

Where Public and Private Sector Leaders Shape the Next Era of Infrastructure

Newlab Brooklyn Navy Yard

19 Morris Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11205

# Last Update 10/29/2025 3:41 PM Speakers / Timing – Subject to Change

# Speakers:

AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, Kahua

Alexis Taylor, Vice President Climate Resilience, **New York City Economic Development Corporation** 

Alison Roccia, Senior Solution Consulting Manager, Oracle

Amen Mukhlis, AVP, Infrastructure Design & Construction, Flood Resilience & Climate Adaptation,

# **Metropolitan Transportation Authority**

Andy Brehm, Business Development, Joby Aviation

Ankita Nalavade, Principal Specialist, Standards of Practice (Resilient & Sustainable Engineering),

# The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

Anton Fredriksson, Senior Vice President | Head of Ports, Waterfront, and Transportation

Department, New York City Economic Development Corporation

Avi Schwartz, Principal, **Deloitte** 

Brian Fritsch, Associate Director, Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA (PCAC)

Christopher Wagner, Director, PMWEB

Chuck Romoser, Sr. Vice President of Technology, Stellar Services.

Dave Seliger, Chief Digital Equity Officer, NYC Department of Housing Preservation &

# **Development**

David Kooris, Executive Director, CT Municipal Development Authority

Edith Hsu-Chen, Executive Director, NYC Department of City Planning

Erika Jozwiak, Climate Resiliency Lead, NYSERDA

Gerald Verno, Director - Supply Chain Planning and Analytics, Washington Metropolitan Area

# Transit Authority (WMATA)

Hugh Seaton, CEO, The Link

Irena Vorotnikova Nedeljkovic, Deputy Commissioner - Roadway Repair and Maintenance, New

# **York City Department of Transportation**

James Mueller, Executive Director, Passaic Valley Water Commission

Janek Kozlowski, Director Capital Construction, Metro-North Railroad

Jeffrey Nesbitt, Director of Strategic Partnerships, **Slate Technologies Inc.** 

Jeremy Colangelo, Chief Planner, NJ TRANSIT

Josh Kanner, Sr. Director of Product and Strategy | Analytics & Al, Oracle

Julia (Su.) Jack, Director of Capital Projects & Operations, City of Hartford, CT

Julie Wormser, Chief Climate Officer, City of Cambridge

Kara Gurl, Planning and Advocacy Manager, **Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA (PCAC)** 

Kate Slevin, Executive Vice President, Regional Plan Association

Keith Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer, Deputy Commissioner, **NYC Citywide Administrative Services** Kevin Costello, Head of Northeast, **VertiPorts by Atlantic** 

Kirsten Jones, Program Director, Port Authority Bus Terminal Replacement, **The Port Authority of** 

# **New York & New Jersey**

Leo Tsang, Principal Transportation Planner and Modeler, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

Liliana Petrova, CEO/Founder, The Petrova Experience

Lorne Lieb, Deputy Director, Strategy & Innovation, Operations Training, **Metro-North Railroad**Margarita Potapova, Chief of Staff, Redevelopment & Capital Construction – General Manager's
Office, Aviation Department, John F. Kennedy International Airport, **The Port Authority of New York**& New Jersey

Maria Cuenca, Senior Engineer - JFK Redevelopment, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

Miriam Harris, Senior Vice President, Transit Oriented Development, **Metropolitan Transportation Authority** 

Mohinder Singh, Managing Director, **Deloitte** 

Nicklaus Smith, Associate, Asset Management – Ports, Waterfront, and Transportation, New York

# **City Economic Development Corporation**

Noah Reneau, Director of Infrastructure, nPlan

Paul Storella, Senior Vice President - NYC Regional Business Line Leader - Water, **AECOM** Phillip Rizzo, Area Vice President, **Oracle** 

Prasant Tangirala, Chief Information Officer, City of Stamford, CT

Rachel Aaronson, Vice President of Waterfronts, Neighborhood Strategies, New York City

# **Economic Development Corporation**

Robert Freudenberg, Vice President, Energy & Environment Program, **Regional Plan Association**Robert Hotaling, Deputy Advisor for Infrastructure & Federal Funds, **State of Connecticut**Rumana Haque, Traffic Engineering | Transportation Technologies, Data, and Innovation, **Port** 

# **Authority of New York & New Jersey**

Ryan Bieber, Associate Principal, Urbahn Architects PLLC

Sam Donelson, Executive Vice President, Regional Chief Executive US East & LATAM, **AECOM** Sanjay Seth, Deputy Commissioner for Climate, Air, and Energy, **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation** 

Sara Appleton, Director, Penn Station Transformation, Amtrak

Sarah Kaufman, Executive Director, NYU Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and

# Management

Sarah Welton, Director, **GRESB Foundation** 

Seth Kaye, Deputy Commissioner of Development (Planning), **City of New Rochelle**Seth Wainer, Program Director Innovation, Planning Department, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

Spencer Reavis, Manager, Enterprise Client Relations, PMWEB

Stacey Matlen, Senior Vice President, Innovation, Partnership for New York City

Taylor Last, Lead Data Scientist, Artificial Intelligence, Kahua

Thomas Abdallah, Vice President & Chief Environmental Engineer, MTA New York City Transit

## 7:00 AM - 8:15 AM

Registration & Networking Breakfast

# 8:00 AM

## **Opening Remarks**

Phillip Rizzo, Area Vice President, Oracle

#### 8:00 AM - 8:45 AM

# Panel — Modernizing Urban Transit: Rail, Bus, and Multimodal Integration

- Coordinating major transit investments from Penn Station to JFK to deliver a seamless, sustainable, and resilient regional network
- Leveraging data, planning, and rider insights to improve service design, performance, and accessibility across modes
- Advancing multimodal connectivity through innovation in rail, bus, and last-mile mobility to meet changing travel patterns
- Embedding sustainability, public engagement, and environmental leadership into every stage of transit modernization

#### Moderator:

Sam Donelson, Executive Vice President, Regional Chief Executive US East & LATAM, AECOM

#### Panelists:

Brian Fritsch, Associate Director, **Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA (PCAC)** Jeremy Colangelo, Chief Planner, **NJ TRANSIT** 

Maria Cuenca, Senior Engineer - JFK Redevelopment, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersev** 

Sara Appleton, Director, Penn Station Transformation, Amtrak

Sarah Kaufman, Executive Director, **NYU Rudin Center for Transportation Policy and Management** 

Thomas Abdallah, Vice President & Chief Environmental Engineer, MTA New York City Transit

#### 8:45 AM - 9:00 AM

# Presentation — Midtown Bus Terminal Replacement: Building New While Learning from the Old

As the busiest bus terminal in the world, the Midtown Bus Terminal is a true workhorse that serves a vital link for Trans Hudson commuter and intercity bus service. Constructed in 1950, the Terminal has reached the end of its useful life and has become functionally obsolete. In this presentation, Kirsten Jones, Program Director for the Bus Terminal Replacement Project, within the Tunnels, Bridges, and Terminals Department at the Port Authority of NY & NJ, will share how the program was conceived, designed, and will navigate operations throughout construction. She will provide some historical context on how the existing terminal has evolved and been as successful as it could be given the conditions, as well as highlighting ways in which lessons learned will improve the design of a future terminal.

#### Presenter:

Kirsten Jones, Program Director, Port Authority Bus Terminal Replacement, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

# Panel — Digital Transformation for Infrastructure Projects

- Data Analytics and Governance
- Modernizing Project Delivery
- Project Management Information Systems (PMIS)
- Sustainability and ESG

#### Moderator:

Avi Schwartz, Principal, Deloitte

#### Panelists:

Gerald Verno, Director - Supply Chain Planning and Analytics, **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA)** 

Noah Reneau, Director of Infrastructure, **nPlan**Prasant Tangirala, Chief Information Officer, **City of Stamford, CT**TBA, **New York Power Authority** 

#### 9:30 AM - 9:40 AM

# Presentation — Driving Accuracy in Manpower and Budget Forecasts for Construction Projects

Rigorous forecasting of resources (personnel, equipment, material, (train) track outages, etc) are critical to the determination of accurate budgets for construction projects. Too often publicly funded projects experience cost and schedule overruns which bring legislative and watchdog scrutiny to the project and necessitate financial bailouts and/or a decrease in scope. These overruns also affect other projects which rely on the first project's resources being made available. Metro-North has embarked on a new methodology of forecasting resource needs for its entire \$1.5 billion-dollar annual construction and maintenance program. With a cap on the strength of the workforce and tasked with a robust construction and maintenance plan, the railroad must allocate its resources carefully, coordinate all activities with train operations and budget accordingly. Janek Kozlowski, Director of Business Intelligence, will describe this new methodology, the problem areas it has identified, describe process refinements and present lessons learned.

#### Presenter:

Janek Kozlowski, Director Capital Construction, Metro-North Railroad

# 9:40 AM - 10:20 AM

# Panel — Resilient Coastal Infrastructure: Preparing for Climate Risks

- Advancing regional strategies to protect New York and coastal communities from sea-level rise, storm surge, and chronic flooding
- Designing resilient waterfronts and large-scale protection systems that integrate engineering, ecology, and community needs

- Implementing climate adaptation standards and nature-based solutions across agencies and jurisdictions
- Aligning funding, policy, and permitting frameworks to accelerate equitable, science-driven resilience projects

### Moderator:

Paul Storella, Senior Vice President - NYC Regional Business Line Leader - Water, AECOM

#### Panelists:

Ankita Nalavade, Principal Specialist, Standards of Practice (Resilient & Sustainable Engineering),

# The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

Emily Korman, Resiliency Capital Planning Manager, NJ TRANSIT

Erika Jozwiak, Climate Resiliency Lead, NYSERDA

Julie Wormser, Chief Climate Officer, City of Cambridge

Rachel Aaronson, Vice President of Waterfronts, Neighborhood Strategies, New York City

# **Economic Development Corporation**

Sanjay Seth, Deputy Commissioner for Climate, Air, and Energy, **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation** 

# 10:20 AM - 10:40 AM

**Morning Networking Break** 

## 10:40 AM - 11:10 AM

# Panel — Funding & Infrastructure Finance

- How can Agencies Sustain Capital Growth
- Exploring Alternative Funding Streams
- Infrastructure Financing
- Resilience and Sustainability Finance

# Moderator:

Mohinder Singh, Managing Director, **Deloitte** 

## Panelists:

Robert Hotaling, Deputy Advisor for Infrastructure & Federal Funds, **State of Connecticut** Sarah Welton, Director, **GRESB Foundation** 

TBA, New York Green Bank

#### 11:10 AM - 11:30 AM

# Presentation — Turning Construction Data into Decisions with Slate AI

Lack of visibility, poor data, and broken communication is a trillion-dollar problem for the construction industry. Data is scattered across tools, departments, projects, and PMs—leaving

contractors overwhelmed and under-informed. Many believe they first need to "get organized" before they can benefit from AI. With Slate Technologies, that's not the case.

#### Presenters:

Chuck Romoser, Sr. Vice President of Technology, **Stellar Services.**Jeffrey Nesbitt, Director of Strategic Partnerships, **Slate Technologies Inc.** 

#### 11:30 AM - 12:00 AM

# Panel — Building Resilient, Smart Infrastructure for the Next Decade

- Integrating resilience, connectivity, and technology into the design and management of urban infrastructure systems.
- Using data, AI, and digital tools to enhance capital project delivery, operations, and long-term asset performance
- Expanding digital equity and connectivity from broadband access to smart airport and port infrastructure — to support inclusive growth
- Advancing regional planning and public-private partnerships that link transportation, housing, and energy systems for a smarter, more sustainable decade ahead

#### Moderator:

## TBA, Boingo Wireless

#### Panelists:

Dave Seliger, Chief Digital Equity Officer, **NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development** 

Margarita Potapova, Chief of Staff, Redevelopment & Capital Construction – General Manager's Office, Aviation Department, John F. Kennedy International Airport, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

Nicklaus Smith, Associate, Asset Management – Ports, Waterfront, and Transportation, **New York City Economic Development Corporation** 

Robert Freudenberg, Vice President, Energy & Environment Program, Regional Plan Association

#### 12:00 AM - 12:30 PM

# Panel — Data & Al for Smarter Cities

- Using AI and predictive analytics for asset management
- Smart sensors and IoT to optimize urban mobility
- Cybersecurity for connected infrastructure systems
- Case studies of municipal digital transformation

#### Moderator:

Dana Salvo, Manager, Customer Success, Aurigo Software Technologies

#### Panelists:

Leo Tsang, Principal Transportation Planner and Modeler, **The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

Rumana Haque, Traffic Engineering | Transportation Technologies, Data, and Innovation, **Port Authority of New York & New Jersey** 

Stacey Matlen, Senior Vice President, Innovation, Partnership for New York City

#### 12:30 PM - 1:00 PM

# Panel - Beyond the Hype: Real Al Solutions Reshaping Construction

Al is everywhere. But when it comes to construction, hype doesn't pour concrete. This session cuts through the noise to show how artificial intelligence is solving real problems on today's projects.

From effortless data entry and instant information retrieval to predictive project insights, discover how AI is reducing admin burden, improving decision-making and surfacing risks before they become issues.

In this moderated discussion, hear industry experts in data science, artificial intelligence and construction share lessons from early adoption as well as what's next for a smarter, more connected construction industry.

## Key Takeaways:

- Real Al applications delivering measurable ROI in the field
- Lessons learned from early adopters
- Practical steps to start your own Al journey, without the hype

# Moderator:

AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, Kahua

Panelists:

Hugh Seaton, CEO, The Link

Taylor Last, Lead Data Scientist, Artificial Intelligence, Kahua

# 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM

# **Networking Lunch**

#### 2:00 PM - 2:30 PM

# Panel — Infrastructure Tech & Digital Delivery Tools: From Visibility to Accountability

- Integrating cost, schedule, and performance data to drive real-time decision-making
- Automating workflows and approvals to reduce risk and rework
- Leveraging dashboards and analytics to improve forecasting and owner visibility

 Case studies from agencies and developers transforming delivery through unified digital systems

Moderator:

Spencer Reavis, Manager, Enterprise Client Relations, PMWEB

Panelists:

Christopher Wagner, Director, PMWEB

#### 2:30 PM - 2:50 PM

# Presentation — The "Agent" Will See You Now: How AI Is Changing the Nature of Work

The infrastructure and rail sectors are on the cusp of a profound transformation, driven by the rapid maturation of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies—particularly agentic AI, where autonomous systems perform complex, goal-oriented tasks. This evolution is redefining traditional ways of working, fostering unprecedented efficiencies, and unlocking new levels of project insight and collaboration. Oracle, a global technology leader, is at the forefront of this revolution. Through innovative integration of advanced AI capabilities within its robust technology platforms, including Oracle Fusion ERP, and its specialized Construction and Engineering applications—Unifier, Primavera, and Aconex—Oracle is helping organizations in the infrastructure industries to achieve improved project outcomes.

Agentic AI systems within Oracle's applications autonomously manage workflows, surface actionable insights from complex project data, and facilitate predictive and adaptive planning throughout the asset lifecycle. The result is enhanced project delivery certainty, stronger collaboration across stakeholders, and data-driven decision-making at every stage.

Presenter:

Josh Kanner, Sr. Director of Product and Strategy | Analytics & AI, **Oracle** 

2:50 PM - 3:20 PM

Panel — Gateway Program

#### 3:20 PM - 3:50 PM

# Panel — Real Estate Meets Infrastructure: Transit-Oriented Development

- Coordinating land use, housing, and transit planning to create vibrant, accessible, and connected urban centers
- Developing state, regional, and municipal frameworks that enable financing, zoning, and implementation of successful TOD projects
- Embedding equity, affordability, and community priorities into redevelopment to ensure inclusive economic growth

 Delivering integrated transit and development strategies that strengthen resilience and longterm regional sustainability

#### Moderator:

Alison Roccia, Senior Solution Consulting Manager, Oracle

## Panelists:

David Kooris, Executive Director, CT Municipal Development Authority

Edith Hsu-Chen, Executive Director, NYC Department of City Planning

Kara Gurl, Planning and Advocacy Manager, **Permanent Citizens Advisory Committee to the MTA (PCAC)** 

Kate Slevin, Executive Vice President, Regional Plan Association

Miriam Harris, Senior Vice President, Transit Oriented Development, **Metropolitan Transportation Authority** 

Seth Kaye, Deputy Commissioner of Development (Planning), City of New Rochelle

## 3:50 PM - 4:10 PM

**Afternoon Networking Break** 

## 4:10 PM - 4:40 PM

# Panel — Workforce Development: Closing Talent Gaps in Infrastructure

- Recruiting and retaining skilled workers
- Training programs and apprenticeships
- Building diversity in the trades and leadership
- Adapting workforce for emerging technologies and AI

# Panelists:

Irena Vorotnikova Nedeljkovic, Deputy Commissioner - Roadway Repair and Maintenance, **New York City Department of Transportation** 

Julia (Su.) Jack, Director of Capital Projects & Operations, City of Hartford, CT

# 4:40 PM - 5:10 PM

# Panel — It's Not Too Early: Building Infrastructure That Meets the Moment for eVTOL

With pilot programs launching as early as 2026, the window to prepare for eVTOL is closing fast. This panel explores what it takes to prepare cities, agencies, and developers for the next wave of transportation. From vertiport siting to multimodal integration, our panelists share where we are now, and how infrastructure needs to start strategizing for the future. Moderated by customer experience expert, Liliana Petrova, this conversation challenges stakeholders to gauge readiness for the eVTOL, and how to think about designing for seamless passenger journeys of the (near) future.

#### Moderator:

Liliana Petrova, CEO/Founder, The Petrova Experience

#### Panelists:

Andy Brehm, Business Development, **Joby Aviation**Anton Fredriksson, Senior Vice President | Head of Ports, Waterfront, and Transportation Department, **New York City Economic Development Corporation**Kevin Costello, Head of Northeast, **VertiPorts by Atlantic**Phoebe Martin, Business Development, **Archer** 

#### 5:10 PM - 5:15 PM

# Presentation — MTA C&D's Fare Gates of the Future: Accessibility Going Well Beyond Elevators and Ramps

The Sutphin Archer gates of the future pilot was a part of a larger MTA C&D initiative to modernize the subway/ Long Island Railroad (LIRR)/ JFK Air-train terminal complex; The project intended to test a new fare technology for project for accessibility and fare evasion; the upgraded the fare control system introducing the first truly modern fare array in the subway system, including two fully ADA compliant and accessible fare gates. This fare line upgrade was proposed with the vision of accessibility going well beyond elevators and ramps, and is about people who use mobility devices, and about riders traveling with kids in strollers, bikes and at this station in particular – with luggage. the presentation will discuss the effort MTA C&D took to design, implement, the collaborations, the testing to deliver this project which paves the way for a new generation of fare gates.

#### Presenters:

Amen Mukhlis, AVP, Infrastructure Design & Construction, Flood Resilience & Climate Adaptation, **Metropolitan Transportation Authority** 

Ryan Bieber, Associate Principal, Urbahn Architects PLLC

# 5:15 PM - 5:30 PM

# Presentation — Rethinking the Urban Fleet: Sustainability, Safety & Efficiency in NYC's Next-Generation Vehicles

As one of the largest municipal fleets in the United States, New York City is embarking on a bold transformation—redefining what city fleet vehicles look like, how they operate, and how they serve critical public needs. In this presentation, Keith Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer and Deputy Commissioner at NYC DCAS, will share how NYC is leading nationally in reimagining fleet vehicles through the lens of sustainability, safety, and operational efficiency. He will explore strategies for decarbonization, including electrification and renewable fuels; vehicle and infrastructure design features that enhance safety for operators and road users; and data- and performance-driven management practices to optimize utilization and cost. Attendees will gain insight into the technical, organizational, and policy challenges—and the lessons learned—behind NYC's work to align fleet modernization with climate goals, public safety, and mission-critical service delivery.

| Presenter: Keith Kerman, Chief Fleet Officer, Deputy Commissioner, NYC Citywide Administrative Services |
|---|
| 5:30 PM – 5:45 PM   |

5:45 PM Closing Remarks