young Professionals and car2go

Join the Commuter Challenge and #MakeYourMilesMatter

COLUMBUS—This Thurs., June 16, the Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA), Columbus Young Professionals (CYP) Club, and car2go, will celebrate national Dump the Pump Day with “YPs Make Miles Matter.” COTA, CYP and car2go are partnering to encourage young professionals to try using sustainable transportation options to travel throughout the city.

The organizations will also host a traveling photo shoot during the event. Young professionals can join in throughout the day at any of the scheduled stops, listed below, to take part in photo ops with community leaders and enjoy special giveaways.

The 11th annual National Dump the Pump Day is sponsored by the American Public Transportation Association. It is a national public transportation awareness day that encourages people to “Dump the Pump” by parking their car and riding public transit instead.

Dump the Pump Day and the YPs Make Miles Matter event also coincide with the Commuter Challenge, a month-long campaign this June that encourages central Ohio commuters to consider using sustainable modes of transportation. Participants may register at www.morpc.org/commuterchallenge, and log trips to be eligible to win prizes. Prizes include a \$500 gift card, a \$200 gift card, Chipotle for one year and other daily and weekly giveaways. The Commuter Challenge is partnership between MORPC RideSolutions, COTA, CoGo and car2go.

For more information about the activities on Thurs., June 16, visit COTA.com/YP. When catching COTA or car2go, download Transit App on your phone for real-time information!

Schedule

8:00-9:00 a.m. – Meet at Stauf's Coffee Roasters, 1277 Grandview Ave.

How to get there: Take car2go or COTA Line 82 (from OSU) or Line 19 (from Ohio Statehouse)

**Free coffee for the first 10 members to arrive!*

Special guests: **Michelle Wilson, Executive Director of the TriVillage Chamber Partnership; **Jessica Walli**, Executive Director of Destination Grandview*

9:00-9:30 a.m. – Meet at Market District at Grandview Yard (Main Entrance), 840 W. 3rd Ave.

How to get there: Take car2go from Stauf's Grandview to Grandview Yard/Market District

10:00-11:00 a.m. – Meet at the Experience Columbus Visitors Center, 277 W. Nationwide Blvd.

How to get there: Take COTA Line 3 from Market District at Grandview Yard to Experience Columbus Visitors Center

Special guests: **Brian Ross, President and CEO of Experience Columbus; **Alexis Caldwell**, Membership Services Coordinator; **Robbie Banks**, Program Manager for Greater Columbus Tourism Ambassador Program*

11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. – Meet at City Hall, 90 W. Broad St.

How to get there: Take car2go from Experience Columbus to City Hall

Special guests: Columbus City Council members **Elizabeth Brown, **Shannon Hardin**, **Michael Stinziano**, and additional YPs from City Hall*

12:00-1:00 p.m. – Meet at North Market, 59 Spruce St.

How to get there: Take COTA CBUS® from City Hall to North Market

**Free lunch (\$5 gift cards) for the first 10 members to arrive!*

1:00-2:00 p.m. – Meet at Paradise Garage in the Short North, 921 N. High St.

How to get there: Take car2go from North Market to Short North (Paradise Garage)

Special guest: **Betsy Pandora, Executive Director of the Short North Alliance*

2:00-3:00 p.m. – Meet at the William J. Lhota Building (COTA, 33 N. High St.) & Ohio Statehouse

How to get there: Take COTA Line 2 from Short North to Broad & High streets (COTA Building)

3:00-4:00 p.m. – Meet at the German Village Society Meeting Haus, 588 S. Third St.

How to get there: Take car2go from Broad & High to German Village Society

4:30 p.m. – Meet at Columbus Commons (Bicentennial Pavilion)

How to get there: Take COTA Line 8 from German Village Society Meeting Haus to Columbus Commons

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The Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) is the regional public transit provider for greater Columbus and central Ohio. With a service area of 1.2 million residents, COTA employs more than 950 people, and provided more than 19 million passenger trips in 2015. COTA operates throughout Franklin County, and parts of Delaware, Fairfield, Licking and Union counties. For more information about COTA, visit COTA.com or call (614) 228-1776.



To request this information in an alternative format, call (614) 228-1776.