



Greetings and Happy Holidays,

The holidays are upon us! The members of your Board of Directors are looking forward to celebrating our favorite time of the year—I'm sure you are, too. It goes without saying that 2020 has been one of the most challenging years in recent memory. This year defies the boundaries of the traditional. I believe it will take several years to gain a better—but by no means complete—understanding of the tremendous events that took place in fiscal year 2020 and their profound impact on this organization and the profession it serves. Coming off such a hard year makes the holiday season feel even more important as we all seek comfort, joy, and the company of family and friends.

I confess that when I said last year you could count on CPMA to support and inspire you as you lead your respective agencies through these unprecedented times, I did not imagine the massive hurdles you would be facing in the latter half of 2020. But true to the inherent nature of this profession, you have taken these challenges and turned them into opportunities for transforming how your organizations function and excel.

With COVID-19 cases at an all-time high, I urge you to keep your celebrations safe and bright by staying healthy and following the safety guidelines from our public health officials and leaders. This means following the 3 W's (Wear a mask, Wash your hands, Wait six feet apart), staying home to celebrate with the members of your immediate household, and connecting with other family and friends virtually. It's hard to give up our traditions and in-person gatherings, but it will help ensure that we can all be together this time next year.

Thankfully, 2021 is around the corner and there's much to look forward to: the anticipation and availability of COVID-19 vaccines, new opportunities for creativity and innovation, taking those trips you put on hold this year, and most of all, feeling comfortable being together again. As we prepare for a new year, we have an opportunity to both celebrate the past and plan for the future. CPMA is committed to working with you as we strive to recover.

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I would like to wish each of our Association members and their families the very warmest of greetings and best wishes during the holiday season. We have much to be grateful for, particularly all of our members and countless others who make this such a beloved organization. We often hear about the acts of kindness you do for one another and for your communities during these uncertain times. May you enjoy the company of the ones you love and may you be blessed with peace and joy through the holiday season as well as the entire year!

With that we at CPMA wish you a peaceful holiday season and a prosperous 2021!

Yours in Service,

Thomas D. Leathers, CAPP
President, Carolinas Parking and Mobility Association