“Challenges & Opportunities in American Infrastructure: Technology, Resilience, Funding & Finance”

WHEN: Wednesday, April 25, 2018
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
(Reception to Follow)

WHERE: The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of New York City
Library Room
20 West 44th Street
New York City

WHY: Overview
Infrastructure innovation, resilience, renewal and funding have emerged as urgent national policy issues. America’s roads, bridges, tunnels, airports, sea ports, rail systems, dams, electrical grids, water treatment facilities, schools, hospitals, courthouses and other critical infrastructure assets are largely outdated, underfunded, technologically unsophisticated and highly vulnerable to a growing list of natural and man-made hazards.

With the recent infrastructure reform proposal from The White House and increasing dialogue about the topic in the U.S. Congress and State Capitals across the nation, this event will convene respected subject-matter experts to reflect on the current state of American infrastructure and offer suggestions and strategies for its improvement.

Focus will be given to implementing modern solutions to “old economy” structures to better protect, fortify, and fund existing and future infrastructure systems and assets.

REGISTER: Click here or contact Shavasia Williams at sw82@cornell.edu
The Program

1:00 pm - 1:15 pm  Welcome: Professor Rick Geddes, PhD  
Director, Cornell Program in Infrastructure Policy

1:15 pm - 1:30 pm  Opening Remarks: Professor Lance R. Collins  
Joseph Silbert Dean of Engineering  
Sibley School of Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering  
Cornell University

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm  Keynote Address: John Porcari  
Interim Executive Director, Gateway Development Corp.  
President, U.S Advisory Services, WSP  
Former Deputy Secretary, USDOT

2:00 pm – 3:15 pm  Panel Session I  
Infrastructure Resilience, Sustainability & Natural Disasters

Oliver Gao  
Associate Professor, School of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Cornell University  
"System Challenges and Innovation in Urban Infrastructure for Healthy Living in Smart Cities"

Thomas D. O’Rourke  
Thomas R. Briggs Professor of Engineering, School of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Cornell University  
"Lessons Learned from Extreme Events for Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability"

Kenichi Soga  
Chancellor’s Professor, University of California, Berkeley  
"Smart Infrastructure - Smart Technologies for Infrastructure Resilience and Sustainability"

3:15 pm - 3:45 pm  Networking Break
3:45 pm - 5:00 pm  **Panel Session II**  
*Infrastructure Funding, Financing & Policy*

Ruth McMorrow  
Executive Vice President, Parsons Corporation

Anne Valentine Andrews  
Managing Director, BlackRock Real Assets

Ross Israel  
Head of Global Infrastructure, QIC Global Infrastructure

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm  **Networking Reception**  
General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of NYC