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DIVERSITY ■ DISCUSSION ■ DEBATE

Laying Track for Amtrak's Expansion

March 15, 2023



William Murdock

Executive Director, Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission

[@OHIOMURDOCK](#) [@MORPC](#)

William Murdock serves as Executive Director of the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC).

MORPC is Central Ohio's regional council for local governments that provides services, funding, tools, and resources to 75 member communities comprised of counties, cities, villages, townships, and regional agencies. As Executive Director, Murdock oversees innovative planning, services, and policies in transportation, planning, housing, land use, sustainability, and data.

He is responsible for the development of MORPC's long-range transportation plan that coordinates over \$20 billion of transportation improvements across the region through 2050.

Murdock received Bachelor's Degrees in Economics and Political Science, as well as Masters Degrees in City and Regional Planning and Parks, Recreation and Tourism Administration, all from The Ohio State University.



Arun Rao

Director of Network Development, Amtrak

[@AMTRAK](#)

Arun Rao has 21 years of experience in transportation, and has worked in public transportation and passenger rail since 2006. He worked at the Wisconsin Department of Transportation (WisDOT) for over 20 years. For the past 10 years, Rao was responsible for the planning, policy, program, and implementation of passenger rail at WisDOT. In this role, Rao also served as Chair of the 23-state States for Passenger Rail Coalition, and Vice Chair of the Midwest Interstate Passenger Rail Commission.

In 2022, Rao accepted a position as Director of Network Development at Amtrak. In this new role, he is responsible for coordinating and facilitating Amtrak and the states' efforts to advance passenger rail corridor improvements and new corridors from the early stages in FRA's corridor development process, through to implementation.

Rao has a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration in Real Estate and Urban Land Economics and a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning, both from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Erin Rosiello

Vice Chair, All Aboard Ohio

[@ALLABOARDOHIO](#)

Erin Rosiello is an experienced sales and marketing professional with government and small business ownership experience. Driven by her passion for a successful Ohio and its residents, she takes pride in her activism, supporting legislation that improves the lives of Ohio residents, while simultaneously supporting small businesses success in the state.

As the Vice Chairperson for All Aboard Ohio, her goals include advocating, educating, and networking to advance passenger rail in the state of Ohio. Her favorite part of the job includes the process of making connections and building relationships.

Rosiello has a Bachelor's Degree in Business from Muskingum University and earned her Ohio Certified Public Manager certification from The Ohio State University John Glenn School of Public Affairs.



Elizabeth Blount McCormick

President and Owner, Uniglobe Travel Designers

[@ELIZABETHB15](#) [@UNIGLOBETD](#)

Blount McCormick first worked at Gap Inc., in its retail management training program in San Francisco, later working as an associate production manager for the Gap International Sourcing Office. She then worked as a production manager with Bono's clothing line Edun, which is headquartered in New York City.

She returned to Columbus, where she joined her mother at UNIGLOBE Travel Designers. In 2012, she became president of the company. Her experiences in retail — and the travel that those roles required — allowed Blount McCormick to gain extensive experience traveling throughout the United States, Mexico and South America, as well as to Tunisia, India, Portugal and Peru. Her first-hand experience as a corporate traveler has given her a unique traveler's perspective, one that she puts to use in working with corporate clients at UNIGLOBE Travel Designers. Blount McCormick's efforts to bring in new accounts have helped the company nearly double its revenue in two years.

Blount McCormick received a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Spelman College.

Today's Attendees

B CMC Board Member **LM** Lifetime Member
NM New Member **LS** Livestream Supporter



Audio assist headphones are available the AV table at the side of the room.

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Franklin Conaway	Bill LaFayette	Serena Shi	Donna Carstens			
Ann Converse Shelly	William Lane	Bruce Smith LM	Randy Chrisman			
Lanie Cuthbert	Matthew Lanning	Trent Smith	Michael Coursey			
Michele Cuthbert	Jonathan Lohr	Jayne Staley LM	Michelle Crandall			
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Marissa Davis	Carol Luper	Steve Thieken NM	Dave Dixon			
Gregg Dodd	Jan Lyddon	Joey Thomas	Fritz Drake			
Raquel Dowdy-Cornute	Lee Martin LM	Peggy Tidwell	Todd Duncan			
Tobias Dunbar	Gabriel Mastin NM	Marshall Troxell	Gretchen Dzugan			
Paul Erwin	Bruce McComb	Brian Urbanski LM	Joe Dzugan			
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	Julie Mujic	Kevin Wood				

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Upcoming Forums

Unless otherwise noted, all forums are 11:30 AM - 1:00 PM.
For Ticket info, visit columbusmetroclub.org or call 614.464.3220

FRIDAY, MARCH 24, 2023

Central Ohio Bankers' Roundtable

Featuring **Francie Henry**, Regional President, Fifth Third Bank, **Iaria Rawlins**, Proposed CEO, Fortuna Bank (in organization), **Jenny Saunders**, President, FCBank, and **Jennifer Griffith**, Regional President, First Merchants Bank, with host **Don DePerro**, President and CEO, Columbus Chamber.



With support from: **Grange Insurance Audubon Center**

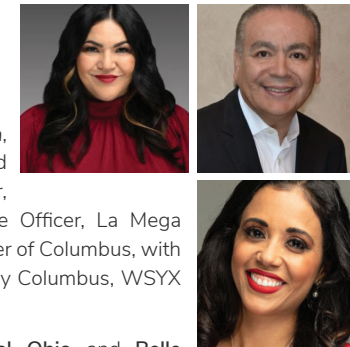
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WEDNESDAY, MARCH 29, 2023

Half-Million Latinos' Growing Impact in Ohio

Featuring **Lourdes Barroso de Padilla**, Columbus City Councilmember, and **Roland Medrano**, Managing Director, Regal International LLC, Chief Executive Officer, La Mega Media, Inc., Board Chair, Hispanic Chamber of Columbus, with host **Jackie Orozco**, Co-Anchor, Good Day Columbus, WSYX ABC6 News & FOX 28.



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 5, 2023

In the Heart of It All: Former Ohio Governor Richard F. Celeste

Featuring **Richard F. Celeste**, Former Ohio Governor, and host **Jo Ingles**, Reporter/Producer, Statehouse News.



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FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023

Can Ohio Weather Climate Change?

Featuring **Aaron B. Wilson, Ph.D.**, Principal Investigator at the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center, The Ohio State University, and State Climatologist of Ohio, and **Luke Messinger**, Executive Director, The Dawes Arboretum, with host **Marshall McPeck**, Chief Meteorologist, WSYX ABC6.



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023

Top U.N. Official Explores Changing Global Order

Featuring **David A. Chikvaizde**, Chef de Cabinet, Office of the Director-General, The United Nations Office at Geneva, with host **Colleen Marshall**, Anchor, NBC4.



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More Ways to Catch CMC Forums

WCBE 90.5 Radio airs CMC Forums on Saturdays at 7:00 AM. CMC Forums are available on the WCBE Podcast Experience website.

Forum podcasts can also be heard on the CMC website or via your favorite podcast app.

WOSU Public Media, CMC's broadcast partner, televises CMC Forums on the WOSU Ohio digital channel and over-the-air on channel 34.2. The most recent Forums air on Mondays at 9:00 PM, Tuesdays at 5:00 AM, and Thursdays at noon.

CTV, Columbus Television, airs CMC Forums on Spectrum Channel 1024, WOW Channel 3, and AT&T Channel 99. You can also watch CTV over the air on WCIZ Channel 22.4.

Forums can also be seen on the CMC website at columbusmetroclub.org/archive/ and on CMC's YouTube channel.

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