



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Dear SWANA, RCon participants, and U.S. Plastics Pact Activators,

On behalf of the City of Columbus, I want to extend a warm welcome and a heartfelt thank you for being here. RCon marks a pivotal moment for waste and resource management professionals, bringing together leaders, innovators and partners dedicated to transforming waste into opportunity. We're proud to host this inaugural conference in a city deeply rooted in these values, where local champions like Rumpke and the Solid Waste Authority of Central Ohio are shaping the future of sustainability.

As you engage in this important gathering, we invite you to experience firsthand the sustainability efforts happening across our city. I'm proud to share that our Sustainable Columbus initiative unites city operations and community partners to implement bold, eco-friendly policies with the goal of positioning Columbus as a leader in sustainability locally, statewide and nationally. Our community is upping its ambition with a commitment to reduce emissions by 45% by 2030 to ensure Columbus does its fair share in combating global climate change, with a long-term goal of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.

The Greater Columbus Convention Center, where your meeting will take place, is itself a model for sustainable innovation. Its LEED® Silver-certified North Building, focus on energy and water efficiency, and pioneering indoor vertical Smartfarm that produces nearly 5,000 pounds of fresh vegetables and herbs annually for culinary use showcase what's possible when environmental stewardship and modern design come together.

Your visit arrives during one of the city's most inviting seasons. Just last year, USA Today 10Best ranked Columbus among the "10 Best Spots in the U.S. to Visit This Fall." We hope you'll take time to explore our vibrant neighborhoods, diverse culinary scene and friendly community.

Thank you again for being here and for the meaningful work you do. We hope to welcome you back soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Andrew J. Ginther".

Andrew J. Ginther
Mayor



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