

## February 2021



The past year was one for the books. All of us at Urban Systems want to say how thankful we are for your support, and we hope 2021 will bring more safe opportunities to meet in person.

Despite the global pandemic, we were fortunate to celebrate the end of 2020 together at a dinner with our significant others.

*Right: Firm owners, Alison and Nicole, thank the staff for their commitment during the unprecedented circumstances.*



## Women's Professional Council

Both Alison and Nicole are members of the Women's Professional Council (WPC-NO) of New Orleans. Founded in 1984, the WPC-NO was created to promote and support the interests of women professionals in the Greater New Orleans area. WPC-NO promotes professional advancement and involvement in the community through philanthropic giving and support of opportunities for women. Alison is currently serving her second year as an At-Large-Member of the Board. Visit [wpc-no.org](http://wpc-no.org) for more information about the organization.



## The Revolutionary Garrett Morgan



Today, February 1st, marks the beginning of Black History Month. Traffic Engineering has many historical figures, but today we want to focus on the inventor that revolutionized the traffic signal.

On November 20, 1923, the U.S. Patent Office grants Patent No. 1,475,074 to 46-year-old inventor and newspaperman Garrett Morgan for his three-position traffic signal. Though Morgan's was not the first traffic signal (that one had been installed in London in 1868), his was an important innovation nonetheless. By having a third position besides just "Stop" and "Go," it regulated crossing vehicles more safely than earlier signals had.

Next time you're driving, and the signal turns yellow, think of Garrett Morgan and how his invention is still used today.

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"You must never be fearful about what you are doing when it is right." - Rosa Parks

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## 35 Unique Valentine's Day Ideas

February also holds another exciting reason to celebrate. Valentine's Day is just two weeks away! Whether you like to go out or stay at home, these unique Valentine's Day ideas will make your date feel extra special.

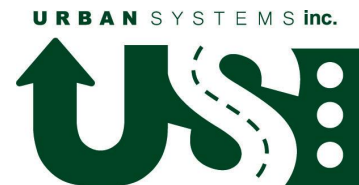
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Urban Systems is dedicated to providing clients with professional services of outstanding quality. As your traffic and planning consultant, we expect to become your partner and an integral member of your project team.



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