

## *Covid-19 and the Future of Economic Activity and Transportation*

September 29, 2020 | 9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. EST

### FINAL PROGRAM

8:45 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.	Sign-in and technical trouble-shooting
9:00 a.m. – 9:15 a.m.	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Jon Carnegie, Executive Director, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center, Rutgers University</li> <li>• Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuriah, Dean, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University</li> </ul>
9:15 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.	<p><b>Introductory remarks</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Kevin Corbett, President and CEO, NJ TRANSIT</b></li> </ul>
9:30 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.	<p><b>Morning Keynote</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>“COVID-19 and How to Build Back Our Communities Better.”</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Richard Florida, Ph.D.</b></p> <p>University Professor at University of Toronto’s School of Cities and Rotman School of Management, Distinguished Fellow at NYU and FIU, and Co-Founder and Senior Editor, <i>The Atlantic’s CityLab</i>.</p>
10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.	Transition Break
10:30a.m. – 11:30 a.m.	<p><b>Session #1 – Where are we headed: The pandemic, reopening and public health</b></p> <p>Lockdowns, remote-learning, work-from-home, telemedicine and other strategies emerged in the early days of the global Covid-19 pandemic as responses to ensure public health. Future economic outcomes and changes in mobility will be strongly influenced by the public’s response to and confidence in the success and availability of therapeutics, a vaccine, or perhaps even “herd immunity.” What will it take for us to get back to normal or at least for us to adjust to a “new normal” relationship between people, place, economic activity and travel. This panel will explore the answers to these questions and more as the region continues to reopen, monitor health patterns and trends and adjust course as needed.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Mike Greenberg, Distinguished Professor, Ph.D. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University</b></li> <li>2. David Alland, MD MSc DTM &amp; H, Chief of Infectious Diseases, Professor, Rutgers, New Jersey Medical School, Department of Medicine</li> </ol>

	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Cathleen Bennett, President and CEO, NJ Hospital Association</li> <li>4. Dr. Shirley Sylvester, Senior Medical Director for Women’s Health, Office of the Chief Medical Officer, Johnson &amp; Johnson</li> </ol>
11:30 a.m. – 11:40 a.m.	Transition Break
11:40 a.m. – 12:40 p.m.	<p><b>Session #2 – The Future of Mobility and Public Transit</b></p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has had profound impacts on travel throughout the world. At the peak of the outbreak in the Northeast, transit ridership in the NJ-NY metropolitan region was down +/- 90 percent. As the region prepares for what may be a “new normal” relationship between people, economic activity, and travel, it is difficult to predict how mobility patterns may differ from pre-pandemic conditions, and how long the changes might last. Many employers continue to maintain work-from-home and other policies that are fundamentally changing the relationship between employees and central office locations. Other policy changes such as social distancing requirements, flexible work hours, and shift scheduling may dramatically alter when people need or choose to travel. Furthermore, some researchers believe that growth in e-commerce and remote learning and the proliferation of telemedicine and remote social services during the pandemic may portend fundamental shifts that will obviate the need for some non-work travel. This panel will explore how the pandemic has changed mobility and travel and how lasting these effects may be.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuria, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University</b></li> <li>2. Scott Bogren, Executive Director, Community Transportation Association of America</li> <li>3. Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director, Metro Transit St. Louis</li> <li>4. Paul Skoutelas, President and CEO, American Public Transportation Association</li> <li>5. Tom Wright, President and CEO, Regional Plan Association</li> <li>6. Jeremy Yap, Chair of UITP Organizing Authorities Division, Deputy Chief Executive (Public Transport, Policy &amp; Planning) of Land Transport Authority</li> </ol>
12:40 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.	Transition Break
12:50 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.	<p><b>Lunchtime Keynotes</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Kevin Corbett, President and CEO, NJ TRANSIT</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>Public Transport Post-Covid19: An International Perspective</i></b> UITP Secretary General Mohamed Mezghani</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b><i>It’s Getting Dark Early Out There: Pandemic Impacts on the Economy</i></b> Ryan Sweet, Senior Director, Moody’s Analytics</p>
1:30 p.m. – 1:45 p.m.	Transition Break
1:45 p.m. – 2:45p.m.	<p><b>Session #3 – The Future of Work, Housing and Commercial Real Estate</b></p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has dramatically reshaped our lives. Some industries have shed millions of jobs while others can’t hire fast enough. Local businesses have been</p>

	<p>shuttered. Office buildings in many markets sit idle; while residential real estate markets in the suburbs and exurbs are white hot. Whether you are spending more time at home, no longer commute to a central work location, feel more cautious about density, or are thinking differently about the communities in which we live and how we get around, change is visible almost everywhere. This panel will explore the many impacts of pandemic on work, housing and commercial real estate and discuss whether the changes we are seeing are a temporary reaction to the current public health crisis or if a fundamental shift in settlement and work patterns may be underway.</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>James W. Hughes Ph.D., University Professor at Rutgers University &amp; Senior Scientist, Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation</b></li> <li>2. Jeffrey Otteau, President, Otteau Group</li> <li>3. Shawn Rickenbacker, Director, Max Bond Center for Urban Futures, CCNY</li> <li>4. David Sigman, Executive Vice President &amp; Principal, LCOR</li> <li>5. Robert White, First Vice President, NJ Realtors</li> </ol>
2:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.	Transition Break
3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.	<p><b>Session #4 – The Future of Tourism, Hospitality, Retail and Entertainment</b></p> <p>Business and job growth in the retail, hospitality, entertainment and tourism industries have been a driving force in the U.S. and N.J. economy for more than a decade. Over the past six months, conditions have changed dramatically. While retail sales overall are up, the pandemic accelerated a shift to e-commerce. New Jersey’s casinos are open again but at only 25 percent capacity and Broadway remains closed indefinitely. Curb-side service is now a standard customer option at many retail stores and restaurants. Communities have closed streets to accommodate recreational activities and outdoor dining. This panel will explore how lasting these new conditions and patterns might be and what new models may emerge as a we adjust to a “new normal.”</p> <p><b>Panelists:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Thomas Bracken, President and CEO, NJ Chamber of Commerce</b></li> <li>2. Vijay Dandapani, President &amp; CEO, Hotel Association of New York City</li> <li>3. Marilou Halvorsen, President, New Jersey Restaurant and Hospitality Association</li> <li>4. Mark Jaffe, President &amp; CEO, Greater New York Chamber of Commerce</li> <li>5. Adam Perle, ArtPride NJ, President, NJ Tourism Industry Association</li> </ol>
4:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.	<b>Wrap-up and Closing Remarks</b>

## **Speaker/Panelist Bios**

### **David Alland, MD MSc DTM & H Chief of Infectious Disease, NJ Medical School, Department of Medicine, Professor-Rutgers University**

Dr. Alland is a Professor of Medicine and the Chief of Infectious Disease as well as the Director of the Rutgers Regional Biocontainment Laboratories, the Public Health Research Institute (PHRI) and the Center for COVID-19 Response and Pandemic Preparedness (CCRP2) at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School. Dr. Alland is internationally recognized for his pioneering work on the epidemiology, diagnosis, treatment, and molecular evolution of *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. He also led a 10-year research effort that culminated in the development of the Xpert MTB/RIF Assay, the first on-demand, point-of-care tuberculosis (TB) test, and the first replacement for the acid-fast smear to diagnose TB in over 100 years, recommended by the WHO and now used in 130 countries. This work continues in the development of rapid diagnostics for extended TB drug resistance, and blood stream detection of bioterrorism agents, *S. aureus*, *Candida* species, and more recent work on point-of-care diagnostics for COVID-19. Recognizing the gravity of coming COVID-19 epidemic, Dr. Alland organized the CCRP2 and became its first Director in March 2020. Since that time, his Center has been at the forefront of COVID-19 diagnostic development, in studies of COVID-19 decontamination of surfaces, air, and body cavities, and in drug and immunopathogenesis research.

### **Cathleen D. Bennett, Esq. President & CEO, NJ Hospital Association**

Cathleen D. Bennett, Esq. is the president and CEO of the New Jersey Hospital Association, a nonprofit trade association representing New Jersey's hospitals, health systems, behavioral healthcare systems, rehabilitation hospitals, psychiatric hospitals, assisted living, nursing homes and other healthcare providers that provides leadership on quality and patient safety, education and advocacy in both Washington, D.C. and in Trenton. As CEO, Bennett oversees NJHA and its affiliates, the Health Research and Educational Trust of New Jersey and Healthcare Business Solutions. She co-founded Q<sup>3</sup>HIP, LLC in 2018 with a focus on improving quality of care, patient safety and education and leveraging the collective capabilities of the Hospital Associations of New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Ohio. She serves on the Boards of Healthwell Foundation and Patient Innovations. Prior to being selected as CEO of NJHA, Bennett served as New Jersey's 20<sup>th</sup> Health Commissioner.

### **Scott Bogren, Executive Director, Community Transportation Association of America**

Scott Bogren has been with the Community Transportation Association of America (CTAA) since 1989, serving the Association in a wide variety of roles before being named Executive Director in 2016. He is a passionate transit advocate and (prior to COVID-19) a daily transit user. His work has always focused on building and promoting safe, affordable, accessible and inclusive mobility for all Americans. A proud graduate of Indiana University's journalism program, Scott lives in Germantown, Md., with his wife Beth.

### **Thomas A. Bracken, President & CEO, NJ Chamber of Commerce**

Thomas A. Bracken became the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce's president and CEO in February of 2011, taking the reins of the state's business advocacy organization as it celebrated its 100th year. The Skillman resident and former bank executive served as chairman of the New Jersey Chamber of Commerce's Board of Directors from 2005 to 2007, and has been involved in the Chamber for four decades. In 2017, Bracken helped established and became co-chair of Opportunity NJ, a coalition of major state business organizations supporting government policies that pave the way for job growth, affordability and prosperity in the state. In 2014, Bracken was named chairman of ForwardNJ, a coalition promoting investment in the state's transportation infrastructure. Also in 2014, Bracken was inducted into the New Jersey Business Hall of Fame. Prior to taking the reins of the NJ Chamber, Bracken spent 40 years in the banking and financial services industry, serving as president of TriState Capital Bank's New Jersey operation from 2008 to 2011. He was president and CEO of Sun Bancorp, Inc. from 2001 to 2007. He also held executive positions with First Union Bank and Corestates Financial Corporation. He is a former chairman of the Economic Development Corporation of Trenton and of the New

Jersey Bankers Association. Bracken, a Bucknell graduate, is the chairman of the New Jersey Alliance for Action Foundation; and a board member for Junior Achievement of New Jersey, the New Jersey Hall of Fame, Public Media NJ, Solix Inc. and South Jersey Industries, and Director Emeritus, Rutgers Cancer institute of New Jersey.

### **Jon Carnegie AICP/PP, Executive Director, Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center**

Jon A. Carnegie, AICP/PP, is Executive Director of the Alan M. Voorhees Transportation Center at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey and an adjunct member of the faculty at the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy at Rutgers. Mr. Carnegie has more than 25 years of experience in the fields of land use and transportation planning and policy at the municipal, county and regional level. He has been or currently serves as the principal investigator for a variety of research and planning projects involving a range of land use, transportation and environmental policy topics. Mr. Carnegie's expertise includes: transportation, land use and environmental planning and policy; mobility management; multimodal systems planning and travel behavior; public engagement; environmental justice; and equity issues related to traditionally underserved populations. Mr. Carnegie holds a B.A. and a Master of City and Regional Planning degree from Rutgers University.

### **Kevin S. Corbett, President & CEO, NJ Transit**

Kevin S. Corbett was appointed to lead the agency on February 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Mr. Corbett is responsible for the nation's largest statewide public transportation system with more than 11,000 employees providing more than 944,000 weekday trips on 252 bus routes, three light rail lines, 12 commuter rail lines, and the agency's Access Link paratransit service. Mr. Corbett is a Founding Member of the Commuter Rail Coalition and currently serves as the North American Representative to the Policy Board of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP) and as the Co-Chair of the Northeast Corridor Commission.

Prior to joining NJ TRANSIT, Mr. Corbett served as Vice President, Cross Services at AECOM, one of the world's premier transportation and infrastructure companies. There, Mr. Corbett served as Principle-in-Charge or in a management role of the following projects: Moynihan Station Phase 1; Amtrak's Gateway Project; Second Avenue Subway Phase 1; Penn Vision; Penn Station Critical Improvements; 1 WTC Interim Loading Dock; Post-Sandy PATH Restoration; and other related regional resiliency and restoration projects.

Previously, he was responsible for the global marine and freight business for DMJM+HARRIS, a legacy AECOM company, as well as other AECOM subsidiaries. Before joining AECOM, Mr. Corbett served as Chief Operating Officer and Executive Vice President of Empire State Development Corporation (ESDC) and Executive Deputy Commissioner of the Department of Economic Development. Mr. Corbett oversaw all of New York State's economic development programs and projects, including the redevelopment of Times Square, Moynihan Station, and the creation of Brooklyn Bridge Park. In that position, Mr. Corbett was also responsible for oversight of New York's interests in the Port Authority of New York & New Jersey. After September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001, Mr. Corbett led the economic recovery efforts in relation to the attack on Lower Manhattan. Working closely with the Port Authority and City & Federal agencies, Mr. Corbett directed the development of all programs to restore business services and the economic revitalization of Lower Manhattan.

Prior to his tenure at ESDC, Mr. Corbett was a fellow at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, focused on issues involving U.S. - China relations. Mr. Corbett also spent 17 years in the logistics industry with Wilh. Wilhelmsen of Norway, a leading global transportation firm. During this period, Mr. Corbett spent six years in China and seven years overseeing operations in Sub-Saharan Africa. He is fluent in Chinese (Mandarin). He also served as Wilhelmsen's liaison for the U.S. Navy (MSC and OSS- OPS42) and the Maritime Administration. In the civic realm, Mr. Corbett served on the Executive Committee of the Regional Plan Association (RPA) and was Co-Chair of its Transportation Committee. He also served on the board of the Maritime Association of the Port of New York & New Jersey (President), Tri-State Transportation Campaign, and The New York League of Conservation Voters (Chairman). Mr. Corbett is a graduate of Georgetown University and serves as

a Blue & Gold Officer for the U.S. Naval Academy. He and his wife, Siobhan, have three children and live in Mendham, N.J.

### **Vijay Dandapani, President & CEO, Hotel Association of New York City**

Mr. Dandapani is a hotel industry veteran who cofounded Apple Core Hotels, an owner-operator of boutique hotels in Manhattan in 1993 and was president of the company till December 2016. He was appointed President and Chief Executive officer of the Hotel Association in January 2017.

He is an active participant in the hospitality industry and has spoken on hospitality issues at many forums sponsored by organizations such as the Lodging Conference in Phoenix, Arizona, the ALIS conference, University of California at Los Angeles, Columbia University, New York University and the National Association of Corporate Real Estate Executives.

In 1998, he was recognized by Crain's New York Business as one of the top 100 minority business leaders in New York City. In 2002, the Asian American Business Development Center, New York selected him as one of 50 Outstanding Asian Americans in Business. He has written in a number of industry publications and the mainstream media on topics affecting the hotel industry. As a Part of New York's response to the COVID crisis, Mr. Dandapani has been appointed by Mayor de Blasio to the COVID-19 Arts, Culture and Tourism Sector Advisory Council. He was also appointed by Governor Cuomo to the "New York Forward Advisory Board" tasked with guiding the state's reopening strategy in the aftermath of the Covid 19 crisis. Mr. Dandapani has a Master's degree from Cornell University's School of Hotel Administration and is a winner of the Aga Khan Foundation Scholar for graduate studies. He also holds the CHAE certification from HFTP.

### **Richard Florida, Ph.D University Professor of Toronto's School of Cities and Rotman School of Management, Distinguished Fellow at NYU and FIU, and Co-Founder and Senior Editor, The Atlantic CityLab.**

Richard Florida is one of the world's leading urbanists. He is a researcher and professor, serving as University Professor at University of Toronto's School of Cities and Rotman School of Management, and a Distinguished Fellow at NYU's Schack School of Real Estate. He is a writer and journalist, having penned several global best sellers, including the award winning *The Rise of the Creative Class* and his most recent book, *The New Urban Crisis*. He is co-founder of CityLab, the leading publication devoted to cities and urbanism. He is an entrepreneur, as founder of the [Creative Class Group](#) which works closely with companies and governments worldwide.

### **Michael Greenberg, Distinguished Professor, Ph.D, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University**

Michael Greenberg is distinguished professor of the Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University. He studies environmental health and risk analysis and has written more than 35 books and more than 350 articles. His five most recent books are:

- *Protecting Seniors Against Environmental Disasters: From Hazards and Vulnerability to Prevention and Resilience* (Earthscan 2014).
- *Explaining Risk Analysis: Protecting Health and Safety* (Earthscan 2016).
- *Urban Planning and Public Health*, with Dona Schneider (APHA 2017)
- *Siting Noxious Facilities*. (Routledge/Earthscan, 2018)
- *Environmental Health and the U.S. Federal System: Sustainably Managing Health Hazards*, with Dona Schneider (Routledge/Earthscan, 2019).

Professor Greenberg was a member of National Research Council Committees that focus on the U.S. plutonium disposition; destruction of the U.S. chemical weapons stockpile; nuclear and chemical waste management; the degradation of the U.S. government physical infrastructure; sustainability and the U.S. EPA. He served on the EPA Science Advisory Board environmental justice committee. He chaired a committee for the U.S. Senate and House

Appropriations Committees examining the U.S. DOE's prioritization of human health and safety in its environmental management programs. Professor Greenberg served as area editor for social sciences and then editor-in-chief of *Risk Analysis: An International Journal* during the period 2002-2013, and was associate editor for environmental health for the *American Journal of Public Health* from 1997 through June 2020. Professor Greenberg was dean of the school or associate dean of the faculty of the Bloustein during the period July 1, 2000 through September 30, 2018.

### **Marilou Halvorsen President & CEO, New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association (NJRHA)**

Marilou Halvorsen is the President & CEO of the New Jersey Restaurant & Hospitality Association (NJRHA) headquartered in Trenton, NJ. Selected for this position in October 2012, she leads an organization that represents the Garden State's 27,000 eating and drinking establishments, generating \$15 billion in annual sales and employing over 315,000 people. Prior to the NJRHA, Halvorsen was the Director of Marketing for one of New Jersey's largest seaside resorts: Jenkinson's Boardwalk, Point Pleasant Beach & Casino Pier in Seaside Heights. Throughout her career, she's sat on many influential State Boards and Committees, including the New Jersey Travel Industry Association, Jersey Shore Convention and Visitor's Bureau and was the former Chair of the Governor's Tourism Conference. Appointed by three separate governors she was the first woman Commissioner of the Legalized Games of Chance Control Commission, and later chaired the Commission for seven years. In 2015, she was voted one of the top 50 influential business women in the state by NJBiz, and is on the board of the National Restaurant Educational Foundation and an executive board member of the Council of State Restaurants Association. With 30+ years of business, tourism and entertainment industry experience, Halvorsen plans to use that knowledge to increase membership and add value to NJRHA's programs. Halvorsen resides in Eatontown, NJ.

### **James W. Hughes Ph.D., University Professor at Rutgers University & Senior Scientist, Center for Advanced Infrastructure and Transportation**

Dr. James W. Hughes was named University Professor in 2017 by the Board of Governors of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey. As University Professor, he reports solely to the chief academic officer of Rutgers and has the university-wide privilege of conducting research and educational activities across the disciplines and schools of his choice. This highly prestigious position follows his 22-year tenure (1995-2017) as the dean of the Edward J. Bloustein School. He is also a Distinguished Professor of Urban Planning and Policy Development. He is a nationally recognized expert on demographic, housing, and economic issues and is author or co-author of 35 books and monographs and more than 150 articles. Among his books are *The Atlantic City Gamble*, published by the Harvard University Press and three published by the Rutgers University Press, including *America's Demographic Tapestry: Baselines for the New Millennium*. Two additional books are currently under contract with the Rutgers University Press. He also directs the Rutgers Regional Report which has produced more than 45 major studies on both New Jersey and the broad multistate metropolitan region centered on New York City. A new Rutgers Regional Report monthly series, *Fast Track Research Notes*, has recently been introduced. It focuses on the changing pandemic-driven economic conditions impacting New Jersey and the nation. He has provided extensive budgetary and economic testimony before many New Jersey State Legislative committees as well as numerous policy briefings both in Washington and Trenton. He has served on numerous commissions and boards such as the NJ Governor's Commission on Jobs, Growth and Economic Development, and the Economic Advisors Board of the Council of the City of New York. Dean Hughes is a military veteran who served as an artillery officer in the U.S. Army.

### **Mark Jaffe, President & CEO, Greater New York Chamber of Commerce**

Mark Jaffe was born and raised in Westchester County. He attended Dobbs Ferry Public Schools, college at SUNY Albany; Graduate Business School at the University of Utah and graduated from Cardozo Law School in NYC. After school, Mark started a fundraising and consulting company that helped to raise millions of dollars for non-profits throughout the United States. His expertise in economic development and local governments allowed him to work closely & raise money for many community groups; including the NYS Restaurant Association, In 1994 Mark was

selected to serve on the Mayor's Small Business Advisory Board for the City of NY where he helped spearhead the rebuilding of downtown Brooklyn. In 2002 Mark was selected to be the treasurer of the Manhattan Boro Development Corporation where he was put in charge of monitoring the success of post 9/11 recovery efforts. In 2002, Mark was also selected to be the President and CEO of the Greater NY Chamber where he serves today and recognized for building a strong coalition of over 30,000 business and civic leaders throughout the Metro NY Area.

### **Jessica Mefford-Miller, Executive Director, Metro Transit St. Louis**

Jessica Mefford-Miller is Executive Director of Metro Transit, the St. Louis metropolitan region's public transportation system. She is responsible for the operations of MetroLink, an 87-vehicle, 46-mile light rail system; MetroBus, a 400-bus fleet serving more than 75 routes in Missouri and Illinois; and Metro Call-A-Ride, a paratransit fleet of 120 lift-equipped vans. She is also tasked with developing and implementing operational and capital programs of \$339M and \$483M respectively; partnering and building relationships with regional stakeholders; and successfully developing and managing local and federally-funded projects that enhance and expand transit service across the St. Louis region.

Mefford-Miller previously held the position of Assistant Executive Director for Planning and System Development. In that role, she was responsible for establishing the comprehensive service plan for a regional transit system that spans nearly 600 square miles in Missouri and Illinois, and which passengers rely on more than 41 million times each year. Since joining Metro Transit in 2006, Mefford-Miller has helped redefine how the agency designs, manages and thinks about public transit. She employs an approach that balances data-driven research and analytics with the need to provide truly meaningful and impactful transportation options for passengers. This approach allows Metro Transit to address its practical operational and budgetary demands, and at the same time develop customer-focused projects that go beyond meeting basic transportation needs to deliver a transit experience that is more personal, more accessible and more enjoyable. Prior to joining Metro, Mefford-Miller held posts at the National Park Service, the Ohio Department of Transportation and The Ohio State University, where she is currently a doctoral candidate.

### **Mohamed Mezghani, Secretary General, UITP**

Mohamed Mezghani has been working in public transport and urban mobility related fields for more than 30 years. Since January 2018, and currently, he is the Secretary General of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP). Until then, he had been Deputy Secretary General of UITP (2014-2017), Knowledge Director (2001-2006) chairing the department developing content-related services for UITP members, and Senior Manager (1999-2001). From 2006 till 2013, he worked as an independent consultant and Adviser to UITP on several technical assistance and training projects in Africa and the Middle-East. Before joining UITP, M. Mezghani was a consultant in the French group, BCEOM, (from 1990 to 1999) and in the French Agency for Environment and Energy Management, ADEME, (from 1988-1990). He is a graduate in Industrial Engineering (1987) from Ecole Nationale d'Ingénieurs de Tunis, Tunisia and has a Masters in Transport (1988) from Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, Paris, France.

### **Jeffrey Otteau, President, Otteau Group**

As President of Otteau, Group Mr. Otteau manages all facets of the firm's business including [www.otteau.com](http://www.otteau.com), which is an information provider on real estate trends. He has been recognized as one of the most influential people in the real estate industry by NJBIZ for the past 7 years and was named by ROI NJ as one of the Top-10 Real Estate Professionals for the past 3 years. He is frequently quoted in the New York Times and Wall Street Journal, and has made television appearances on CNBC, Bloomberg, Fox 5 News and NBC. Mr. Otteau has been qualified as an expert in State and Federal Court and at hundreds of municipal and county proceedings, authored several texts on property valuation techniques and has lectured throughout North America. Jeffrey can be reached directly at 800.458.7161 or emailed at [jeffrey.otteau@otteau.com](mailto:jeffrey.otteau@otteau.com)

### **Adam Perle, ArtPride NJ, President, NJ Tourism Industry Association**

As President & CEO, Adam Perle manages all ArtPride operations while leading the professional staff and volunteer Board of Trustees. During his time at ArtPride, Adam has overseen the financial stabilization of the organization, an expansion of organizational membership, the continuous securing of state and federal funding for the arts, and numerous other successful programs. Prior to joining ArtPride, Adam was the Vice President of the Princeton Regional Chamber of Commerce, where he was a key part of the leadership team that has tripled the size of the organization since 2006. Before his work in the nonprofit sector, Adam worked on several political campaigns at the local, state, and federal levels. Adam is a lover of Mark Rothko, American film and theatre, landscape photography, the blues, and New Orleans jazz. When he is not enjoying a New Jersey craft beer, or rooting for his beloved New York Giants, you can find Adam encouraging his two daughters, Alexis and Marley. A lifelong New Jersey resident, Adam resides in Bridgewater with his wife, Mandi.

### **Shawn Rickenbacker, Director, Max Bond Center for Urban Futures, CCNY**

Shawn L. Rickenbacker is a trained architect, urbanist and urban data researcher. He is currently the Director of the J. Max Bond Center for Urban Futures where he directs the Center's sponsored research and is an Associate Professor of Architecture at the CCNY Spitzer School of Architecture. His research and work at the Bond Center directly confronts the complex intersection of spatial equity and the social and economic impacts of place-based policies, programs and design through the lens of urban data, forensic and design research. He's served as Senior Research Fellow at the Phyllis M. Taylor Institute for Social Innovation, where he researched 'Artificial Intelligence and The Future of Social Urbanism', The Favrot Chair in Architecture at Tulane University, Gensler Distinguished Professor at Cornell University and Director of the Motorola Sponsored Future Interactions Lab at the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Design. His work and research have been published in The New York Times, NY Daily News and Global Architecture and exhibited at Studio Museum of Harlem and most recently at Temple University. As a frequent lecturer and presenter he's appeared at University of Southern California, Temple University, Enterprise Community Partners Design Affordable Housing Leadership Institute, and New Museum — New Inc. Shawn holds a March with a Certificate in American Urbanism from the University of Virginia where he was the DuPont Scholar and a BArch from Syracuse University.

### **David Sigman, Executive Vice President & Principal, LCOR**

Mr. Sigman is an Executive Vice President and Principal of LCOR and a member of the company's Executive Committee, with responsibility for originating, developing and managing mixed-use and office projects, including many of LCOR's transportation-oriented developments, in the New York region

Mr. Sigman joined LCOR in 1994. Since then, he directed the redevelopment of Terminal 4 at John F. Kennedy International Airport in New York, a \$1.4-billion facility representing the largest airport terminal ever developed as a result of a public/private partnership. Among other projects, he also lead the firm's efforts to develop two large residential condominium towers in midtown Manhattan totaling 400 units and 28,000 square feet of retail space, with a sales value in excess of \$540 million; 545 Madison Avenue, a gut renovation of a LEED Gold 140,000 square foot boutique office building; 25 Broad Street, acquisition and renovation of a 308-unit historic apartment building; and 34 Berry St and 250 North 10th Street in Williamsburg, Brooklyn, two rental residential projects with a total of 376 units.

Previously, Mr. Sigman was associated with Washington, D.C. developer Hoskinson & Davis; he served the firm from 1985 through 1988 as its first commercial real estate project manager responsible for the development of various office and industrial projects in Northern Virginia. In 1988, Mr. Sigman joined the Zeckendorf Company, one of the nation's largest real estate developers; as Vice President, he managed development of several large-scale projects, including the Ronald Reagan Federal Office Building in Washington, D.C. and Worldwide Plaza, a mixed-use complex on Manhattan's West Side. Mr. Sigman received his bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Princeton University. He's a full member of the Urban Land Institute on the NY infrastructure council & NY housing council, member, Board of Governors of the Real Estate Board of N.Y., former President of the Board of

Trustees of the Reconstructionist Synagogue of the North Shore (Long Island, New York) and a member of the Board of Residents for a More Beautiful Port Washington.

### **Paul Skoutelas, President & CEO, American Public Transportation Association**

Paul P. Skoutelas is president and chief executive officer of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA). His entire career has been in public transportation, serving in both the public and private sectors. Skoutelas is a champion for the power of public transportation to create personal and economic opportunities for all and to connect and build thriving communities. He testifies often before Congress and is a frequent speaker on public transportation issues as APTA leads the industry's transformation in the new mobility era. Prior to joining APTA in 2018, Skoutelas served as senior vice president for WSP USA, one of the world's largest architectural and engineering firms and national director of WSP USA's Transit & Rail Technical Excellence Center. He also was chief executive officer at the Port Authority of Allegheny County (PAT), Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and the Central Florida Regional Transportation Authority (LYNX), Orlando, Florida. Skoutelas serves on numerous boards and committees, including the Transportation Research Board, Mineta Transportation Institute, ENO Center for Transportation, Transportation Learning Center and the Alliance to Save Energy's 50x50 Commission on U.S. Transportation Sector Efficiency. He is a member of the U.S. Department of Energy's Executive Advisory Board on Smart Mobility and Carnegie Mellon University's Mobility 21 Advisory Council. He is also a long-time member of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) and of WTS International and recipient of the 2020 WTS Honorable Ray LaHood Award for his outstanding contributions to advancing women in the transportation industry. Skoutelas received bachelor's and master's degrees in civil engineering from The Pennsylvania State University and a master's degree in business administration from the University of Pittsburgh. He is a licensed professional engineer. Skoutelas and his wife, Denise, are residents of Washington DC, and he commutes to work on Washington's Metro system and the DC Circulator.

### **Ryan Sweet, Senior Director, Moody's Analytics**

Ryan Sweet is a senior director at Moody's Analytics. Ryan contributes regularly to Economic View and is a member of the U.S. macroeconomics team in West Chester PA. His areas of specialization include U.S. monetary policy and forecasting high-frequency economic indicators. He is among the most accurate high-frequency forecasters of the U.S. economy, according to MarketWatch and Bloomberg LP. He is also an adjunct professor in the Economics and Finance Department at West Chester University of Pennsylvania. He received his master's degree in economics from the University of Delaware and his bachelor's degree in economics from Washington College.

### **Dr. Shirley Sylvester, Senior Director, Johnson & Johnson**

Dr. Shirley V. Sylvester is a Senior Medical Director for Women's Health with the Office of the Chief Medical Officer (OCMO) at Johnson & Johnson. She works with a team to drive change toward reducing maternal mortality in the United States and globally. As a leader of the Women's Health team, she is responsible for providing strategic and scientific expertise in the development and implementation of programs that support the overall aims of Women's Health at Johnson & Johnson and partnering with external stakeholders to develop a policy agenda which supports women's health. Dr. Sylvester also works across the J&J Enterprise and externally to identify and act on opportunities that leverage J&J's collective assets to positively impact women's health through ethically-based, science- and data-driven approaches; and acts as a subject matter expert in health matters related to women, providing guidance to stakeholders on topics related to women's health. Dr. Sylvester joined Johnson & Johnson in 2013 where she most recently led the creation of the global medical affairs strategy behind the development of Hepatitis B compounds for the Janssen Pharmaceutical Companies of Johnson & Johnson (Janssen). She established external collaborations with key stakeholders, including scientific societies, patient advocacy groups and academic institutions to advance the scientific agenda and to deepen Janssen's commitment to "Make Hepatitis History." She also co-led the clinical development of investigational compounds in partnership with Janssen Research & Development. In previous roles at Johnson & Johnson, Dr. Sylvester served as Medical

Director for compounds in Hepatitis C and Multi-Drug resistant TB in the United States. In these roles, Dr. Sylvester provided brand oversight on all medically related aspects of the compounds, including the design and execution of phase IIIb and IV studies in support of the medical affairs strategy. Prior to joining Johnson & Johnson, Dr. Sylvester had a long history of working in the public sector, having partnered with NGOs, USAID, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, WHO, PAHO, ministries of health and other global constituents. Through these collaborations, she helped to design and implement several public health programs around the world focused on Post-Partum Hemorrhage (PPH) Prevention and other maternal health issues, Immunizations, HIV/TB control, Chagas disease and management of complications from obstetric fistula among others. Dr. Sylvester holds a MD degree from Universidad de Cartagena with focus on Family Medicine and a Master of Public Health with a specialty in Global Health and Infectious Diseases from the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

### **Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuria, Dean, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University**

Piyushimita (Vonu) Thakuria is Dean of the Edward J Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy in Rutgers University and Distinguished Professor of Transportation and Urban Informatics. She is the Director of the newly established Rutgers Urban and Civic Informatics Lab. Under her leadership since joining Rutgers in October 2018, the highly ranked Bloustein School has expanded to include new strategic themes in upstream determinants of health, urban and public informatics, and academic programs focusing on executive, online and lifelong learning. Vonu's research interests are on transportation planning and operations, and on big data, smart cities and urban informatics. She has published several books and close to 200 journal articles and reports on these subjects. She has been involved in research grants of close to \$70 million, and has been honored to serve as Principal Investigator of several major grants funded by some of the world's leading scientific research sponsors including the US National Science Foundation, European Commission, and UK Research and Innovation, as well as by national, state, and local organizations. Vonu has delivered keynote addresses in leading venues such as US National Academy of Sciences, Royal Academy of Engineering in London, Leibnitz Center for Informatics in Germany, European Commission in Brussels and National Institute of Informatics in Japan. Vonu was previously the Ch2M Endowed Chair Professor of Transport in the University of Glasgow, UK, and (founding) director of the Urban Big Data Centre, a multimillion-dollar consortium funded by Research Council UK that was responsible for providing UK's urban big data infrastructure. Through this infrastructure, she provided extensive support to the smart cities, smart mobility, digital health, lifelong learning, and related innovation and enterprise space, as well as support to agencies and local governments in finding data-driven solutions to complex urban challenges. Vonu was previously a European Commission Marie Curie Fellow, and her postdoctoral work was funded by a fellowship program of the National Science Foundation's Division of Mathematical Sciences. Among her many contributions to professional service, she is the founding co-chair of the Urban Big Data Joint Subcommittee of the Transportation Research Board, and was a long-time member of the Americas region of the ITS World Congress Program Committee. She is a founding chair of the Urban Data Interest group of the Research Data Alliance, and among other editorial responsibilities, she is currently serving as an Associate Editor of the Harvard Data Science Review.

### **Robert White, First Vice President, NJ Realtors**

White is a lifelong resident of Monmouth County, became a Realtor® in 2001 and earned his broker's license in 2005. He is currently the Branch Vice President-Managing Broker of Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage in Spring Lake. Since 2008, White has been an active Director of the Board for the National Association of Realtors®. Currently, he serves on the Broker Engagement Council and is a representative on the Top 75 Large Firm Directors. He is also a RPAC Golden "R" and in 2016 White was inducted into the NAR RPAC Hall of Fame. White has also served on the NJ Realtors® Board of Directors since 2008. He was Association Operations Division Officer in 2019, Professional Development Division Officer in 2018, and has chaired and served on numerous committees. On the local level, Robert has been an active member of the Monmouth Ocean Regional Realtors® since 2002, been a member of the Executive Committee since 2008, and served as President in 2014 & 2015. He has also chaired many committees such as Associates, Budget and Finance, Grievance, MLS, Legislative & Political Affairs, and RPAC. In 2005 and 2015 White was named MORR Realtor® of the Year. Over the years White has volunteered

for a number of local organizations and is currently on the Board of Trustees for the Boys and Girls Club of Monmouth County. He is also serving his fourth term as President of the Interlaken Borough Council and is the Chair of the Administration & Finance Committee and the Public Safety Committee. White lives in Interlaken with his husband of 22 years, Andrew DePrisco.

### **Tom Wright, President & CEO, Regional Plan Associate**

Tom Wright is president and chief executive officer of Regional Plan Association (RPA), the nation's oldest independent metropolitan research, planning and advocacy organization. A private, non-profit corporation, RPA improves the prosperity, infrastructure, sustainability, health and quality of life of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region by preparing long-range plans and advocating for their implementation. As president, Tom led the production of RPA's landmark Fourth Regional Plan, released in 2017, which proposed 61 recommendations to reform public institutions; modernize our transportation systems; tackle the challenge of climate change; and provide affordable and livable communities for all the region's residents. RPA is now working to implement the major ideas in the plan, such as charging all drivers to enter the Manhattan CBD; cutting carbon emissions and scaling up renewable energy sources; creating healthy, affordable housing in every community; modernizing the NYC subways; and building a new commuter rail tunnel under the Hudson River connected to a new Penn Station.

Tom is a frequent public speaker and commentator on regional governance, economic growth and development, transit investments, and other policy issues. Prior to being named RPA's president in 2015, Tom was RPA's executive director. In his 20+ years with the organization, Tom has participated in many key RPA initiatives, including the historic Civic Alliance to Rebuild Downtown New York following the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks; the campaign to create a mixed-use district at Manhattan's Hudson Yards; the protection of the New Jersey Highlands; and a vision plan for the City of Newark. Tom was also in charge of producing A Region at Risk, RPA's third plan published in 1996. Previously, Tom was deputy executive director of the New Jersey Office of State Planning, where he coordinated production of the New Jersey State Development and Redevelopment Plan. In January, 2020, Governor Phil Murphy appointed Tom as the Chairman of the New Jersey State Planning Commission. Tom is also a member of New York City's Sustainability Advisory Board and the Friends of the BQX. A visiting lecturer at the Columbia University Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Tom has a master's in urban planning from Columbia University and a bachelor's in history and a certificate in American Studies from Princeton University. He resides in Princeton with his wife Cameron Manning and three fabulous daughters.

### **Jeremy Yap, Chair of UITP Organizing Authorities Division, Deputy Chief Executive (Public Transport, Policy & Planning) of Land Transport Authority**

Mr. Jeremy Yap is the Deputy Chief Executive, Public Transport, Policy and Planning at the Land Transport Authority (LTA) of Singapore since 1 April 2015. In his current portfolio, Jeremy oversees the Public Transport, Policy & Planning, as well as the Active Mobility & Vehicle Services Groups in LTA.

Jeremy is called to the Singapore Bar and is an Advocate and Solicitor of the Supreme Court and a lawyer by training. He practised law in Singapore for 6 years before joining LTA in March 1997. Jeremy was seconded to Singapore's Ministry of Transport in 2004 as Deputy Director (Land) to help oversee land transport policy matters. After serving 3 years at the Transport Ministry, he returned to LTA and was appointed Group Director, Vehicle and Transit Licensing and the Registrar of Vehicles in April 2008.

As Group Director, Policy & Planning from April 2010 to September 2014, Jeremy directed the formulation, review and implementation of land transport policies and the planning (including the safeguarding and protection) of transport infrastructure and systems, and was instrumental in the roll-out of the First Land Transport Master Plan. In his current capacity as Deputy Chief Executive, Jeremy was key to the development and recent launch of the Land Transport Master Plan 2040. As part of his current portfolio, Jeremy also oversees the procurement and regulation of Public Transport Services including the New Mobility services such as ride hail, free floating bike-

share services, and micro-mobility. On the UITP (International Association of Public Transport) front, Jeremy served as the Chairperson for the Organising Authorities Committee from 2015-2019. Currently, Jeremy is a member of the UITP Executive Board as Vice President and serves as the Chairperson for the Organising Authorities Division from 2019-2021.

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