

Adapting to Change

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TPA
Tuesdays
SYMPOSIUM SERIES



Harriet Tregoning

Ms. Tregoning is the Director of NUMO, the New Urban Mobility alliance, hosted by WRI Ross Center for Sustainable Cities. NUMO is a new collaborative effort that aims to guide policymakers, the private sector and people toward a shared vision of cities and urban mobility. Tregoning has been deeply engaged on planning, smart mobility, disaster resilience, housing and community development issues for the past 2 decades. She has been working with organizations around the country to help states and localities prepare for a range of future challenges, including smart mobility; climate change; disaster recovery and resilience; housing affordability; and community development. She served in the Obama Administration as Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Office of Community Planning and Development at the U.S Department of Housing and Urban Development. She initiated the first ever \$1 billion National Disaster Resilience Competition. She studied Engineering and Public Policy at Washington University. She was a Loeb Fellow at the Harvard Graduate School of Design.



Nat Bottigheimer

Mr. Bottigheimer is State Programs and New Jersey Director at the Regional Plan Association. He is responsible for engaging stakeholders and building support for RPA programs to expand economic opportunity, improve infrastructure and adapt to climate change across the region, and leads our research, planning and advocacy activities in New Jersey. An expert in transit-oriented development particularly, and coordinated land use and transportation planning more generally, Bottigheimer has extensive experience building collaborative relationships to advance policies, plans, programs, and projects that strengthen communities and meet transportation performance tests at the same time. Prior to joining RPA, Bottigheimer led the opening of transportation planning firm Fehr & Peers' first East Coast office in Washington, DC; served as an Assistant General Manager at the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) in charge of planning, real estate, parking, and sustainability programs; and worked in the Secretary's Office of the Maryland Department of Transportation. Bottigheimer has a master's in public policy from the University of California at Berkeley and a bachelor's in government from Harvard.



Jeffrey Lowe

Dr. Lowe is an Associate Professor of Urban Planning and Environmental Policy in the Barbara Jordan-Mickey Leland School of Public Affairs at Texas Southern University. He is currently serving as a Distinguished Visiting Faculty Fellow at the Advanced Research Collaborative of The Graduate Center, City University of New York. Lowe received his Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Policy Development from Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; a Master of City and Regional Planning from Morgan State University, and a Bachelor of Business Administration from Howard University. Professor Lowe has held previous faculty positions at Columbia University, University of Memphis, Florida State University and Jackson State University, respectively. Also, he has worked as a consultant and researcher, and provided national leadership in the planning profession having served as chairperson of the Planning and the Black Community Division of the American Planning Association. Currently, Professor Lowe is Co-Chair of the Planners of Color Interest Group of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning. Professor Lowe's research interests focus on social justice and racial equity outcomes within the context of housing and community development planning processes and policies affecting lower-income communities of color.



Ann Forsyth

Dr. Forsyth is the Director of the Master in Urban Planning Program at Harvard University. She was also appointed to a five-year term as Editor of the Journal of the American Planning Association in January 2019. Trained in planning and architecture, Forsyth works mainly on the social aspects of physical planning and urban development. The big issue behind her research and practice is how to make more sustainable and healthy cities. Forsyth's current research focuses on developing healthier places in a suburbanizing world, with overlapping emphases on aging and planned communities. She has contributed to three main areas of research and practice. First is documenting and assessing innovative and high-density planning and design in suburban/metropolitan areas. This includes research examining new towns as a whole and specific challenging issues: achieving walkability, planning higher density and affordable housing, supporting social diversity, and balancing social and ecological values. Second is work evaluating and proposing how the physical environment can improve health. She has explored physical activity and food environments, processes of densification, and the needs of different age groups, as well as translating research on health and environments into tools for practice. Forsyth has been active in developing and evaluating new instruments and measures using GIS, fieldwork, surveys, impact assessments, public participation processes, and evidence-based practice guidelines. Finally, she has been active examining how to connect research and practice. This includes understanding the different forms of research and investigation, and how research can inform the process and substance of planning. Her education includes a B.S. in architecture from the University of Sydney, M.A. in urban planning from UCLA, and Ph.D. in city and regional planning from Cornell.



Sam Schwartz

Mr. Schwartz is CEO of Sam Schwartz Consulting, LLC. He also writes a column on traffic for The New York Daily News. Previously Mr. Schwartz was New York City's Traffic Commissioner and was the Chief Engineer of the NYC Department of Transportation. He started his transportation career in the late 1960's as a NYC cabbie and joined the Traffic Department, as a junior engineer, in 1971. Mr. Schwartz was the Inaugural Ted Kheel Fellow at Roosevelt House at Hunter College. He has been an adjunct professor at Cooper Union, Long Island University, and Brooklyn College. He has authored a number of books, most recently the critically-acclaimed "No One At the Wheel: Driverless Cars and the Road of the Future." He is the Municipal Engineers of the City of New York 2019 Industry Leader. Popularly known as "Gridlock Sam," thanks to his coining of the term, he can be found online at gridlocksam.com.



Courtenay Mercer

Ms. Mercer is the Principal of Mercer Planning Associates, a boutique land use planning firm specializing in comprehensive planning and strategic community engagement. With substantial public and non-profit sector experience, Mercer has overseen diverse and complex projects within all types of communities. In her current role, and as the former Director of Planning at the NJ Office of Smart Growth and NJ Director of the Regional Plan Association, Mercer has been at the forefront of policy and planning initiatives of state and regional significance. Capitalizing on her non-profit leadership experience, organizational management skills, and planning background, Mercer also serves as Executive Director of Downtown New Jersey - a non-profit education and advocacy organization centered around downtown revitalization. Mercer is a Trustee on the Board of the American Planning Association and was formally the President of the NJ Chapter. Mercer has a Masters of City & Regional Planning from the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers University.