



Morning Agenda and Program Descriptions

7 AM	Registration Opens
7 – 7:45 AM	Breakfast Buffet
7:45 – 8 AM	Morning Welcome & Sponsor Recognition

Opening Keynote 8 – 9 AM

Kick off the conference with a keynote that everyone will be talking about. Insightful, energizing, and impossible to ignore, this opening session sets the direction for the entire event. Miss it, and you'll be playing catch-up.

Breakout Sessions 9:15 – 10:15 AM

(M1) The Future of Transit: How LinkUs is Modernizing the Region

Following COTA's successful ballot initiative in 2024, the future of transit in the region is getting a fresh, new look and there are opportunities for the construction community to get on the ground floor of the transformation. Learn how LinkUS will modernize the region and how your company can play a role in the future of transit in central Ohio.

City of Columbus, COTA, Franklin County & MORPC

Pending: AIA: 1 LU/HSW, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(M2) Building Value from the Inside Out: ESOPs in Construction

Is an ESOP (Employee Stock Ownership Plan) a succession planning option for your firm? Not sure? Learn the basics of ESOPs as well as the unique benefits an ESOP provides to a construction company. Plus, gain insight regarding the transition process from a company owner who recently sold to an ESOP.

Taft Law, Lazear Capital and Robertson Construction

Pending: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(M3) Where Sustainability Meets Wellness - The Road to LEED and WELL

Certification

Explore the successes, challenges, and lessons learned from integrating LEEDv4 and WELLv2 certifications in the design and construction of Jane E. Heminger Hall at The Ohio State University. The project team will share how they collaborated to balance certification requirements with institutional goals while creating a health-promoting, sustainable space. Attendees will discover the innovative design elements that were implemented, how they contributed to achieving dual certifications, and leave with practical approaches to pursuing LEED and WELL certifications while creating spaces that advance health, sustainability, and well-being.

Karpinski Engineering, MA Design, The Ohio State University and Ruscilli Construction Co., LLC
Pending: AIA: 1 LU/HSW, GBCI: 1 CE hour, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(M4) Building Connections: A Networking Breakout (Round 1)

Conference attendees consistently value chances to network and form strong connections within their field. In this breakout, participants will sit at small roundtables to discuss current trends in the construction industry. Facilitators will have prompts to help get conversations started and then it's your chance to share, learn more and add new names to your contact list.

Facilitators: BX Young Professionals

No continuing education credits are available for this program. Limited to the first 60 participants.

Breakout Sessions 10:30 – 11:30 AM

(M5) Connecting Communities Through Transit-Oriented Development

In a follow up to the presentation on LinkUS and the future of transit in the last round of breakouts, this session will explore how Transit-Oriented Development, development around transit hubs and stations, enables people from all walks of life to experience the benefits of mass transit, making it easy, accessible and affordable to get from point A to point B. The modernization of the Zoning Code for the City of Columbus pairs perfectly with these projects, by supporting growth and encouraging thoughtful investment in neighborhoods.

City of Columbus, COTA, Franklin County & MORPC
Pending: AIA: 1 LU/HSW, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(M6) The Power of Partnership: Unleashing Industry Expertise

Discover the unique partnership between Ohio Hi-Point Career Center and Performance Columbus in Marysville. Their innovative collaboration with the automotive satellite program provides hands-on learning with an industry professional and the development of a skilled talent pipeline for the business. It's a perfect time for the construction industry to explore a similar partnership to develop the next generation.

Ohio Hi-Point Career Center and Performance Columbus
Pending: PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(M7) Advanced Analytics & AI: Where are You on Your Data Journey?

Organizations everywhere are investing in data, analytics, and AI – but many are at very different stages. Understanding where you are on this journey is critical to knowing what to do next. Explore how construction organizations progress across the analytics maturity curve and uncover practical opportunities to adopt AI, strengthen governance, and accelerate your journey toward a truly data-driven culture.

Jilson Rodgers and Jonathan Sharpe (Plante Moran)

Pending: AIA: 1 LU, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(M8) Building Connections: A Networking Breakout (Round 2)

Conference attendees consistently value chances to network and form strong connections within their field. In this breakout, participants will sit at small roundtables to discuss current trends in the construction industry. Facilitators will have prompts to help get conversations started and then it's your chance to share, learn more and add new names to your contact list.

Facilitators: BX Young Professionals

No continuing education credits are available for this program. Limited to the first 60 participants.

Afternoon Agenda and Program Descriptions

11:30 AM Lunch Buffet

Mid-Day Keynote 12:30 – 1:30 PM

Following lunch, economic expert, Tom Jalics, chief market strategist (Fifth Third Bank) returns to the Conference with a no nonsense look at the financial market. Tom's insight and practical approach will provide attendees with economic trends and forward-looking expectations impacting the construction industry.

Tom Jalics (Fifth Third Bank)

Pending: AIA: 1 LU, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

Breakout Sessions 1:45– 2:45 PM

(A1) Building the Future Without Breaking the Grid

Utilities are continuing to make headlines as they search for solutions to meet the unprecedented load growth driven by development in the region. Former AEP executive, Mark McCullough will revisit the question "Is there enough power?" and provide an update on the status of the grid, regulatory challenges, financial realities and the steps that must be taken to ensure an ample power supply for current and future needs.

Mark McCullough (McCullough Consulting, LLC)

Pending: AIA: 1 LU/HSW, GBCI: 1 CE hour, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(A2) The Smartest Tool in the Box: Artificial Intelligence in Action

In this interactive demonstration, participants will discover how businesses in the construction industry can utilize an LLM (large language model) for enhanced communication, data analytics, tools for more immediate insights and custom GPTs for streamlining specific workflows.

Jack Spiller (AI Owl)

Pending: PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(A3) Take a Walk Through “Culdesac” – A Tempe, AZ Case Study

A younger workforce and middle-income families are looking for housing that reduces travel time, includes walkability and is child friendly. Learn how Culdesac accomplished this in Tempe, by developing the first car-free community built from scratch. See how Culdesac is making walkable living the norm in the US, not the exception and how the Ohio Housing Innovation Partnership is supporting the creation of innovative, walkable communities in Ohio.

Erin Boyd (Culdesac) and Jerry Hultin (Ohio Housing Innovation Partnership)

Pending: AIA: 1 LU/HSW, GBCI: 1 CE hour, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(A4) Building Connections: A Networking Breakout (Round 3)

Conference attendees consistently value chances to network and form strong connections within their field. In this breakout, participants will sit at small roundtables to discuss current trends in the construction industry. Facilitators will have prompts to help get conversations started and then it's your chance to share, learn more and add new names to your contact list.

Facilitators: BX Young Professionals

No continuing education credits are available for this program. Limited to the first 60 participants.

Breakout Sessions 3 – 4 PM

(A5) Success Behind & Beyond Bars: Fair Chances Not Just Second Chances

Learn how industry employers can provide workforce opportunities for previously incarcerated individuals. Participants will be introduced to the training that's taking place within the correctional system and how that can continue as second chance employees receive a fair chance at joining the workforce.

Vernise Robinson (Ohio Department of Rehabilitation and Correction) and John Rush (180 Demo)

Pending: PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(A6) Cleared for Takeoff: How Drones are Taking Construction to New Heights

The use of drones isn't a new concept for the construction industry; however, their usage is continuing to evolve. Learn how drones are being used in construction today plus modern flight platforms, documentation and safety applications, as well as legislative hurdles regarding foreign platforms. You'll discover how drones are being used on job sites for documentation and marketing purposes and how they increase accuracy for mapping applications.

Mike Cairns (Aerial Image Solutions)

Pending: PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(A7) The Evolution of Healthcare Construction: How Prefabrication Optimized the Prototype

Discover how post-occupancy research informed the evolution of The Ohio State University's Outpatient Care Center prototypes—from conventional construction to prefabricated interior and exterior systems—enhancing speed to market, patient and provider experience, and long-term performance value. The project team will share their experience using OSU Powell and two prior facilities as case studies.

CK Construction, DIRT, DLR Group and The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center

Pending: AIA: 1 LU/HSW, GBCI: 1 CE hour, PE: 1 PDH, OCILB: 1 CEU

(A8) Building Connections: A Networking Breakout (Round 4)

Conference attendees consistently value chances to network and form strong connections within their field. In this breakout, participants will sit at small roundtables to discuss current trends in the construction industry. Facilitators will have prompts to help get conversations started and then it's your chance to share, learn more and add new names to your contact list.

Facilitators: BX Young Professionals

No continuing education credits are available for this program. Limited to the first 60 participants.

Conference Reception/Happy Hour 4 – 5 PM

The education sessions may be finished, but the networking among attendees, presenters and sponsors continues during the Conference Happy Hour!