

Environment, Economy, Development, and Sustainability (EEDS)

# Smart Columbus — Sustainability Intern

Hifsah Ayub



## Background

### Who did you work for?

Smart Columbus

### What is Smart Columbus?

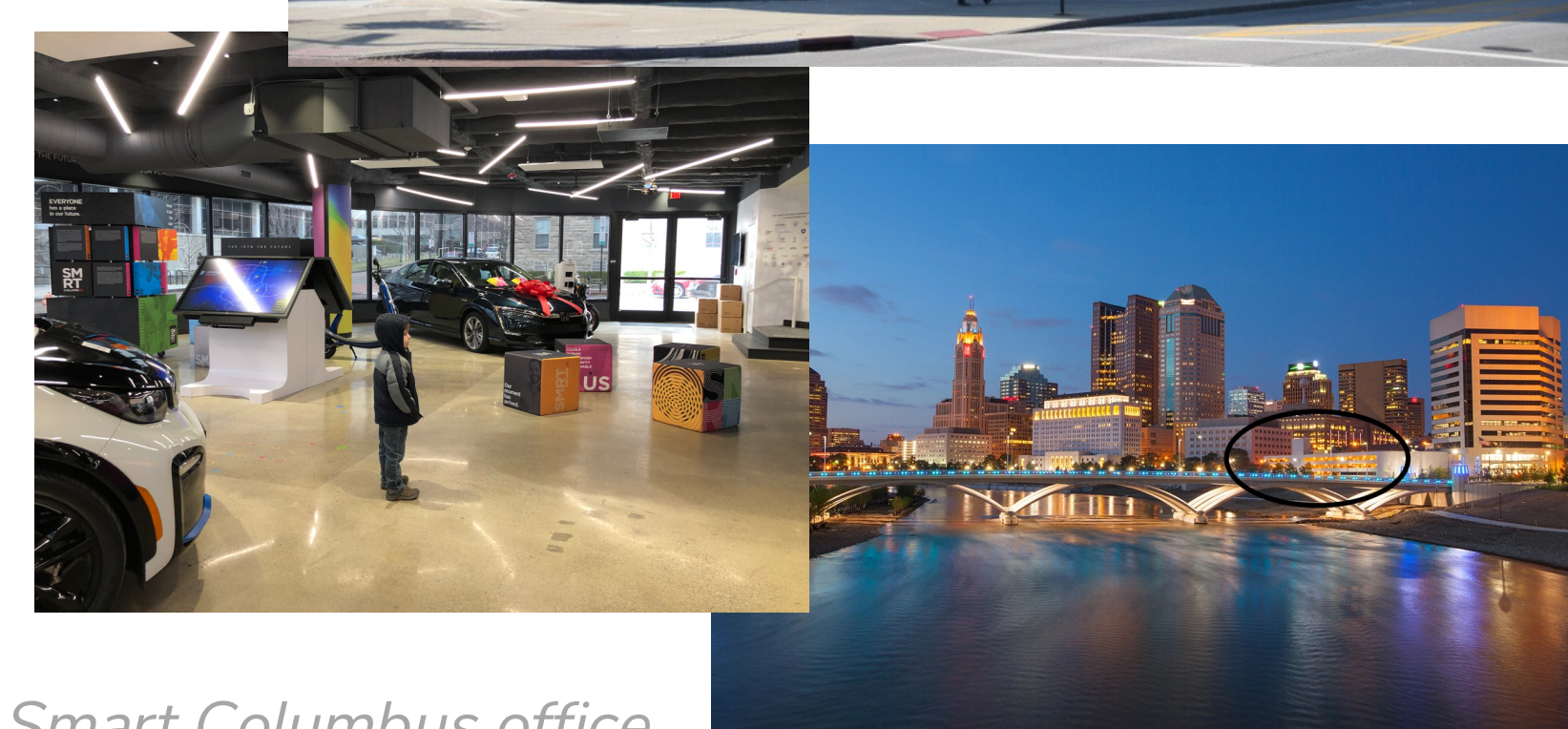
Smart Columbus is a nonprofit organization funded by the City of Columbus that focuses on integrating cleaner modes of transportation throughout the region. Smart Columbus also partners with companies throughout Columbus to educate employees and electrify fleets through the Acceleration Partner Program.



Smart Columbus logo

### Where were you located?

- Office / Experience Center
- Downtown Columbus
  - 170 S Civic Center Dr., Columbus, OH 43215
- Near the Scioto Mile!



Smart Columbus office and experience center

**Vision:** “Smart Columbus is an agile, collaborative innovation lab that anticipates of technology and community good and advances what is new and next at the intersection”

### How did you find/apply to your internship?

I found my internship using Handshake. I applied by reaching out directly to the email listed in the posting.

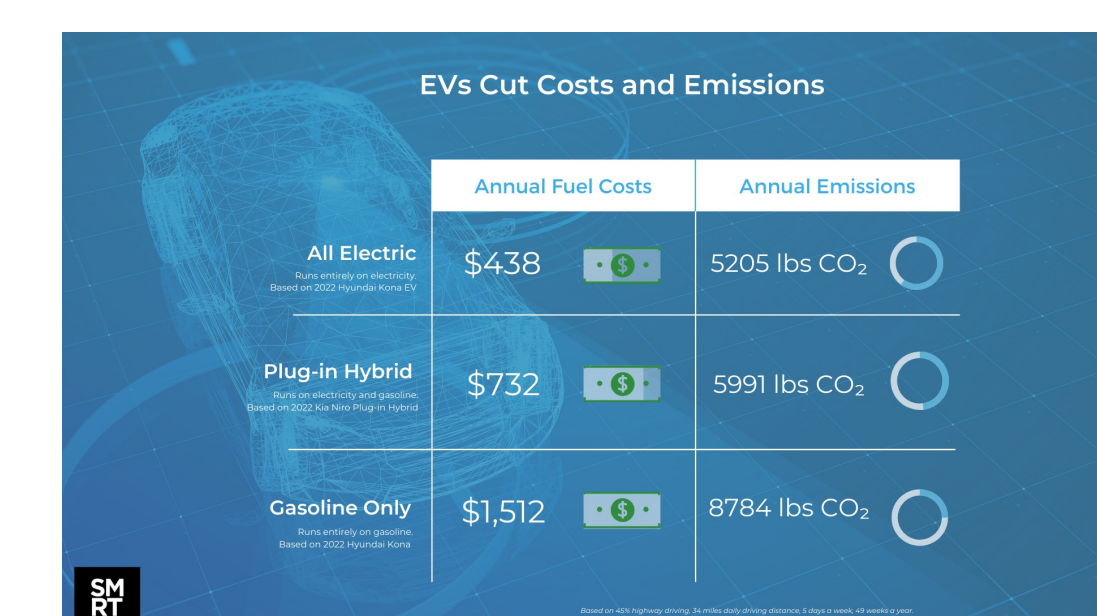


Programs used for internship search and application

## Experience

### Scope of Work:

- Reported to the Director of Sustainability
- Electric vehicles and charging stations
- Helped coordinate and run events
- Created educational materials



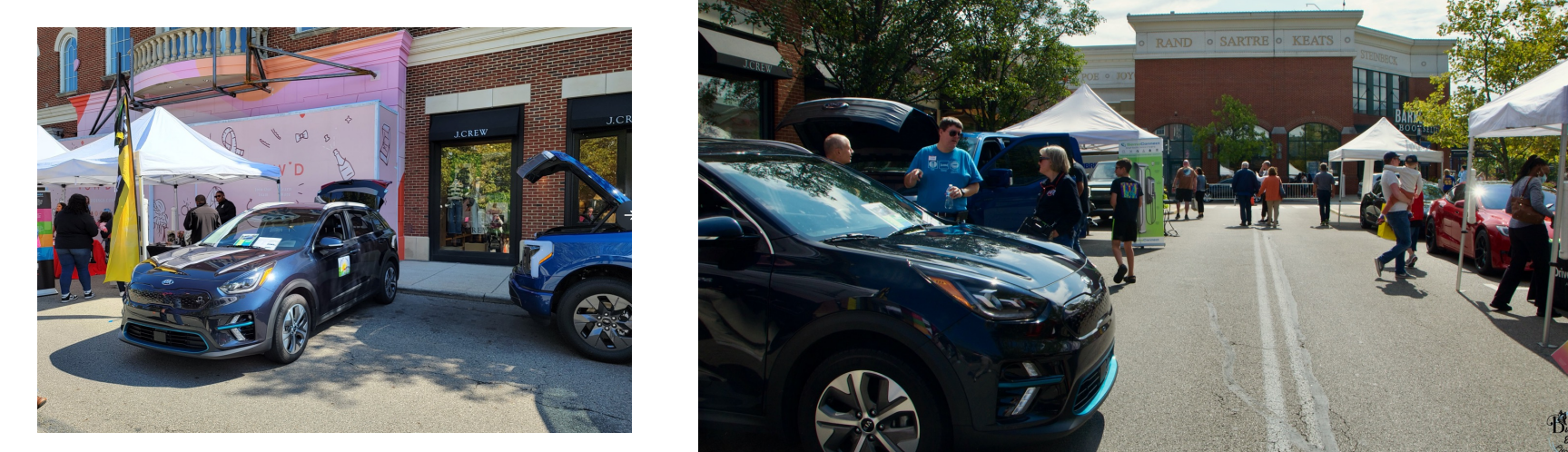
Slide created about fuel costs and emissions

### Creation examples:

- Workplace Charging Guide
- Residential Charging Guide Examples
- EV Dealer Pitchbook
- Presentation Slides
- Etc.



Educational EV Dealer Pitchbook



Drive Electric Event at Easton

### Notable Events:

- “Drive Electric Event” at Easton
  - Worked the Smart Columbus booth
  - Gave a general rundown of our mission
  - Informed people about the benefits of driving electric

### Skills:

**Technical:** Slack, Canva, Microsoft Office, Google Workspace, Research

**Soft:** Communication, Teamwork, Public Speaking.



Applications used during internship

## Reflection

### Relation to studies:

As an EEDS major, I am glad I was able to work within the realm of electric mobility because clean transportation will shift society into a cleaner and more sustainable future.

### What I learned:

- I value having a space at work where individuals can be open and honest
- I like having a dynamic and flexible scope of work
- I would like to pursue a career that includes working with others, utilizing teamwork and collaboration.

### Recommendations

If you are interested in a similar experience:

Nonprofit work:

- Educate and provide for the common good.

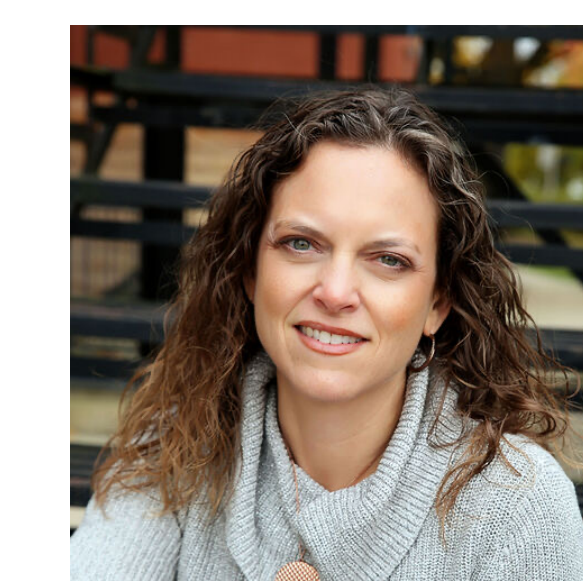
Organization size:

- A relatively small number of employees encourages working closely with others in a collaborative environment.

### Acknowledgements:

Thank you to my wonderful supervisor and mentor, Kristy Meyer, who guided me through this internship and provided me with opportunities to learn, grow, and network.

Thank you also to the amazing team at Smart, including my fellow interns, who made my internship experience at Smart Columbus engaging and fun!



Kristy Meyer, Director of Sustainability



Team at Smart Columbus



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COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES