



Oil & Water

18th Annual
Regional Assembly

Adapting to Scarcity

April 18th, 2008 · Waldorf=Astoria, New York City
8am to 2:30 pm



Plenary Keynote Address:

The Honorable **Jon S. Corzine**, Governor of the
State of New Jersey (invited)

Luncheon Keynote Address:

The Honorable **Eliot Spitzer**, Governor of the
State of New York



Oil & water don't mix

But together they are irreplaceable resources that combine to create a thriving regional economy.

Climate change, and the need to recalibrate the carbon cycle that accelerates it, leads us to consider our use of these two critical resources. How do we most effectively adapt to the finite nature of water and energy sources, like oil, while maintaining economic competitiveness?

This year's Regional Assembly takes an in-depth look at energy and water and how their increasing scarcity impacts the economic growth and prosperity of the region. As the presidential election looms on the horizon, discussing these pressing topics of national significance in our region can help lay the groundwork for an enlightened vision of sustainability both regionally and nationally.

Oil

Our energy and mobility systems are designed for the era of \$10-a-barrel oil, an era that is long gone, and not coming back. Without planning ahead to a future where fossil fuels are not our primary source of energy, our region will remain dependent on a diminishing, increasingly expensive resource with well-documented impacts on both the environment and the world's geopolitical stability. Moving away from oil dependence and meeting our greenhouse gas emission goals will mean building more energy-efficient communities. This in turn will affect everything from the design of our transportation systems to the design of our streets.

Water

We are entering a period of extreme fluctuations in rainfall, which means more frequent flash-flooding, droughts and "100-year storms" that strike harder and more often. Our region must be prepared for both flooding and drought. As the population of our region increases, so will our thirst for water, already estimated to be 2.5 billion gallons a day. Ensuring the adequate protection of our water supply from reservoirs and groundwater must be a priority. The future of our region depends on how we manage, transport and use this precious resource, from source to tap to treatment plant – particularly as climate change makes our water supply less predictable.

Together, oil and water stand as symbols

of the resources we need to drive a strong regional economy. They are also symbols of resources that are becoming increasingly scarce.

The truth is, we must adapt.

Our region's resources – like water – must be better protected, and our dependence on resources from outside of the region – like oil – must be diminished.

This year's Regional Assembly is a forum to discuss current and burgeoning ideas for how to make the most of our region's natural capital.

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The Day's Agenda

8:00 Registration / Breakfast

8:45 Welcome

Robert D. Yaro, President, Regional Plan Association

9:00 Keynote Address

The Honorable Jon S. Corzine,
Governor of the State of New Jersey *

9:30 Plenary Panel

A Mayor's Approach to Oil & Water

In this plenary panel, the Mayors of some of our region's most important cities will address the impacts of climate change on local energy and water resources. The Mayors will describe their cities' efforts to prepare for these impacts.

Moderator:

Brian Lehrer, Host of *The Brian Lehrer Show*, WNYC *

Introductory presentation:

The Honorable Shirley C. Franklin,
Mayor of the City of Atlanta

Respondents:

The Honorable Dannel P. Malloy, Mayor of the City of Stamford
The Honorable Douglas H. Palmer, Mayor of the City of Trenton
The Honorable Edward Skyler, New York City Deputy Mayor for Operations

10:45 Workshops

(See descriptions at right)

12:15 Lunch

1:00 Luncheon Keynote Address

The Honorable Eliot L. Spitzer,
Governor of the State of New York

Workshops

Open Space

Protecting the Source

The sources of our clean water reservoirs and aquifers include large region-shaping landscapes, like the New Jersey Pinelands, the Catskill Mountains, and the Long Island Pine Barrens. The imperative to conserve natural resources in these landscapes has spawned national models for regional planning and landscape preservation. What are the successes and shortcomings of these models and how can they be applied to unprotected landscapes?

Moderator: The Honorable James J. Florio, former Governor of the State of New Jersey *

Community Design

Shrinking our Footprint by Design

Our communities, whether city or suburb, require vast inputs of scarce natural resources. Once built, lawns demand water, homes and offices require energy, and transport services depend on the use of oil. Can we reduce these dependencies by improving the design and engineering of our communities? Can we design our way to a smaller ecological footprint? What is the minimum input necessary to allow for continued growth and prosperity?

Moderator: Jonathan Rose, Principal, Jonathan Rose Companies LLC

Panelists:

Judith Enck, New York State Deputy Secretary for the Environment

The Honorable Steven C. Englebright, New York State Assemblyman, 4th District (Long Island)

Carleton Montgomery, Executive Director, Pinelands Preservation Alliance

Eileen Swan, Executive Director, New Jersey Highlands Council

Panelists:

Don Chen, Program Officer for Community Development, The Ford Foundation *

Tom Hicks, Vice President, LEED ND and International, US Green Building Council *

Michael Scorrano, Vice President, Business Development, Pareto Energy Ltd. *

The Honorable Andrew J. Spano, Westchester County Executive *

*invited

Workforce

Emerging Regional "Green Collar" Jobs & Job Centers

Energy conservation, climate adaptation and mitigation, and sustainable development will change the structure of the economy and the distribution of jobs and income. While the threats of climate change are very real, there are also opportunities to create entirely new sectors with careers that can fill part of the gap left by the decline in industrial and middle-income service jobs. What will be the nature of the new "green economy?" What type of job opportunities will it create and where will these be located?

Moderator: Ralph LaRossa, President and Chief Operating Officer, PSE&G *

National Transportation

National Transportation Policy: Moving People & Goods

The U.S. economy depends in large part on the ability to move goods and people efficiently and without delay. Yet the framework of our transportation network – the Interstate Highway System – has locked us in a dangerous dependence on fossil fuels. With concerns about climate change, peak oil, and the instability in many oil producing countries, the ability to diversify and move away from a fossil-fuel based transportation system should be a goal for the sustainability and economic security of the U.S. This panel will explore the potential for transportation policy to move toward a more diversified framework that integrates different transportation modes and offers more choice. Panelists will address long-term trends and how they may shape the reauthorization of the U.S. transportation bill in 2009.

Panelists:

The Honorable Adolfo Carrión Jr., Bronx Borough President *

Nancy R. Douzinas, President, Rauch Foundation *

Kevin S. Law, President and Chief Executive Officer, Long Island Power Authority

Mary O'Malley, Vice President, Local Initiatives, Prudential Financial, Inc.

Edward F. Ott, Executive Director, New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

Moderator: Thomas E. Prendergast, Senior Vice President, Parsons Brinckerhoff

Panelists:

Emil Frankel, Director of Transportation Policy, The Bipartisan Policy Center

Catherine Ross, Director, Center for Quality Growth & Regional Development, Georgia Tech

Lee Sander, Executive Director & CEO, Metropolitan Transit Authority

Mariia Zimmerman, Vice President for Policy, Reconnecting America

Regional Transportation

Making Cars Pay Their Way

We are entering a new era in which the cost of driving cars on our region's roadways and highways is steadily increasing. Motorists will be required to pay more in taxes, fees and tolls than in the past, in order to cover a greater share of the actual infrastructure costs associated with driving, as well as subsidize new transit initiatives. Our region's state leaders are also beginning to think of infrastructure investments as assets to be leveraged to fund new projects and pay down outstanding debt. Examples of these new trends include Mayor Bloomberg's proposed congestion pricing plan as well as Governor Corzine's recently proposed asset monetization plan for New Jersey roadways. The outcomes of these two initiatives are of national significance and will strongly influence transportation policy for generations to come. This panel will discuss and debate these two policy proposals and others as they relate to how much we drive, increasing automobile operation costs, and new funding streams for transit.

Moderator: Timur F. Galen, Managing Director, Goldman Sachs

Panelists:

Kris Kolluri, Commissioner, New Jersey Department of Transportation *

Janette Sadik-Khan, Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation

Marc V. Shaw, Chair, New York City Traffic Mitigation Commission & Executive Vice-President, Extell Development Company

Anthony E. Shorris, Executive Director, The Port Authority of New York & New Jersey

Jeffrey M. Zupan, Senior Transportation Fellow, Regional Plan Association

*invited



