

Annual Report 2016

What we do

Regional Plan Association is a nonprofit civic organization dedicated to improving the economic health, resiliency and quality of life of the New York metropolitan region.

We conduct research on transportation, land use, housing, good governance and the environment.

We advise cities, communities and public agencies.

And we advocate for change that will contribute to the prosperity of all residents of the region.

Our goals



Expand economic opportunity



Foster healthier communities



Protect the region from flooding and sea level rise



Tackle our housing affordability crisis



Reduce our carbon footprint



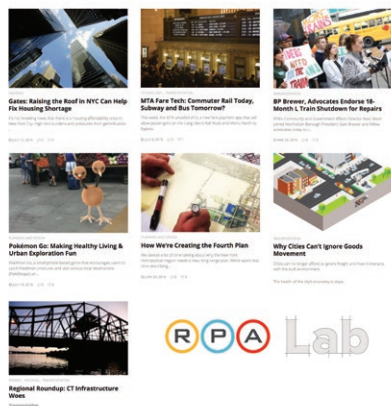
Modernize our infrastructure



Fix our broken governance



Photo: Nancy Borowick



Achievements

- ✓ We engaged with scores of communities and grassroots organizations, initiating a planning process that balances regional priorities with the needs of local communities.
- ✓ A New York Times op-ed by RPA President Tom Wright explored the little-known origins of our infrastructure crisis.
- ✓ Our report *A New L Train for New Yorkers* sparked a broad-based civic effort to rethink the use of a major urban corridor.
- ✓ *Tunnel Trouble*, our animated video about the crumbling Hudson River rail tunnels, put pressure on political leaders to move the project forward.
- ✓ We launched a blog, *RPA Lab*, to share insights and ideas about planning and the future of the region.
- ✓ We showed how outdated regulations prevent the development of mixed-use buildings that many communities want.
- ✓ We proposed a new surface rail line to serve long-neglected communities in Brooklyn, Queens and the Bronx.



Can Our Transit System Get Any Worse?

By Thomas K. Wright

PRINCETON, N.J. THIS has been a tough season for commuters in the New York region: the Amtrak crash in May, trains stuck in Hudson River tunnels in June, subway service disrupted by never-ending summer construction. Still, more than 5.6 million people take the subway each weekday, the most since 1949; New Jersey Transit's ridership into the city has risen 75 percent in the past 15 years, and Amtrak's Northeast Corridor carried a record of nearly 12 million riders last year.

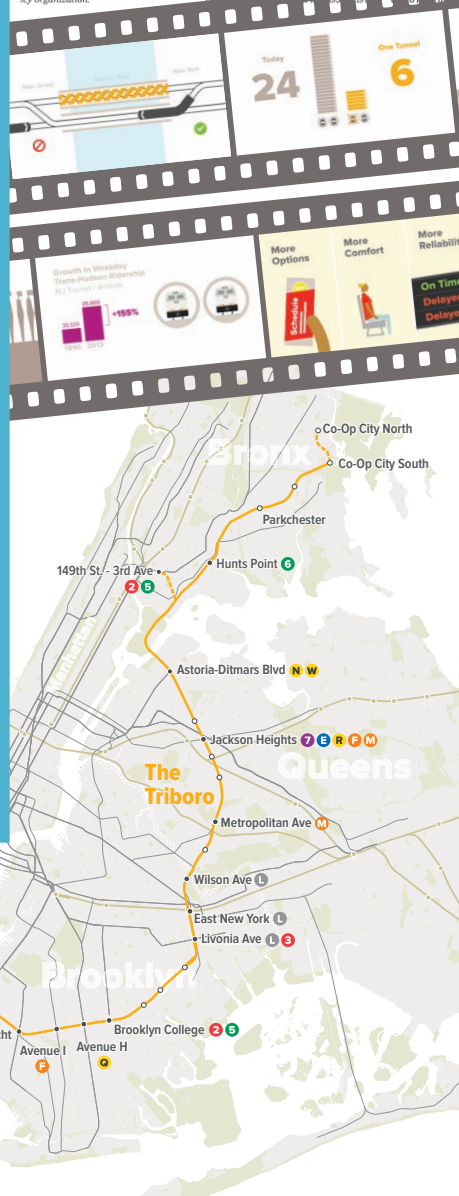
Why are our transit systems faltering just as more people than ever want to use them? Part of the answer lies with the way our government institutions are structured, and New York offers a case in point. Private companies built many of our subways, commuter lines and intercity railroads in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Mass transit, like long-distance rail, was profitable then, especially when combined with speculation in land made accessible by new, fast rail connections. Then came the automobile, and publicly

funded highways. Public authorities like the Port of New York Authority (formed in 1921) and the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority (1933) took charge of building highways, bridges and tunnels for this liberating technology.

The demand was insatiable, and authorities were granted extraordinary powers. They could borrow money without having to count toward a city or state's general debt. They were exempt from taxes on payments made to bondholders and on real property that reduced their costs by producing income. They could ignore local politicians and zoning and land-use laws as they seized private property — as long as they paid fair market value.

And at their best, they were governed by appointed professionals who served to independent directors and served staggered terms, which diminished political influences. If a governor tried to interfere, they could point to covenants with their bondholders and argue that they could only invest in projects that would generate a reasonable return on investment.

For a while, the politicians were held at bay. Then, in the 1950s, the federal government started building the interstate highway system, offering big subsidies to states to connect to it. The combined might of the public authorities





Assembly



Photos: Nancy Borowick

On May 6, our annual conference brought together nearly 1,000 civic and business leaders from around the region to debate preliminary recommendations of the fourth regional plan. At this year's Assembly we also unveiled the name of the plan, *A Region Transformed*, reflecting our belief that profound changes are needed to sustain and expand the region's success.

Among our 2016 speakers...



Anthony Foxx
Secretary, U.S. Department of Transportation



Hon. John Hickenlooper
Governor of Colorado



Hon. Chuck Schumer
United States Senator



Hon. Ras J. Baraka
Mayor of Newark



Xavier de Souza Briggs
Vice President,
Ford Foundation



Hon. Toni Harp
Mayor of New Haven



Tom Prendergast
Chairman & CEO,
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority



Janette Sadik-Khan
Principal, Bloomberg
Associates



Peggy Shepard
Executive Director, WE ACT
for Environmental Justice



A Region Transformed



Photo: Nancy Borowick

Our work advanced on the fourth regional plan, a comprehensive vision for the New York metropolitan region to be completed next year. In 2016, we published a vision for a prosperous, fair and resilient metropolitan region.

RPA Vision

Current Trend

+850K

+1.9 Million

The region needs to create nearly two million **jobs by 2040** to sustain prosperity and expand economic opportunity as our population grows.

Support

The board and staff of Regional Plan Association
thank all our supporters

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

Project support

\$100,000+

Albert W. & Katharine E.
Merck Charitable Fund
Emigrant Bank
Ford Foundation
The JPB Foundation
Laurance S. Rockefeller Fund
Lincoln Institute of Land Policy
NYSERDA
Rauch Foundation
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation

\$50,000 – \$99,999

ARUP
Fund for the Environment and
Urban Life / Oram Foundation
Greater Jamaica Development
Corporation
New Jersey Highlands Council
Walentas Foundation

\$20,000 – \$49,999

F. M. Kirby Foundation
Fund for New Jersey
Open Space Institute Klipper Fund
PNC Foundation
Ralph E. Ogden Foundation
Suffolk County IDA
Thomas Edison State College

\$1,000 – \$19,999

Peter Bienstock
Church Communities
Foundation - Bruderhof
Cornell University
Friends of Hudson River Park
J. M. Kaplan Fund
Leen Foundation
Leon Lowenstein Foundation
Metropolitan Atlanta Rapid
Transit Authority MARTA
New York State Environmental
Facilities Corporation
Open Space Institute
Placeworks
Port Authority of New York
and New Jersey
Rutgers University
Shawangunk Valley Conservancy

The Schumann Fund
for New Jersey
Township of Woolwich
Upper Manhattan
Empowerment Zone

Endowment

\$100,000+

The Durst Family
Stavros Niarchos Foundation

\$10,000 – \$99,999

ARUP
Stephen Beckwith
Cushman & Wakefield
Edison Properties
Edison Properties Newark
Foundation
Peter W. Herman
Milbank Tweed Hadley & McCloy
M&T Bank

\$1 – \$9,999

Rohit Aggarwala
David Armour
Jan Barenholtz
Michael Cacace
Michael Critelli
Christopher Daggett
Ellen Futter
Timur Galen
Thomas Harvey
Adam Isles
Marcia Keizs
William Maloney
Kevin Pearson
Lynne Sagalyn
Peggy Shepard
H. Claude Shostal
Sharon Taylor
Thomas K. Wright
WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff

General support

\$100,000+

General Contractors
Association of New York

\$50,000 – \$99,999

American Express
Edison Properties
Goldman Sachs
JPMorgan Chase
Prudential
PricewaterhouseCoopers

\$25,000 – \$49,999

AECOM
AIG
American Airlines
ARCADIS
ARUP
Brookfield Properties
CH2M
Citi Foundation
Cushman & Wakefield
Deloitte
Emigrant Bank
Greater Jamaica Development
Corporation
Greater New York Hospital
Association
HDR Engineering
Herrick Feinstein
HNTB
IPG
MBI GluckShaw
MetLife Foundation
The Newman Foundations
Jan Nicholson
NRG Energy
Related
Siemens
TIAA Global Asset Management
Time Warner
United Airlines
Vornado
Wells Fargo
WSP Parsons Brinckerhoff

\$10,000 – \$24,999

Marcia Bateson
Stephen Beckwith
Robert Billingsley
Frank Cicero
Bloomberg Associates
Columbia University
Luke Eberly Fichthorn IV
Doreen Frasca
Dylan Hixon
Joelson Foundation
Matthew Kissner
Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates
M&T Bank
Metropolitan Transportation
Authority
New York State Laborers Union
Omnispective
Richard Oram
Partnership for Architecture
and Urbanism
PNC Bank
PSE&G
Rechler Equity
Re-Think NYC
Gary D. Rose
RXR Realty
James S. Simpson
Kent Swig
Tonio Burgos & Associates
Williams

\$1,000 – \$9,999

Rohit Aggarwala
Amtrak
Hilary M. Ballon
Berlin Rosen
Edward J. Blakely
James Brinkerhoff
Michael J. Cacace
Jun Choi
CIBC World Markets
Colgate-Palmolive
Covanta
Michael Critelli
CSX
CVC Partners
Christopher Daggett
Davis Polk & Wardwell
Duane Morris
Eaton Corp.

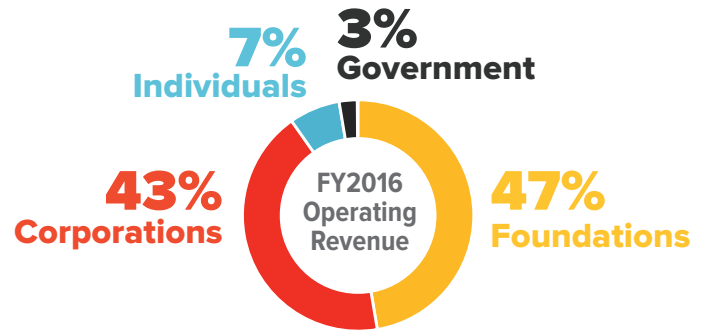
Financials

July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016

Fernando Ferrer
Joseph Fiordaliso
John Griswold
Halstead Properties
Marian Heiskell
Andrew Herz
HNTB Connecticut
Douglas Horne
David Huntington
Investors Bank
Adam Isles
Stephan Jaklitsch
Kenneth Jackson
Robert Knapp
Philip Kuchma
Joshua Landes
Joseph Maraziti
Sanjay Mody
New York Building Congress
New York Waterways
NJTransit
Northeast Maglev
Mark O'Luck
People's United
PNC Foundation
Robert A. M. Stern Architects
The Rich Foundation
Rockefeller Group
Development Corporation
Jonathan Rose
Wendy Rowden
Lynne Sagalyn
Sam Schwartz Engineering
Segal Company
Skanska USA Building
Susan Solomon
Stantec
Thomas Stanton
Robert Steel
George Stonbely
Robert Stromsted
Luther Tai
Marilyn Taylor
TransitCenter
Treiber Family Foundation
Uber
Urban Engineers
Wiley
Windels Marx

\$1 – \$999

Olatunji Barlatt
Alan R. Bell
Nicholas D. Bloom
Thomas Boast
Fred Brody
Ross Burkhardt
Linda Cox
Stephen Downes
Caroline Ehrlich
Carlos Ferran
Emil Frankel
Rosalie Genevro
Lisa Gibson
Karyn Gilvarg
J. Robert Hillier
Barbara Kauffman
Ellen Kelly
Kenneth Knuckles
Vivien Krieger
Geraldine Kunstadter
Philip Langdon
Susan Lederman
Jack Linn
John F. Manning
Debra McDowell
Edward McGuire
Matthew Nemerson
Philip Pitruzzello
Michael S. Plofker
Carl Pucci
Milton Puryear
Jason Redd
Ingrid Reed
Mindy Rhindress
Ellen Rosenberg
Joel Russell
Robert Santy
Lisa Sarajian
Peggy Shepard
Jamie Simchik
David Solnik
Lawrence Stelter
Debra Tantleff
Sheldon Teicher
Roxanne Warren
Thomas H. Wright



Operating Revenue	FY2016
Foundations	\$2,217,965
Corporations	\$2,009,663
Individuals	\$333,673
Government	\$117,938
Interest/Miscellaneous	\$5,801
Total Operating Revenue	\$4,685,040

Endowment/Quasi-Endowment	
Quasi Endowment	\$949,083
Peter Herman Chair	\$172,225
Dividends and Capital Gains	\$48,213
Total Endowment/Quasi Endowment	\$1,169,521

Total Revenue	\$5,854,561
----------------------	--------------------

Operating Expenses	
Research	\$3,447,060
Public Affairs	\$440,103
Management and General	\$392,669
Fundraising	\$328,982
Total Operating Expenses	\$4,608,814

Net Income	\$1,245,747
-------------------	--------------------

Total Assets	\$6,302,466
---------------------	--------------------

Total Liabilities	\$222,688
--------------------------	------------------

Total Net Assets	\$6,079,778
-------------------------	--------------------

Board of Directors

Fiscal Year 2016

Chairman (as of October 2016)

Scott Rechler

President

Thomas K. Wright

Co-Chair, New York Committee

Robert L. Billingsley

Co-Chair, Connecticut Committee

Michael J. Cacace

Co-Chair, Transportation

Committee

Kevin S. Corbett

Co-Chair, Connecticut Committee

Michael J. Critelli

Co-Chair, Energy & Environment

Committee

Christopher J. Daggett

Vice Chair

Douglas Durst

Co-Chair, Community Planning &

Design Committee

Hon. Fernando Ferrer

Co-Chair, New Jersey Committee

Hon. James J. Florio

Chairman (through October 2016)

Elliot G. Sander

Co-Chair, Transportation
Committee

Doreen M. Frasca

Co-Chair, Community Planning &
Design Committee

Maxine Griffith

Chairman Emeritus and Counsel

Peter W. Herman

Co-Chair, New Jersey Committee

Paul Josephson

Treasurer

Matthew S. Kissner

Co-Chair, Energy & Environment

Committee

Milton Puryear

Co-Chair, New York Committee

Lynne Sagalyn

Chair, Nominating Committee

Denise M. Richardson

Rohit T. Aggarwala

David Armour

Hilary M. Ballon

Joseph G. Barile*

Giacomo Barbieri

Marcia Bateson

Stephen R. Beckwith

Anthony Borelli

James J. Brinkerhoff

Tonio Burgos

Vishaan Chakrabarti

Manju Chandrasekhar

Frank S. Cicero

Louis J. Coletti*

Anthony R. Coscia

Lee Davis*

Thomas Patrick Dore Jr.

Eva Lauren Durst

Thomas P. Fehn

Luke Eberly Fichthorn IV

Barbara Joelson Fife

James E. Fitzgerald

Paul E. Francis*

Emil H. Frankel*

Timur F. Galen

Jonathan L. Goldstick

Toni L. Griffin*

John S. Griswold Jr.*

Richard J. Haray

Suzanne Heidelberger

Dylan Hixon

David Huntington

Adam Isles

Kenneth T. Jackson

Sabrina Kanner

Anaita Kasad

Marcia V. Keizs

Greg A. Kelly

Robert Knapp

Hope Knight

Mitchell Korbey

John Z. Kukral

Judith Lagano

Jill Lerner

Trent Lethco

Christopher D. Levandos

Mark Marcucci

Debra McDowell

Peter Miscovich

Tom Morgan

J. Andrew Murphy*

Jan Nicholson

Joseph P. Oates*

Richard L. Oram

Patricia Ornst

Sotiris A. Pagdadis*

Kevin J. Pearson

Richard Ravitch

Gregg Rechler

Michael J. Regan

Erin Reuss-Hannafin

Marc Ricks

Gary D. Rose

Janette Sadik-Khan

Thomas Santiago

Samuel I. Schwartz

Peggy Shepard

H. Claude Shostal

James Simpson

Monica Slater Stokes

Susan L. Solomon

Carter Strickland

Robert Stromsted

Michael Sweeney

Kent Swig

Marilyn J. Taylor

Sharon C. Taylor

Richard T. Thigpen

Darryl Towns

Karen E. Wagner*

Randy Wissel

Robert D. Yaro

John Zuccotti°

Directors Emeriti

Edward J. Blakely

Jerome W. Gottesman

Marc Joseph

Charles J. Maikish

Luther Tai

Secretary

Rossana Ivanova



Regional Plan Association

New York

4 Irving Place, 7th floor
New York, NY 10003
212.253.2727

New Jersey

179 Nassau Street, 3rd floor
Princeton, NJ 08542
609.228.7080

Connecticut

Two Landmark Square, Suite 108
Stamford, CT 06901
203.356.0390

 www.rpa.org

 facebook.com/regionalplan

 [@regionalplan](https://twitter.com/regionalplan) [#4thPlan](https://twitter.com/4thPlan)