

## NEWS & UPDATES

### Tina Herbert Appointed to The COMET Board of Directors

The Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (The COMET) announces the appointment, by the City of Columbia, of Tina Herbert to its Board of Directors.

Ms. Herbert is a Columbia native and represents District 1 on the Columbia City Council. As an attorney with Mickle and Bass, LLC., she advocates for injured workers across the state. Ms. Herbert is the mother of one daughter, Assatta, who is also an attorney.

### The COMET Receives Award at Live United Event

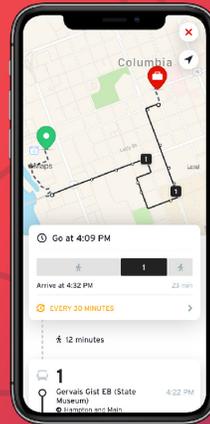
The Central Midlands Regional Transit Authority (The COMET) received two awards at the Live United Awards hosted by United Way of the Midlands at Central Energy on April 20.

The COMET's United Way Campaign efforts were led by Crystal Willis, who was also nominated for Campaign Director of the Year. Willis has served as campaign director since 2017 and has been responsible for the organization capturing multiple awards in the Pacesetter, Platinum, Gold, Silver and Best in Class categories.

### The COMET Wins Mercury Award from SCPRSA

The COMET is proud to announce that our 'Don't Miss Your Shot' campaign has been awarded the Mercury Award of Merit in the Public Service category by the South Carolina Public Relations Society of America. Our campaign has been able to provide COVID-19 tests and vaccines to over 13,000 people in the Midlands. We are so proud of our efforts to ensure our community members are protected from COVID-19 and are humbled to receive this award.

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## COMET IN THE COMMUNITY

### The COMET Improves Route Services

The COMET has listened to your feedback regarding on-time performance and has rolled out a new and improved service change with more reliable time points that began Sunday, May 8.

New route schedules are available online and are at COMET Central. There will be minimal changes to a few routes but overall service will be more reliable and efficient.

These new schedules will have updated pick up times to better help you plan your trips on The COMET. Our online "Track My Bus" feature lets you know the location of your bus as it travels along the route.



### The COMET to Hold Lower Richland Community Meeting

How can The COMET better serve the Lower Richland Community?

Attend the Lower Richland Transportation Public Meeting on June 20 at the Garners Ferry Adult Activity Center (8620 Garners Ferry Rd. Hopkins, SC 29061) from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.



## RIDING SAFELY

### The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is no longer enforcing the federal mask ordinance

As a result of a court order, effective April 18, 2022, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) January 29, 2021 order requiring masks on public transportation conveyances and at transportation hubs is no longer in effect. Therefore, the CDC will not enforce the Order. The CDC continues to recommend that people wear masks in indoor public transportation settings at this time.

The COMET strongly encourages the continued wearing of masks on buses and in its facilities for the protection of our passengers, staff, and operators.



## IN THE SPOTLIGHT

### EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH



#### Lawanda Chisholm

Chisholm is the Transport Care Services employee of the month who started her journey with The COMET in 2015 and can be described in one word: dedicated.



#### Ronnie Gibson

Ronnie Gibson is our RATP Dev. employee of the month who has been with The COMET since 2018 and loves being able to work with people.

## DID YOU KNOW? FACTS & FIGURES

### DID YOU KNOW?

When the state and the country were suddenly struck with the COVID-19 pandemic and all the implications, The COMET went to work.

The COMET's "Don't Miss Your Shot" campaign has been providing the community with free rides to vaccination sites and, in partnership with Health Force, has set up a vaccine and testing site at The COMET Central Hub.

- There have been over 13,000 COVID-19 tests and vaccines given at COMET Central.
- 1,334 people took rideshares as part of the DMYS campaign to get their COVID-19 vaccine.
- 223 riders utilized DART services to get their COVID-19 vaccine.