

Regional Plan Association

15th Annual Regional Assembly

Beyond Red and Blue

**The Tri-State Region
in a Changing
National Context**

Chair, Regional Assembly

Michael J. Critelli

Chairman and CEO, Pitney Bowes

Keynote Address

Bruce Katz

Vice President & Director,
Metropolitan Policy Program, The Brookings Institution

Luncheon Address

The Honorable Christopher Shays

United States House of Representatives

Friday

April 29, 2005

8:00am to 2:30pm

The Waldorf-Astoria

301 Park Avenue
New York City

Regional **Plan** Association
NJ CT NY

The 2004 presidential election

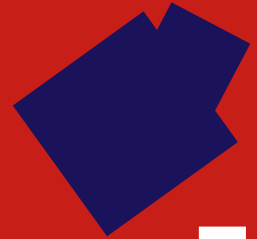
focused both media and public attention on the presumed “red” and “blue” divide in our nation. The map of the state-by-state election results paints a picture of a mostly red (Republican) country set off by blue (Democratic) coastal states and a swath of the upper Midwest. The reality is more nuanced, with many states more of a patchwork of red and blue counties and precincts. In our own “blue” thirty-one county region of New York-New Jersey-Connecticut, fourteen counties voted for George W. Bush in the last election.

Still, the national results have very real implications for the balance of geographic political power and have heightened a national debate over the extent and meaning of the cultural divide that they seem to represent.

The implications of this division for the Tri-State Region's relationship with the federal government and the rest of the nation are at the heart of this year's Regional Assembly.

Over the years, the region's relationship with Washington, DC has been mixed. From Gerald Ford's headline-inspiring refusal to bail New York City out of its fiscal crisis in the 1970s (“Ford to City: Drop Dead”), to President Bush's prominent identification with post-9/11 recovery efforts, the region has enjoyed both hot and cold relationships with Republican presidents, and has alternately been embraced or taken for granted by Democratic ones. Similarly, New York's estimation in the eyes of the country has fluctuated widely, but always with the underlying assumption that this was a region apart, a place that was more oriented to the world at large than the heartland.

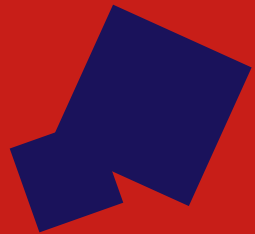
Despite this perception, the region and the nation have a complex, interdependent relationship. The region depends on the federal government to help fund

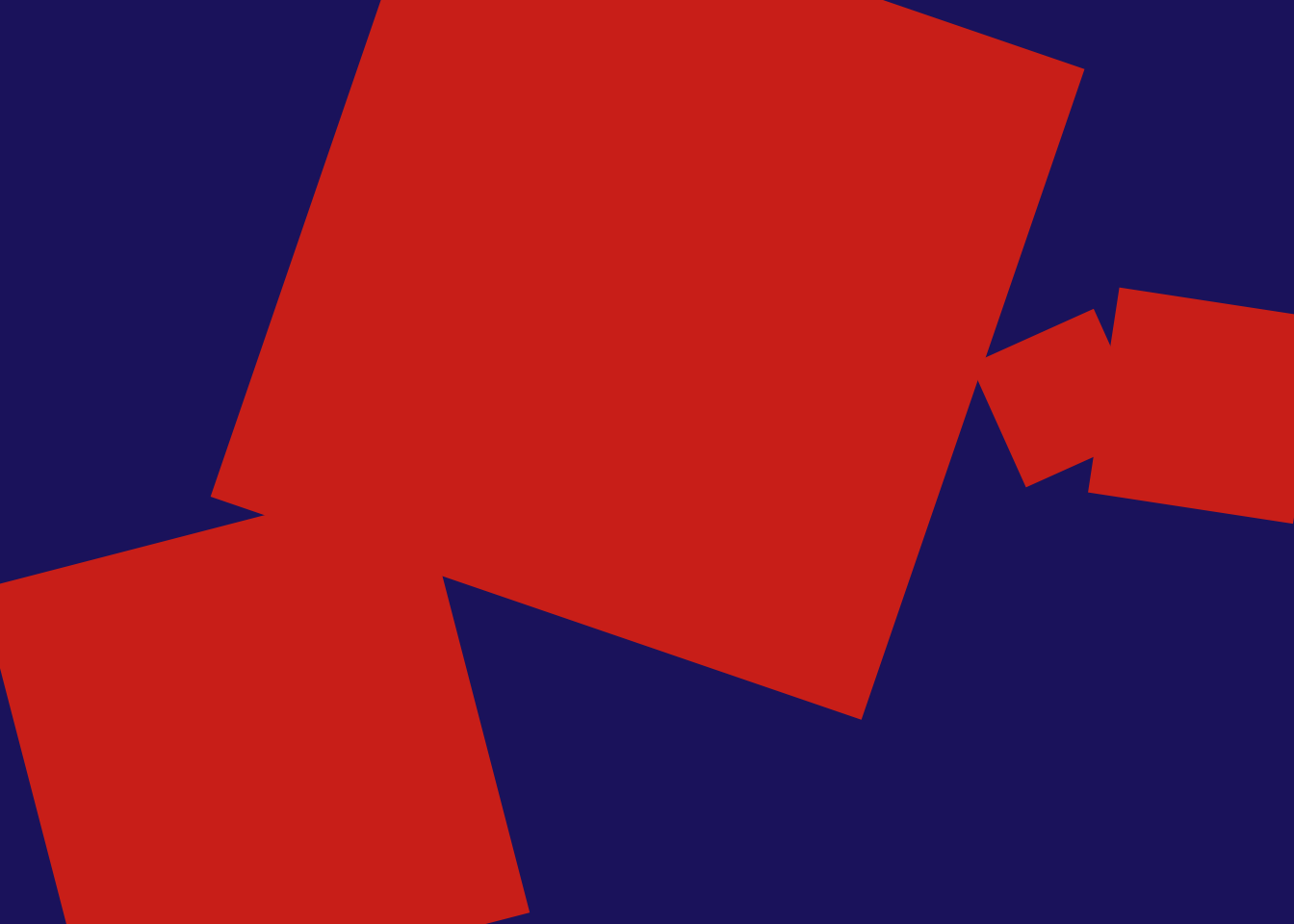


Beyond

Red & Blue

our extensive transportation infrastructure, housing programs, health care services and security that help drive the economy and support the region's quality of life. And the nation relies on the Tri-State Region for its tax revenue, its media and publishing markets, cultural resources and its role as a gateway to global financial markets. Furthermore, as urbanized areas grow rapidly across the country in the coming years, the New York Region and other metropolitan areas in both red and blue states will have more and more in common. The challenges of managing traffic congestion, supporting aging infrastructure, recognizing and accommodating immigrant populations, and preserving open space are best tackled with inter-regional alliances and national policies. The Assembly will explore how the New York Region can forge alliances with other regions to promote a metropolitan focus at the federal level and policies that support the Tri-State Region.





Keynote Address and Plenary Panel

Keynote Address

Bruce Katz
Vice President and Director,
Metropolitan Policy Program,
The Brookings Institution

Plenary Panel

The Honorable Rush Holt (D-NJ)
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Rick Lazio
Former Congressman, Executive
Vice President, JP Morgan Chase

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney (D-NY)
U.S. House of Representatives

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)
U.S. House of Representatives

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

The Honorable Thomas R. Suozzi
Nassau County Executive

Welcome

Robert D. Yaro, President,
Regional Plan Association

**Registration
& Breakfast**

**Workshop Sessions with
Expert Panels**

Lunch

Welcome Address

Blueprint for a Sustainable Future
Regional Assembly Chair
Michael J. Critelli
Chairman and CEO, Pitney Bowes

Luncheon Address

The Honorable
Christopher Shays
(R-CT), U.S. House of
Representatives

Break

10:30
10:45

12:15

11

12

1

10

2

2:30

9

9:00
8:45

Program

3

8am

4

7

6

5

8:00

Workshops

Financing Transportation: A National and Regional Crisis

Today, all transportation programs, projects and policies in the Tri-State Region are threatened by the absence of transportation funding from all levels of government, the delay in the reauthorization of the federal surface transportation bill, and by benign neglect. Nationally, an absence of purpose, budget policies, and “give me my share” greed has conspired to bring us to an historic crossroads.

The panel discussion will focus on the funding challenges facing the nation and the region and pose the question: Is there a better way?

Panelists

Thomas M. Downs, President and CEO, Eno Transportation Foundation

Emil Frankel, Assistant Secretary of Transportation Policy,
United States Department of Transportation

Louis Gambaccini, Distinguished Transportation Fellow,
Edward J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy,
Rutgers University

Katherine N. Lapp, Executive Director,
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

Moderator

Janette Sadik-Khan, Senior Vice President,
Parsons Brinckerhoff

America 2050: Toward a National Strategy for Prosperity, Equity and Sustainability

The Census Bureau forecasts a 40 percent increase in the nation's population by 2050, most of which will occur in several emerging "megalopolis" regions similar in scale to the Northeast Corridor, which extends from Boston to New York to Washington, DC. While central cities are expected to grow at only a modest pace throughout the nation, their larger metropolitan regions will experience rapid growth over the next 50 years and share many of the problems of the Northeast, like traffic congestion, the rising cost of living, and increased economic polarization.

This panel will present new research on national growth trends prepared by RPA, the Lincoln Institute of Land Policy and the University of Pennsylvania, with a focus on promoting regional solutions for growth and development challenges experienced throughout the nation. In particular, how can policies that recognize the emergence of the megalopolis benefit not only places like the Northeast Corridor but the entire Sunbelt of rapidly growing Southern and Western "megalopolitan" areas?

Panelists

Armando Carbonell, Senior Fellow and Co-Chairman,
Department of Planning and Development,
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, Cambridge, MA

Robert E. Lang, Director, Metropolitan Institute at Virginia Tech,
Alexandria, VA

The Honorable Jerrold Nadler (D-NY), United States House of Representatives
Executive Director, Southern California Association of
Governments, Los Angeles, CA

Catherine Ross, Director, Georgia Tech Center for Quality Growth and
Regional Development, Atlanta, GA

Moderator

Robert D. Yaro, President, Regional Plan Association

Finding Green in the Red and Blue: Federal Support for Landscape Conservation in the Region

The conservation of the large landscapes and estuaries that deliver clean drinking water, harbor our natural heritage, and provide our outdoor recreational opportunities is critical to the quality of life in the metropolitan area – and the focus of Regional Plan Association’s Greensward Program. These places, including the Appalachian Highlands, Long Island Sound, and the NY-NJ Harbor, have also been recognized by the federal government for their national significance. A variety of programs and initiatives have been developed to help deliver federal funding and expertise. Yet these efforts have historically had mixed results, often failing to generate adequate support in Washington, DC among Congress and the national environmental community. The recent enactment of the Federal Highlands Conservation Act – by some accounts the only environmental success of last year’s session – offers some guidance for similar initiatives underway in Long Island Sound and the Harbor.

Panelists

Carol Ash, Executive Director, Palisades
Interstate Park Commission

Jeanne Herb, Deputy Commissioner, New Jersey
Department of Environmental Protection

The Honorable Rick Lazio, Former Congressman,
Executive Vice President, Global Government
Relations and Public Policy, JP Morgan Chase

David Leff, Deputy Commissioner, Connecticut
Department of Environmental Protection

The Honorable Christopher Shays (R-CT),
United States House of Representatives

Moderator

Robert Pirani, Director of Environmental
Programs, Regional Plan Association

The Regional Response to National Fiscal Policy

Is the Tri-State Region completely at the mercy of national tax and spending policy? Since the 1970s, Washington has given states and localities more responsibility but fewer resources for handling everything from welfare to housing. New York, New Jersey and Connecticut send considerably more tax revenue to the federal government than they receive in grants and assistance. This is partly because we are a wealthy region with a lot of income to tax, but also because we receive far less in procurements and subsidies than regions with high concentrations of agriculture or defense industries. Now we are entering a serious national debate over profound structural changes in Medicaid, Social Security and tax policies, such as the elimination of itemized deductions for state and local taxes.

What are the implications of these potential changes for states, cities and suburbs that are still struggling with structural deficits? Are there any opportunities to enact policy changes that would be advantageous to the region? Should we be trying to establish greater independence from Washington on housing, transportation, social services and other needs? What political strategies can we employ that enlist allies in other regions?

Panelists

Ronnie Lowenstein, Director, New York City Independent Budget Office

Fred Siegel, Professor, The Cooper Union for the
Advancement of Science and Art

Anthony E. Shorris, Director, Policy Research Institute for
the Region, Princeton University

The Honorable Thomas R. Suozzi, Nassau County Executive

Moderator

Christopher Jones, Vice President for Research,
Regional Plan Association

The Politics of Sprawl

Are suburbs Republican?
Is density Democratic?
From *Bowling for Columbine*
to soccer moms, suburban
sprawl is as much a politi-
cal and cultural landscape
as a physical one.

But how exactly do
political affiliations
and attitudes affect
land use patterns?
Hot-button issues
like open space
preservation, road
congestion, and property
taxes tend to stoke partisan fer-
vor. Yet Republican Governors like Chris-
tine Whitman championed smart growth poli-
cies while urban communities have sought suburban
models like big-box retail stores and single family homes
as revitalization measures. This workshop will explore the changing
demographics of land use in America, from revitalized urban cores to
declining inner-ring suburbs to booming exurbs. An emphasis on the
New York Region and the politics that characterize each place will
provide a more nuanced understanding of how land use and politics
intersect in the suburbs.

Panelists

Robert D. Bullard, Director,
Environmental Justice
Resource Center at Clark
Atlanta University

Dolores Hayden, Professor of
Architecture, Yale University

The Honorable Rush Holt (D-NJ),
United States House
of Representatives

Susan Bass Levin, Commissioner,
New Jersey Department
of Community Affairs

Moderator

Don Chen, Executive Director,
Smart Growth America

Securing the New York Region: Infrastructure and Urban Design in the Post 9/11 Age

The challenge of preventing another act of terrorism in the Tri-State Region is immense. From the streets, buildings and public spaces of New York City to the region's airports, marine ports, transportation systems and "vital facilities," nowhere is the need for a coordinated strategy across jurisdictional lines and levels of government more important. Experts and officials will discuss how urban design solutions can promote safety and deter terrorism in public spaces and address what is being done to secure the region's major infrastructure facilities now and in the future. To address larger policy issues, the workshop will ask:

How secure are the Tri-State Region's infrastructure and facilities today? What additional resources and coordination are needed from the federal government to face the unique security challenges of the region? What are the highest priorities for providing security in an environment of limited resources?

Panelists

Anthony R. Coscia, Chairman, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Patricia E. Gallagher, Executive Director, National Capital Planning Commission

The Honorable Carolyn Maloney (D-NY),
United States House of Representatives

Robert M. Rogers, Principal, Rogers Marvel Architects

Moderator

Ethel Sheffer, Principal, Insight Associates

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**Regional Plan Association**

Regional Plan Association improves the quality of life and the economic competitiveness of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut region through research,

planning, and advocacy. For more than 80 years, RPA has been shaping transportation systems, protecting open spaces, and promoting better community design for the region's continued growth. We anticipate the challenges the region will face in the years to come, and we mobilize the region's civic, business, and government sectors to take action.

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If you were a registered attendee at the RPA 2004 Regional Assembly you are a member and may **deduct \$20** from your registration total. This discount must be taken at the time of registration and applies to individuals only.

Fees

		Member Discount
Early Registration before April 15	\$125	\$105
Late Registration April 15 through the day of the event	\$150	\$130

Please use **one (1)** form per attendee. Photocopy this form to register additional attendees. Additional, printable copies of this form are available at <http://www.rpa.org>.

Your registration includes a one year membership in RPA at the Member (\$50) level.

Continental breakfast and luncheon are included in the registration fee. Each attendee will also receive a packet of conference materials.

Friday, April 29, 2005 8:00am to 2:30pm

The Waldorf-Astoria

301 Park Avenue
New York City

The Waldorf-Astoria is accessible for the physically disabled.

If you have any further questions or wish to register by phone, please contact Amanda Jones at 212 253-2727, x317, or email amanda@rpa.org.

Refund upon Cancellation

To receive a refund, your cancellation must be sent by written notice or email and received prior to April 15, 2005. Absolutely no refunds will be made to cancellations requested after that date.

Substitutions can be arranged at no additional cost.

Confirmation

You will receive a note or email confirming your registration.

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Also available online at <http://www.rpa.org>

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- Finding Green in the Red and Blue:**
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- The Regional Response to National Fiscal Policy**
- The Politics of Sprawl**
- Securing the New York Region:**
Infrastructure and Urban Design in the Post 9/11 Age

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A large, abstract red graphic on the left side of the page, composed of several overlapping, irregular shapes. The shapes are solid red and vary in size and orientation, creating a dynamic, layered effect. The largest shape is a large, tilted rectangle that serves as a background for the main title and subtitle. Other smaller shapes are scattered around it, some partially overlapping.

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Beyond Red and Blue

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