

## OCI Recognizes Excellence in Continuous Improvement

Each year, the Office of Continuous Improvement recognizes outstanding continuous improvement initiatives from across the agency.

As part of Excellence in Continuous Improvement Week, employees from across the agency came together on January 24 for a project showcase at 7 World Trade Center, where they heard from their fellow colleagues representing 19 continuous improvement efforts at the PA. Across a range of departments, staff shared their work from the past year with attendees, highlighting the impact of their projects and lessons learned.

To learn more and for additional photos and videos, see the recap on the [Continuous Improvement Hub](#).

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## NBE to Host Black History Month Employee Spotlight

February marks [Black History Month](#), a time dedicated to honoring the accomplishments and contributions of Black and African Americans throughout U.S. history.

The [Network of Black Employees](#) (NBE) has long been an advocate for employees, providing a vital channel for development, education, allyship, feedback, and collaboration. Together with NBE, employees are invited to join together in recognizing Black History Month on Wednesday, February 28, from noon to 1 p.m., for **Black History Month – Spotighting Black Professionals in the Finance Department**. Learn from your agency colleagues as they discuss their roles, the contributions of Black professionals at the agency, and much more. This event will take place virtually and in person at 4WTC, 19th Floor Conference Room A, and is open to all employees.

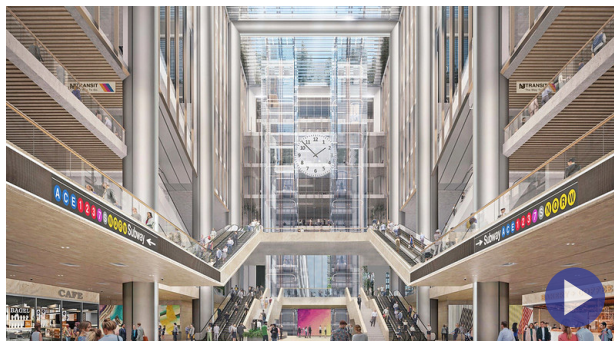
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## New Midtown Bus Terminal Previewed

Last week, plans to deliver to the people of New York and New Jersey a new, 21st-century, world-class Midtown Bus Terminal moved dramatically forward with the release of revised project plans in response to feedback from key stakeholders, including commuters and the surrounding community.

The Port Authority's revised plan for a new, world-class transportation hub in Midtown Manhattan to replace the existing 73-year-old Midtown Bus Terminal includes a new 2.1-million-square-foot main bus terminal with a sprawling atrium entrance on 41st Street and 8th Avenue, a separate storage and staging building, and new ramps leading directly into and out of the Lincoln Tunnel.

The new terminal will add capacity, allowing curbside inter-city buses that currently pick up and drop off on city streets surrounding the bus terminal to move their



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## RETIREMENTS

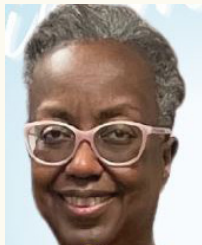
### Chris Rhoads,

Operations Manager at LaGuardia Airport, is taking off and saying farewell to colleagues. Employees joined together to celebrate his career and to wish him well during a final runway sweep and water cannon salute earlier this week at LGA Building 30. See the [retirement flyer](#).



### Juanita Townsend,

Principal Audit Supervisor in the Audit Department, is retiring after 18 years of service with the agency. A retirement celebration will be held on February 13 from noon to 2 p.m. at Journal Square on the 5th floor. For more information, contact Teaque Davis at [tfdavis@panynj.gov](mailto:tfdavis@panynj.gov). See the [retirement flyer](#).



A retirement celebration will be held for **Rochelle Joyner**, Senior Business Manager at the Lincoln Tunnel, on April 18 from 5 to 9 p.m., at Michael's Riverside, 528 Riverside Ave, Lyndhurst, NJ. \$55 p.p. includes dinner and gift. RSVP to Michele Carozza at [mcarozza@panynj.gov](mailto:mcarozza@panynj.gov) or Willie DeLeon at [wdeleon@panynj.gov](mailto:wdeleon@panynj.gov). See the [retirement flyer](#).



## WORKING ADVANTAGE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Port Authority employees and retirees can take advantage of hundreds of discounts at stores, theaters, theme parks, and more through Working Advantage, the PA's Employee Discount Program partner. Visit [www.workingadvantage.com](http://www.workingadvantage.com) and use the PA Member ID number, 405042634.



## STAFF NEWS

**Lisa Dewey-Mattia** has accepted the role of Chief of Staff to the Executive Director, effective February 12.

In this role, Lisa will work closely with the Executive Director, **Rick Cotton**, to advance critical agency priorities; will serve as liaison with the Chiefs, the Office of the Chief Operating Officer, and Directors as needed; and will provide advice and counsel to the Executive Director based on her extensive and varied experience at the Agency. Lisa joins the Executive Director's Office from the World Trade Center Department where she is currently Deputy Director supporting the management of the WTC campus.

Prior to joining the WTC Department, Lisa served as Director, Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) where she established the OCI team as a highly valued partner to a wide range of groups within the Agency that were undertaking process improvements. The OCI team heightened focus across all lines of business on journey mapping and customer experience, as well as promoting and supporting innovative problem-solving approaches, including lean, design-thinking, and change management.

Lisa joined the agency in 2009 as a Management Intern, before rejoining in 2010 as a Leadership Fellow.



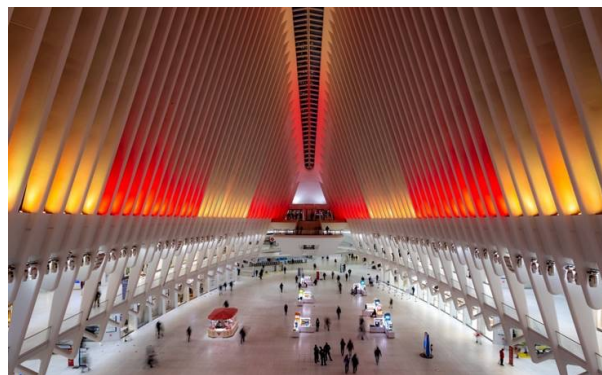
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## Celebrate the Year of the Dragon at the WTC

Welcome the Lunar New Year and the Year of the Dragon with live music and performances, cultural learning experiences, immersive art exhibits, and more, now through February 20 at the World Trade Center Oculus. For more information and the full schedule of events, visit the [Lunar New Year 2024](#) page on the WTC website.



This year's events are hosted by the Port Authority and the [World Trade Center Department](#) in partnership with the [Perelman Performing Arts Center](#), [Asian Cultural Center](#), [theBLANC Art Space](#), [New York Chinese Cultural Center](#), and [Beijing Contemporary Art Foundation](#).



# Help JFK Staffer to Support Children in Need

**Ed Sawicki**, Utility System Maintainer at JFK International Airport, will take the polar plunge this weekend for a great cause and he's looking for support from his PA colleagues! As part of the local Make-A-Wish Foundation's Long Beach Polar Bear Splash on Sunday, February 11, Ed will be taking a dip into Long Island's icy waters to help support and grant the wishes of children in need.

To learn more and to contribute, [visit Ed's Make-a-Wish team page](#).



# NBE to Host Black History Month Employee Spotlight

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NBE members will receive a calendar invitation. Non-members can register at [nbe@panynj.gov](mailto:nbe@panynj.gov).

The [2024 theme for Black History Month](#) is *African Americans and the Arts*, shining light on the experiences of African, Caribbean, and Black Americans in art across various media, including visual and performing arts, literature, fashion, language, music, culinary arts, and other forms of self-expression. Through creative pursuits, Black and African Americans play a crucial role in preserving history, fostering communal memory, and empowerment.

# New Midtown Bus Terminal Previewed

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operations inside the bus terminal and off the streets, reducing road congestion and gas emissions; be designed to be net zero, serving an all-electric bus fleet and implementing 21st century technology throughout; and will also create at the end of construction 3.5 acres of publicly accessible green spaces on Port Authority property.



A video from the Midtown Bus Terminal announcing the updated plan is [available on the PA YouTube](#).

# CALENDAR

## PAHS: Three Kings Fundraiser Celebration

*Thursday, February 15 from 5 to 8 p.m. at Don Pepe Restaurant, 844 McCarter Hwy., Newark, NJ.* The Port Authority Hispanic Society (PAHS) will host a fun-filled, in-person Three Kings fundraiser to commemorate a traditional Latin holiday celebrated at the end of the 12 days of Christmas. PAHS Members will receive a calendar invite. Non-members can RSVP to [PAHS@panynj.gov](mailto:PAHS@panynj.gov). **Space is limited.**

## APNG: New Year, New Me Roundtable

*Wednesday, February 21 from noon to 1 p.m. Virtual.* Join the Administrative Professionals' Networking Group (APNG) for this month's The Hidden Matters: Beyond the Vision roundtable. Focus on highlighting growth, goals, and accomplishments of 2023, as well as what we hope for in the new year. The Hidden Matters: Beyond the Vision is a monthly series. This virtual event is open to both APNG members and non-members. To register, please email [PA\\_APNG@panynj.gov](mailto:PA_APNG@panynj.gov).

# Local High School Wins PA Student Robotics Competition

*Originally published in Now Arriving, written by Media Relations' Steven Burns.*

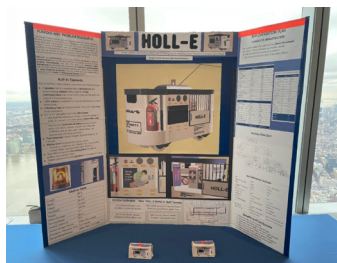
At first glance, HOLL-E resembled a San Francisco cable car, colored in Port Authority blue. But look closer and you'll find some cutting-edge tech: an autonomous one-stop shop to respond to myriad roadside emergencies, including an AED kit, jumper cables, a fire extinguisher, even an LED screen giving CPR instructions. The autonomous robot, complete with LiDAR sensors, a two-way communication system and rechargeable battery, is the brainchild of students at Bergen County Technical High School Teterboro.

"This allows users to quickly address any issues they may be experiencing in the tunnel and get all the cars moving," said Jenna Forte, a Bergen County senior. "We can address any safety issues as quickly as possible."

Keep reading on [Now Arriving](#).



The winning team from Bergen County Technical High School Teterboro



The winning design