

# Floyd Bennett Field Blue Ribbon Panel

## Member Biographies



### **Marian S. Heiskell, Co-Chair**

Marian S. Heiskell, among many accomplishments, is a former newspaper executive, lifelong conservationist, and a leader in numerous public and philanthropic activities. She was a member of the Board of Directors of The New York Times Company from 1963-1997, and also served as its director of special activities from 1963 to 1977. Marian is also a former trustee of Consolidated Edison Company of New York, Inc. and a former director of Ford Motor Company and Merck & Co., Inc. In addition, she is honorary chairman of the Council on the Environment of New York City; chairman of The New 42nd Street, Inc.; a member of the Board of Directors of Audubon New York; a member of the Board of Directors of the 42nd Street Development Corporation; a member of the Board of Managers and a member of the Executive Committee of The New York Botanical Garden; and a member of the Board of Trustees of New Yorkers for Parks. Her awards include several honorary degrees; the Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson Annual Award, given by Keep America Beautiful, Inc.; Woman of the Year Award from the New York Chapter of Achievement Rewards for College Scientists Foundation, Inc.; and the Lizette H. Sarnoff Award for Volunteer Service by the Women's Division of the Albert Einstein College of Medicine. Marian has been honored by former Secretary of the Interior Cecil Andrus; New York City Mayor Edward I. Koch; the Gateway National Recreation Area; and the Council on the Environment of New York City at Gracie Mansion. She is a recipient of the Wirth Environmental Award and was honored by Mayor and Mrs. David N. Dinkins at Gracie Mansion for her work as chairman of the Council on the Environment of New York City from 1970-1992. Marian and her husband, Andrew Heiskell, retired chairman of Time Inc., hold many honors, including being recognized in November of 1999 as "Living Landmarks" by The New York Landmarks Conservancy for their efforts towards preserving New York City. In recognition of Marian's years of service to New York City and her efforts to make its neighborhoods green, vital and more humane, the Marian S. Heiskell Garden was opened in September 1997. The garden is located on West 48th Street between 8th and 9th Avenues in Manhattan.



### **Deborah Shanley, Co-Chair**

Deborah Shanley has enjoyed a rich career in public education that has spanned thirty-five years. She earned her doctorate in curriculum and instruction from Teachers College at Columbia University in 1982 and subsequently pursued research in the field of applied behavioral analysis of students with behavioral disorders. Prior to joining Brooklyn College as Dean of the School of Education, she served as Dean of The School of Liberal Arts and Education at CUNY/Medgar Evers College. Her work with multiple college and community constituencies earned her a Humanitarian Award from the CUNY Consortium for the Study of Disabilities and the Medgar Evers College Worker Education Program. Her current work focuses on creating collaborations and partnerships with New York City schools and cultural institutions which are designed to serve as vehicles for extending teacher preparation beyond the walls of academia. Known for her activist perspective on teacher education renewal--and passion for improving teaching and learning in the public schools, Deborah's philosophy has been realized through her leadership in a wide network of national collaborative partnerships, including the National Network for Education Renewal (NNER), Council for Great City Schools (CGCS), Teachers for a New Era (TNE) and the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF). On the local level, she has established collaborative relationships with a range of professional development schools as well as numerous community organizations, including the Lincoln Center Institute, the National Park Service of New York Harbor and the American Museum of Natural History.



**Diana Balmori**

A principal landscape and urban designer, Diana Balmori is recognized internationally for her innovative work in the field of landscape and urban design. She teaches courses in landscape at Yale University and currently holds a joint appointment with its Schools of Architecture as well as its School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Before founding Balmori and Associates in 1990, Diana worked as a partner for landscape at Cesar Pelli and Associates. She has been recognized for her work with grants and awards from various institutions, including the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities and the American Institute of Architects. She has participated in numerous exhibitions and conferences and served as a juror in several design competitions. Diana is also widely published. She is co-author of several books, including “Saarinen House and Garden: A Total Work of Art”; “Redesigning the American Lawn: A Search for Environmental Harmony”; and “Beatrix Ferrand’s American Landscapes: Her Gardens and Campuses”; as well as the author of numerous articles. She completed her undergraduate work in architecture at the University of Tucuman in Argentina, received her Ph.D. in Urban History from the University of California at Los Angeles, and studied landscape design at Radcliffe College. Diana is a Fellow for the Dumbarton Oaks Garden & Landscape History Institute at Harvard University, and on the Board at the Van Alen Institute in New York City and Minetta Brook, a Public Art Organization. She has recently been appointed a Senior Fellow in Garden and Landscape Studies at Dumbarton Oaks Research Library in Washington, D.C. and currently serves on the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts.



**Adrian Benepe**

Adrian Benepe has worked for nearly 30 years protecting and enhancing New York City’s natural and historic beauty. He has continued this effort as Commissioner of the Department of Parks & Recreation, appointed on January 25, 2002. In this role he has focused on improving park facilities and programs for children, developing new waterfront parks and greenways, and making New York City bloom with millions of new flowers and hundreds of gardens. Benepe started his Parks & Recreation career in 1973 as a teenage seasonal helper in East River Park on Manhattan’s Lower East Side, picking up litter and mopping locker rooms. After graduating from Middlebury College in Vermont, Benepe became a member of the first corps of Parks & Recreation’s Urban Park Rangers in 1979. From 1979 to 1990, he served in a number of different capacities at Park & Recreation. From 1990 to 1993 Benepe was the Director of the Annual Fund & Major Gifts for the New York Botanical Garden in the Bronx, where he expanded his knowledge of plants, trees and children’s education. From 1993 to 1995, he served as Vice President for Issues & Public Affairs for the Municipal Art Society. In that role, Benepe managed public relations and developed strategies for public advocacy efforts in city planning, historic preservation, and public art, and he curated the “Kid City” exhibition to teach children about the built environment. He returned to Parks & Recreation in January 1996 as the Manhattan Borough Commissioner, managing Manhattan’s green infrastructure of more than 300 parks, playgrounds, and malls. He served in that position until promoted to Commissioner of Parks & Recreation, where he now oversees the operation of about 29,000 acres and nearly 4,000 properties including almost 1,000 playgrounds, 600 ballfields, 550 tennis courts, 66 swimming pools, 48 recreation centers, 14 miles of beach, five major stadia, and 2.6 million street and park trees. In addition to his B.A. in English Literature from Middlebury College, Adrian Benepe also earned a Master’s Degree in Journalism from Columbia University, where he was awarded a Pulitzer Fellowship. In 1987, he participated in the Mayor’s Top 40 Program, and in 1992 he was selected to participate in Leadership New York, a program of the Coro Foundation. Although born in New Rochelle, NY, he has lived in New York City since 1959. He lives with his wife and two sons on the Upper West Side of Manhattan where he grew up. He likes to run, walk, bicycle, and cross-country ski in Central and Riverside Parks and throughout the City’s park system.



**Col. John R. Boulé II**

Colonel John R. Boulé II assumed command of the New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in July 2009. The New York District is responsible for the Corps’ water resource development, navigation, and regulatory activities in northeastern New Jersey, eastern and south-

central New York, and parts of Connecticut, Massachusetts and Vermont. The District is also responsible for design and construction at Army and Air Force installations in New Jersey, New York, Virginia and overseas in Greenland. John also holds the title of Supervisor of New York Harbor. Colonel Boulé, originally from Plattsburgh New York, graduated in 1986 from the United States Military Academy, at West Point, with a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. After earning two Masters of Science degrees from Stanford University and Professional Engineer certification, he taught Hydrology in the Department of Civil and Mechanical Engineering at the United States Military Academy. He has served in a variety of operational, command and staff assignments in the United States and overseas. His most recent assignment was Assistant Director of Civil Works at Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, D.C., where he performed numerous duties until attending senior service college at the Industrial College of the Armed Forces (ICAF) where he earned a Master's of Science in National Resource Strategy as a distinguished graduate in June 2009. As a captain, he volunteered for service in Operation Desert Storm with the 27th Engineer Battalion. After company command, John performed duties as a Division Plans Officer. As a major, he also served as the Battalion Executive Officer of the 1st Battalion, 1st Infantry Regiment. After graduating with distinction from the Naval Command and Staff College, Colonel Boulé relocated to Korea, serving as a Battalion Executive Officer for the 2nd Engineer Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. Following this tour, he was assigned to the Pentagon on Army Staff, serving in the G-8, with specific duties managing Current Force Modernization and Setting the Force operations. In June 2004, John assumed command of the 62nd Engineer Battalion at Fort Hood, Texas. Beginning in Dec 2005, he led the battalion on a one-year deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, in support of the 4th Infantry Division. Colonel Boulé's decorations include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, six awards of the Meritorious Service Medal, the Ranger Tab, and the Combat Action Badge.



### **Marcia Bystryn**

Marcia Bystryn joined the New York League of Conservation Voters (NYLCV) as Executive Director in 1999 and was named President in 2008. As statewide organization, the League works to elect strong environmental candidates to office and to hold them accountable. Previously, she served as Senior Corporate Policy Manager for the Environment and then Senior Business Manager for Economic Development at The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. In the first capacity she oversaw the development and implementation of corporate environmental policy and in the later the development of new business opportunities in the areas of regional solid waste management, deregulation of the electrical industry and port expansion. She also formerly served as the Assistant Commissioner for Recycling at New York City's Department of Sanitation, where she designed and implemented New York City's recycling program, as well as the Deputy Director of the Twentieth Century Fund, now the Century Foundation. She has a BA in history and a PhD in the sociology of art. While with the NYLCV, Ms. Bystryn has worked to educate candidates about key issues the public is concerned about, evaluate the performance of elected officials, and endorse and elect the most capable candidates for local, state and federal office.



### **Denis Galvin**

Throughout his career with the National Park Service (NPS), which spanned more than 40 years, Denis Galvin saw parks as being important in providing people with a sense of connectedness; they protect our past, stabilize our present and provide hope for our future. After graduating with a B.S. in mechanical engineering in 1960 from Northeastern University, he joined the Peace Corps and spent two years, serving in Tanzania and working in such renowned national parks as Kilimanjaro and Serengeti. When he returned to the US, he was hired as a civil engineer in 1963 at Sequoia National Park. Subsequent assignments saw Galvin serve in many capacities—from an engineer at Mount Rainier National Park to an assistant director in New York and New Jersey. He was also the deputy director of NPS, a position he held until his retirement in 2002. The many contributions Galvin has made range from the major rehabilitation of infrastructure at Yellowstone to the world's largest photo-voltaic installation at Natural Bridges National Monument in Utah. He led the effort that completed both the Blue Ridge and Natchez Trace Parkways. At his urging, the service began removal of over 300 structures and related utilities at Giant Forest in Sequoia. He also directed the first effort to systematically survey NPS's cultural and natural resources. He was the Coordinator for the Northeast

during the 1976 celebration of the nation's Bicentennial. He led a delegation to the Soviet Union that resulted in ten cooperative projects. One of them, a proposal to create an international park across the Bering Strait, was adopted at a Bush/Gorbachev Summit. Galvin's efforts also led to modernization of the entrance fee system which allowed receipts to be used for support of park operations. He received numerous awards throughout his career. In 1991 he was honored with the Pugsley Medal for outstanding service to parks and conservation and in 2001 he was given a Presidential Rank Award for exceptional achievement in the career of Senior Executive Services. Since retirement he has continued to be active in national park matters. He serves as a trustee for the National Park Conservation Association, was a member of the Second Century Commission on the Future of National Parks, and was a consultant on the Ken Burns PBS series "National Parks: America's Best Idea".



### **Pete Grannis**

A nationally recognized leader in environmental issues and the fight to curb the health hazards posed by smoking, Pete Grannis was nominated by Governor Eliot Spitzer to serve as Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) and began his tenure in April 2007. He was born in Chicago, Illinois, grew up in Michigan, and is a graduate of the Loomis School, Rutgers University and the University of Virginia Law School. Pete began his career in public service at DEC in the early 1970's as a Compliance Counsel and has served as a member of the Assembly representing the Upper East Side of Manhattan and Roosevelt Island for more than 30 years. While in the Assembly, he championed a wide range of environmental issues as a

long-time member of its Environmental Conservation Committee, and played a key role in enacting laws addressing acid rain, clean air and water, fluorocarbons and recycling. He authored New York's historic Clean Indoor Air Act and strengthening amendments to protect all working men and women from exposure to deadly secondhand smoke. His Adolescent Tobacco Use Prevention Act stands as one of the strongest laws in the nation to limit teenagers' access to tobacco. He also wrote the first state law to require tobacco companies to produce a fire-safe cigarette and Pete received the American Lung Association's prestigious Hall of Fame Award, the New York State Public Health Association's Herman M. Biggs Memorial Award, and the Philip Hart Public Service Award. He fought for the passage of the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA), the original Bottle Bill and the clean-up and revitalization of brownfields. Last year, legislation he sponsored was signed into law requiring heavy duty trucks utilized by state contractors to use the best available technology and low-sulfur diesel, making such equipment virtually emission free. He has also crafted many of the state's affordable housing programs for homeless, low, moderate and middle-income New Yorkers. Long recognized for his tireless work to reform and improve the operation of government and politics by good government groups including the League of Women Voters, Common Cause and the New York State Public Interest Group, Pete has sponsored and supported sweeping reforms to bring transparency and efficiency to the state budget process and to state government.



### **Caswell F. Holloway**

Appointed by Mayor Michael Bloomberg to lead the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Commissioner Caswell F. (Cas) Holloway took office on January 1, 2010. Prior to his appointment, he served as Chief of Staff to Deputy Mayor for Operations Edward Skyler and as Special Advisor to Mayor Bloomberg. Joining the Mayor's Office in 2006, Cas was tasked with finding solutions to some of the City's most complex challenges. He was instrumental in the writing and implementation of the Administration's report on the health impacts of the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks and led negotiations on legislation that has since been introduced in both

houses of the United States Congress. Following the tragic fire at 130 Liberty Street in August 2007, Cas led a comprehensive review and overhaul of abatement and demolition processes. He played an important role in the passage and ongoing implementation of the City's Solid Waste Management Plan, which established an equitable and environmentally sustainable system for dealing with the City's waste for the next twenty years and beyond. Cas spearheaded a number of key initiatives, like the new citywide public recycling program, and working with the Fire Department to implement new inspection protocols and safety measures for first responders on construction sites. In 2009, he led the negotiations that resulted in Project Labor Agreements that cover \$5.3 billion in public projects, and will save the City \$300

million over the next 4 years, all of which will be re-invested in dozens of major infrastructure projects and will create approximately 1,800 additional construction jobs. The Agreements also include provisions that will ensure better access to good construction jobs for Minority and Women-owned small-businesses. Graduating cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts from Harvard College, Cas went on to graduate with honors from the University of Chicago Law School. Prior to joining the Mayor's Office, he was an associate at Debevoise & Plimpton LLP, and Cravath, Swaine & Moore LLP. He also served as a law clerk to Judge Dennis G. Jacobs, now the Chief Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Prior to law school, Cas served as Chief of Staff at the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation. He lives in Brooklyn Heights with his wife.



**Tom Kiernan**

Tom Kiernan joined NPCA as president in January 1998 for what has become his dream job: heading up an independent organization that defends and protects America's national parks. Tom grew up in Virginia, kayaking in Mather Gorge, which is part of the C&O Canal National Historical Park. He was co-founder of the Rocky Mountain Outdoor Center in Colorado, and has tested the white waters throughout the United States and Africa, achieving top-ten status in the U.S. in slalom kayaking. He has kayaked through Canyonlands and Grand Canyon national parks, and Dinosaur National Monument, and climbed the Grand Tetons. Previously, Tom served as president of the Audubon Society of New Hampshire. He was a senior-level official in the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Air and Radiation under George H.W. Bush, where he won the Gold Medal for his role in achieving consensus with businesses and environmentalists on a \$450-million pollution-control project at Grand Canyon National Park. He has also held positions with the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality and Arthur Andersen & Company.



**Marty Markowitz**

No one works harder for all 2.6 million Brooklynites than Marty Markowitz. Since entering Borough Hall in January 2002, Marty has reinvigorated the office of Borough President, serving as the chief advocate for Brooklyn's economic, social and cultural interests, while initiating and promoting efforts to improve Brooklynites' quality of life. Born and raised in Crown Heights, Marty graduated from Wingate High School in 1962 and received his B.A. in Political Science from Brooklyn College. Elected to the New York State Senate in 1978, Marty represented Central Brooklyn for 23 years. He began his career in public service in 1971, at the age of 26, by organizing the Flatbush Tenants Council, which grew into Brooklyn Housing and Family Services, the largest tenants' advocacy organization in New York State. In 1973, he founded the Senior Citizens League of Flatbush, an organization that is still going strong—joining the league himself in 2006. As a longtime advocate for seniors, he fought vigorously to keep Brooklyn senior centers open when they were threatened with closures due to budget cuts. Marty's efforts to save Brooklyn's financially troubled medical institutions resulted in the preservation of maternity and pediatric units at Long Island College Hospital as well as the critical services provided by school medical clinics. His office was instrumental in creating two new schools in Brooklyn: the High School for Innovation in Advertising and Media and the Brooklyn Academy of Global Finance. Marty's efforts to stimulate and grow Brooklyn's economy include revitalizing Coney Island, re-zoning Greenpoint-Williamsburg and Downtown Brooklyn, lowering auto insurance rates, cleaning up Newtown Creek, encouraging development of the Brooklyn Cruise Ship Terminal, wooing regional corporate headquarters, large manufacturers and retailers, startups and green businesses, and lobbying on behalf of Brooklynites for the affordable housing and jobs attached to the Atlantic Yards project—all of which have helped make Brooklyn a better place to live, work and raise a family.



**Helen Marshall**

Helen Marshall, the first African American and second woman to hold the post of highest-ranking elected official in a borough with a population of more than 2.2 million residents, has been the Queens Borough President since 2001. She was elected to her first term as Borough President

in November 2001. Before her election to the City Council, Marshall, a native New Yorker, served five terms, beginning in 1982 with the New York State Assembly, where she chaired the Rules Committee and served on the Leland Commission. Prior to joining the Assembly, Helen was an early childhood teacher for eight years and left the teaching profession in 1969 to become the first Director of the Langston Hughes Library. She was also Director of the EMCOR Testing Assessment and Placement Program for eight years, placing hundreds of residents in meaningful employment positions. Helen is also a graduate of the City's public school system and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Education from Queens College. She is the founding Chair of the Higher Education Committee and fought against the privatization of remedial programs of the City University of New York (CUNY). She also served as a member of the Housing & Buildings, Environmental Protection and Women's Issues Committees, and co-chaired the Council's Black and Latino Caucus. While a member of the City Council, she supported the expansions and upgrades of every library in her district, restored funding to rebuild a free children's dental clinic in Corona, led the fight to prevent the sale of Elmhurst and the Queens Hospital Center and provided funding for two new senior centers and for vans to transport seniors. Since becoming Queens Borough President, Helen has allocated more than \$75 million to the Department of Parks and Recreation and more than \$44 million for new libraries, expansions, additions and technological improvements, leading to the creation of the Langston Hughes Library in Corona. Helen has also been a lifelong advocate for job training programs, economic development, and public schools. She also was successful in restoring millions of dollars in funding for services for senior citizens and fought to save a hot meals program that delivers meals to homebound seniors.



### **Neil Mulholland**

Neil Mulholland took the helm of the National Park Foundation, the charitable partner of the National Park Service, in July 2009. His mandate as president and CEO is to strengthen the connection between the American people and their parks during a transformative time in the life of the park system. Mulholland will also provide vision and leadership to the organization on a range of priority goals, including the completion of the Flight 93 Memorial, planning for the centennial anniversary of the National Park System in 2016, and the continued partnership between NPF and Ken Burns as his documentary *The National Parks: America's Best Idea*, reintroduces Americans to their parks. Mulholland brings 28 years of professional leadership experience from the private sector that includes working with Fortune 500 Companies, forging dynamic partnerships, raising private investment capital and actively engaging local communities to create sustainable development. He has been recognized as an advocate for new impactful technologies and for creating pioneering organizations from the ground up that achieve unprecedented results and success. Mulholland is also highly regarded investment broker as demonstrated throughout his career as Senior Vice President with Los Angeles, California-based Cushman Realty Corporation, and more recently as the co-founder, Chairman and CEO of Des Moines, Iowa-based Prairie iNet, one of the first commercially successful regional wireless broadband companies in the United States. Mulholland has a Bachelors degree in Business Administration and Construction Engineering from Iowa State University. His favorite national park is Rocky Mountain National Park and he has been a National Park Foundation board member since 2009.



### **Jay Walder**

Jay Walder, the public transportation expert who helped turn London's aging transit system into an envy of the globe, is the chairman of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the nation's biggest transit agency. A native New Yorker, Jay grew up in the Rockways in Queens, NY, where he attended Beach Channel High School. He attended Harpur College at the State University of New York at Binghamton, and received a Master's in Public Policy from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He began his career in 1983 where he worked for the MTA, heading its capital program budget office and subsequently becoming chief of staff and ultimately executive director and chief financial officer. In those positions he played important roles in the creation of the MTA's first Capital Program and the implementation of the MetroCard. After leaving the MTA in 1995, he taught public policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. He subsequently joined Transport for London (TfL), where he served as the managing director for finance and development until 2006. TfL, created in 2000, is the integrated body responsible for the London's transport services. Jay is credited with the introduc-

tion of the system's extremely successful and popular "Oyster card" and with leading the development of the transportation plans for London's successful bid for the 2012 Summer Olympics. From 2007 until rejoining the MTA, Mr. Walder was a partner at McKinsey & Company, a management consulting firm advising leading companies on issues of strategy, organization, technology, and operations. He was selected by Gov. David A. Paterson in July 2009. In London, Jay led the introduction of the Oyster card, a "smart card" that uses a computer chip to track riders' fares and account balances. Jay has said he plans to introduce such a system in New York. He has also called for a high-tech overhaul of the bus system to create dedicated bus lanes, with GPS trackers that would tell commuters exactly when the next bus will arrive, and countdown clocks on the subway—without the endless delays that have plagued the authority's projects in recent years.



### **Christopher O. Ward**

Christopher O. Ward is the Executive Director of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey (and President of the Port Authority's wholly owned entities: the 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 more than two years as Managing Director of the General Contractors Association of New York, Inc., where he directed and managed the major trade association that represents the heavy construction industry in the City of New York. Before joining the GCA, Mr. Ward spent a year as Chief Executive Officer of American Stevedoring, Inc., a stevedoring and port services company headquartered at the Brooklyn-Port Authority Marine Terminal with major operations at the Elizabeth-Port Authority Marine Terminal. Mr. Ward had previously worked at American Stevedoring in the 1990s. Prior to leading American Stevedoring, from 2002-2005, Mr. Ward served as Commissioner of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection in the Bloomberg Administration. There, Mr. Ward led an agency of 6,500 people and a combined capital and operating budget of more than \$2 billion. During his tenure at the DEP, he oversaw the maintenance and ongoing construction of the city's water supply, distribution and wastewater system, carried out Federal Clean Water Act and Clean Air regulations and managed all conservation programs and hazardous and asbestos material emergencies and remediation. Before joining DEP, and before his original tenure at the Port Authority, much of Mr. Ward's professional career was spent in service to the City of New York in various capacities, such as Senior Vice President for Transportation and Commerce at the Economic Development Corporation, Assistant Commissioner at the Department of Telecommunications and Energy and as Director of Research at the Department of Consumer Affairs. Mr. Ward holds a bachelor of arts from Macalester College and a master's degree in 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.



### **Robert Yaro**

Bob Yaro is President of Regional Plan Association, America's oldest independent metropolitan policy, research and advocacy group. Based in Manhattan, RPA promotes the livability, vitality and sustainability of the New York Metropolitan Region, the nation's largest urban region. He also founded and co-chairs America 2050, RPA's initiative to create a national development and infrastructure plan for the United States. Mr. Yaro is also Professor of Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. He is a member of Mayor Bloomberg's Sustainability Advisory Board, on the board of the Forum for Urban Design and Co-Chair of the Empire State Transportation Alliance. He is an honorary member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. He holds a BA in Urban Studies from Wesleyan and a Masters in City and Regional Planning from Harvard. He has worked for years to protect important landscapes and develop parks and public spaces in New York and New England. He has also consulted on city and regional planning issues across the United States and in Europe, China, Japan, Turkey and North Africa.