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Welcome to BALCONY's Breakfast Forum:

ROADS, BRIDGES, TUNNELS & FIBER

THE PORT AUTHORITY OF NY & NJ

June 18, 2009

Hosted by

New York and Vicinity Carpenters Labor Management Corporation
395 Hudson Street, New York, NY 10014

FORUM TOPICS

- An overview and capital plan of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
 - Analysis of the infrastructure needs of New York State
- Update on the New York State Commission on State Asset Maximization
 - Status update on the state-of-the-art technological infrastructure





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GOTHAM RESEARCH/BALCONY INFRASTRUCTURE SURVEY

For Release June 18, 2009

In Mid-May of 2009, Gotham Research Group, at the request of BALCONY, conducted a survey on state infrastructure with registered voters in New York State. The first question asked, **“Should spending on rebuilding and maintaining New York’s roads, bridges, and tunnels be increased, decreased, or kept the same?”** Results indicate that there is strong support for increasing spending on state infrastructure among New York State voters. The majority of New York State voters (57%) believe that spending on rebuilding and maintaining New York’s roads, bridges, and tunnels should be increased, while just 7% believe that spending should be decreased. Another third (34%) prefer that spending levels be “kept the same.” (Findings for this first question are reported in Table 1.)

Table 1.

| | % |
|------------------------|-----|
| Increased a great deal | 34% |
| Increased somewhat | 23% |
| Decreased somewhat | 4% |
| Decreased a great deal | 3% |
| Kept the same | 34% |
| Don't know/Refused | 3% |

The second question asked, **“Some have estimated that New York State will need to spend \$175 billion over the next 20 years to rebuild and maintain the state’s roads, highways, bridges, and public structures. If you had to choose, from which of the following sources should the money to fund this work come from?”** Results indicated that 37% support initiatives that result in increased expenses for average New Yorkers (a new gasoline tax – 13%; increasing tolls – 12%; increasing user fees – 12%), while 23% support “approving a bond issue” and 22% support “cutting government programs.” (Findings from this second question are reported in Table 2.)

Table 2.

| | % |
|---|-----|
| Adding a gasoline tax | 13% |
| Increasing tolls | 12% |
| Increasing user fees, such as car and truck registrations | 12% |
| Approving a bond issue | 23% |
| Cutting government programs | 22% |
| None of the above | 7% |
| All of the above | 3% |
| Don't know/Refused | 7% |

The margin of error for the total sample of 400 registered New York State voters is +/- 4.9%.



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FORUM AGENDA

Moderated by Lou Gordon, BALCONY Director

8:00 AM – 8:30 AM: BREAKFAST & REGISTRATION

- Table Viewing: a chance to visit informative booths from BALCONY members and affiliates
- Bruce Ventimiglia, Co-Chair, BALCONY, introduces Tom Mackell
- Tom Mackell, Jr. presents his book, *When Good Pensions Go Away*, in the Forum Room

8:30 AM: WELCOME REMARKS

- Elly Spicer, Field Representative, New York and Vicinity Carpenters Labor Management Corporation

8:35 AM – 9:00 AM: KEYNOTE SPEAKER

- Chris Ward, Executive Director, The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

9:00 AM – 10:00 AM: PANEL DISCUSSION

- Samara Barend, Executive Director, New York State Commission on State Asset Maximization
- Dr. James Melius, Administrator, LECET; President, New York Roadway Improvement Coalition; Executive Board Member of BALCONY
- Robert Ledwith, Business Manager, Financial Secretary/Treasurer, Local 46 Metallic Lathers and Reinforcing Ironworkers Labor Management Trust
- Stephen McInnis, Political Director, NYC District Council of Carpenters
- Chris Levendos, Executive Director of Operations, Verizon
- Brian Osterhout, Director of Business Development, MJ Engineering and Land Surveying, PC

10:00 AM – 10:15 AM – QUESTION & ANSWER



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PANELIST BIOGRAPHIES
in order of appearance

Christopher O. Ward is currently the Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (and President of the Port Authority's wholly owned entities: Port Authority Trans-Hudson Corporation, the Newark Legal and Communications Center Urban Renewal Corporation, and the New York and New Jersey Railroad Corporation). He was appointed on May 22, 2008. This is Mr. Ward's second tenure at the Port Authority. He previously served as Chief of Planning and External Affairs, as well as Director of Port Redevelopment from 1997 to 2002.

Immediately prior to being appointed Executive Director of the Port Authority, Mr. Ward served for over two years as Managing Director of The General Contractors Association of New York, Inc. (GCA), where he directed and managed the major trade association that represents the heavy construction industry in the City of New York.

Mr. Ward holds a Bachelor of Arts from Macalester College and a Master of Theological Studies from Harvard University's Divinity School. Mr. Ward has also served as an Adjunct Professor at the School of International and Public Affairs at Columbia University.

Samara Barend is Executive Director of Governor Paterson's Commission on State Asset Maximization. In this capacity, she oversees a diverse group, comprised of elected officials, along with leaders from the private sector, academia, and labor. The SAM Commission, created from a gubernatorial Executive Order in November, is charged with exploring public-private opportunities in New York State.

Prior to her work on the SAM Commission, Samara served as Vice President and Government Affairs Director for STV, a national U.S. engineering and architectural firm. Ms. Barend's background in infrastructure began with her leadership in spearheading the I-86 campaign, a grassroots movement to convert New York State's Route 17 into Interstate 86.

On the political front, Samara has extensive experience in campaigns from both the candidate and staff perspective. In 2004, she ran as the Democratic candidate in New York's 29th U.S. Congressional district race, holding her opponent to 50.8% of the vote and becoming one of the youngest women to run for federal office.

Samara Barend graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and received her Masters Degree in Public Policy at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government.



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Dr. James M. Melius, MD, Dr. PH is an occupational physician who has worked for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health and for the New York State Department of Health. For the past twelve years, he has worked with the Laborers' International Union of North America and currently is Administrator of the New York State Laborers' Political Action Committee, Labor Management Cooperation Fund (LECET), and Health and Safety Trust Fund.

He served on the NYS Department of Transportation Advisory Panel for Transportation for 2025 and as President of Vote Yes for Transportation which organized the campaign for the 2005 Transportation Bond Act. He is currently the President of the New York Roadway Improvement Coalition.

Robert A. Ledwith has been Business Manager/Financial Secretary-Treasurer of Local 46 Metallic Lathers and Reinforcing Ironworkers since 1999. Originally, he worked on a permit until sponsored into the Union by his father who was also a Lather. While working as a Lather during the day, Mr. Ledwith attended The City College of New York at night and graduated with honors, securing a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Economics in 1969.

He began his service to the Local in 1977 as a member of the Executive Board, and was initially elected to the position of Business Agent in 1981, serving the membership in that capacity for 18 years.

In addition, Mr. Ledwith is a Trustee of Local 46 Metallic Lathers & Reinforcing Ironworkers Trust Funds as well as being the Vice-President of The Building and Construction Trade Council of Greater New York. He is also a member of its Executive Board. He serves as President of the Concrete Trades Alliance and is Secretary-Treasurer of the Concrete Alliance (Labor and Management).

Stephen McInnis currently serves as the Political Director for the New York City District Council of Carpenters, a position he has held for the last eleven years. The District Council is made up of eleven constituent local unions and nearly 26,000 members. He also serves as a delegate to the District Council from Local Union 608, as the Carpenters Union Representative on the New York Roadway Improvement Coalition and on the Executive Board of the New York State Democratic Party.

Through his position as Political Director, Mr. McInnis works on numerous construction and health and safety related issues facing his union and its members on the city, state and Federal level.

A graduate of George Washington University, Mr. McInnis also completed the Labor Studies Certificate program at Cornell University.



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Chris Levandos is the Executive Director in the Verizon Telecom Regional Operations division and is in charge of the current New York City FiOS rollout which began last year. In addition to the NYC FiOS initiative, Chris is also responsible for Core Construction and Cable Maintenance in New York City as well as the Empire City Subway CO/LTD, a wholly owned subsidiary of Verizon that specializes in subsurface engineering and construction services.

Mr. Levandos has twenty years of experience with Verizon and holds a bachelor's degree from the State University of New York at Plattsburgh and master's degrees from New York University and Stevens Institute of Technology.

Brian Osterhout, P.E. is Director of Business Development with M.J. Engineering and Land Surveying, P.C. He earned his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering with a Professional Concentration in Environmental Engineering from Clarkson University in 1995. He has over 14 years of consulting engineering experience and has managed and directed numerous private, state and federal civil and environmental engineering projects throughout the Northeast.

He is a licensed Professional Engineer in New York and Connecticut. Outside of the office, Mr. Osterhout serves on the Executive Committee, Planning Committee, Building Committee and Board of Directors for Capital District Habitat for Humanity.



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FORUM COMMITTEE

- Lou Gordon, Director, BALCONY
- Bill Hohlfeld, Coordinator, Local 46 Metallic Lathers and Reinforcing Ironworkers Labor Management Cooperative Trust
- Elly Spicer, Field Representative, New York and Vicinity Carpenters Labor Management Corporation
- Adria Linehan, Research Director, BALCONY

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SPECIAL THANKS

- Deane Rink, Editor, BALCONY
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- Jessica Schultz, Senior Manager for Government and Community Relations, Port Authority of NY & NJ
- Diane Masters, BALCONY Media Consultant

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