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## **Beth Osborne of Transportation for America to Keynote COTA's 2017 Annual Luncheon**

**COLUMBUS, OH**—COTA's 2017 Annual Luncheon will take place on Thurs. Aug. 24, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 N. High St. COTA welcomes Beth Osborne, Vice President for Technical Assistance and Senior Policy Advisor at Transportation for America, as this year's keynote speaker.

Few people in the country know as much as Osborne about how communities can get critical, innovative transportation projects done in the complexities of today's funding and policy environment. Osborne is a nationally recognized speaker and go-to resource for the public and private sector who are looking for creative insight in developing smart, locally-driven transportation infrastructure projects.

This year's luncheon theme, "It's A Journey ... Not Just A Ride: Smart Technology Driving Public Transportation" deepens the conversation about Columbus as a Smart City, the opportunities for innovation in public transportation, and its potential impact on economic growth and the greater community.

The Annual Luncheon is COTA's signature event where community leaders, business partners, and those passionate about transit come together to hear national trends, local action and future plans related to public transportation.

### **About Beth Osborne**

Osborne leads Transportation for America's technical assistance for state and local departments of transportation and is a senior advisor for Transportation for America. She was previously at the U.S. Department of Transportation, where she served as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy and the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy beginning in 2009. At DOT, Osborne managed the TIGER Discretionary Grant program, the Secretary's livability initiative, the development of the Administration's surface transportation authorization proposal, and the implementation of MAP-21. Before joining DOT, Osborne worked for Sen. Tom Carper (DE) as an advisor for transportation, trade and labor policy, as the policy director for Smart Growth America, and as legislative director for environmental policy at the Southern Governors' Association. She began her career in Washington, DC, in the House of Representatives working as a legislative staff member.

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**Ticket Information**

Tickets may be purchased online at [cotaluncheon2017.eventbrite.com](http://cotaluncheon2017.eventbrite.com).

Prices are as follows: General Admission - \$75; Table (10 seats) - \$750; and Supporting Sponsor Table - \$2,500.

Questions may be directed to Diamond Zimmerman at [ZimmermanDC@cota.com](mailto:ZimmermanDC@cota.com).

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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 provides more than 18 million passenger trips per year, and employs more than 1,000 people. COTA operates throughout Franklin County, and parts of Delaware, Fairfield, Licking and Union counties. For more information about COTA, visit [COTA.com](http://COTA.com) or call (614) 228-1776.*



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