

Thursday, February 26, 2026

9:00 AM EST
1 HR

Registration & Networking Breakfast

10:00 AM EST
5 MINS

Welcoming Remarks by City & State



Jeff Coltin
Editor-in-Chief
City & State NY

Jeff Coltin is editor-in-chief of City & State NY, recently returning to the magazine where he built his career over a decade covering New York politics. He was previously at Politico, reporting on the city and co-authoring the New York Playbook.

Before that, Jeff was City Hall bureau chief at City & State, where he authored the Campaign Confidential newsletter and was named the New York Press Association's 2022 Writer of the Year.

Born and raised in Phoenix, Jeff got into journalism at Fordham University in the Bronx, inspired by his grandfather Wendell, who reported for the Boston Herald among other papers. He lives with his wife on the Upper West Side.

10:05 AM EST
5 MINS

Introduction to Keynote



Patrick O'Hare
Chief Network Operations Officer US
Boldyn Networks

Patrick O'Hare serves as the Chief Network Operations Officer for Boldyn Networks' US business. He is responsible for leading the design, installation, maintenance, and monitoring of the company's network infrastructure and projects in transportation, military bases, venues, and fiber deployments.

Previously the Chief Operating Officer, Northeast, of their US business, Patrick first joined Boldyn Networks as the Chief Operating Officer and founding member of ZenFi Networks, now Boldyn Networks. Patrick brings extensive experience overseeing the deployment and operations of thousands of wireless sites, including the US' largest free public outdoor Wi-Fi network, which provides connectivity to millions of people in New York.

Prior to Boldyn Networks and ZenFi Networks, Patrick was the Senior Vice President of Operations and Engineering at Sidera Networks and was instrumental in the company's acquisition by Berkshire Partners. He has also held several Vice President roles at RCN Metro, Zayo, and Level 3 Communications, along with management roles at Verizon's predecessor companies; New York Telephone, NYNEX, and Bell Atlantic. Patrick holds an MBA from Long Island University and a BA from the State University of New York -University at Albany.

10:10 AM EST
25 MINS

Keynote Speaker Remarks



Janno Lieber
CEO
Metropolitan Transportation Authority

John ("Janno") Lieber was confirmed as Chair and CEO of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA) in January 2022, following his nomination to that position by Gov. Kathy Hochul. Lieber has been serving as MTA Acting Chair and CEO since July 2021 and is the Authority's 15th Chairperson since it was founded in 1968.

In this position, Lieber provides strategic, financial, and operational leadership for the MTA, the largest public transportation agency in North America. He also heads the MTA Board of Directors, senior leadership team, and a total workforce of more than 60,000 employees.

From 2017 to 2021, Lieber served as President of MTA Construction & Development, the organization responsible for planning, developing, and delivering capital projects across the MTA. In that position, he led the creation and implementation of the MTA's 2020-2024 \$51.5 Billion Capital Program. He also managed the integration and transformation of construction and development management practice at the MTA.

Prior to the MTA, Lieber served as President of World Trade Center Properties LLC, where he was responsible for managing all aspects of the Silverstein organization's efforts to rebuild at the World Trade Center site, including planning, design, and construction issues; business, financing, and legal matters; and public affairs, government, and community relations.

Earlier in his career, he held positions in the administrations of President Bill Clinton and NYC Mayor Ed Koch and worked as an attorney in private practice.

10:35 AM EST
55 MINS

What's Next for New York's Infrastructure: Building a Resilient and Connected Future



John Celock (Moderator)
Special Projects Editor
City & State NY



Girish Behal
Vice President of Projects and
Business Development
New York Power Authority



Jennifer Cass
Senior Vice President, Sustainability
and Resilience, Capital Program
New York City Economic Development
Corporation



Marie Therese Dominguez
Commissioner
New York State Department of
Transportation



Nate Bazydlo
Director of Strategic Accounts
NUAIR



Alison Landry
Vice President, New York City Strategy
Lead
Jacobs



Shawn Settar
National Director, Solution
Engineering
T-Mobile

New York is entering a new era of infrastructure investment that integrates energy, healthcare, schools, housing, water systems, and digital connectivity. This panel brings together leaders from government, technology, labor, community groups, and the private sector to explore how strategic partnerships and forward-looking investments can improve mobility, expand broadband, enhance public health, and boost climate resilience. Panelists will examine the policies, innovations, and collaborations needed to deliver measurable benefits statewide, drive economic opportunity, and build a sustainable, connected future.

11:30 AM EST
55 MINS

Advancing New York's Transportation Future: Mobility, Access, and Opportunity



Michael Fleischer (Moderator)
Senior Advisor/ Attorney
Brown and Weinraub



Minosca Alcantara
Executive Director,
New York State Bridge Authority



Demetrius Crichlow
President
MTA New York City Transit



David Ullman
Deputy Secretary for Transportation
New York State Executive Chamber



Richard Ocken
President
Iovino Enterprises



Dani Simons
Vice President of Communications
and Public Affairs, Americas
Alstom



Sharon Tepper
Northeast Transportation Planning
Lead
VHB

New York's transportation network is the backbone of its economy and daily life, and the state is embarking on its next major transformation. This panel will explore the policies, investments, and innovations shaping the future of mobility—from modernizing subways, rail, and airports to expanding sustainable and alternative transit options with smarter, more efficient infrastructure. Panelists will share strategies to increase access and affordability for all New Yorkers, including free or subsidized bus programs, while building a system that is safer, more connected, climate resilient, and capable of driving economic opportunity. Attendees will gain insights into ways to support and invest in transformative mobility solutions.

12:25 PM EST
20 MINS

Keynote Speaker Remarks



Jamie Torres-Springer
President
MTA Construction & Development

Jamie Torres-Springer has served as President of MTA's Construction & Development agency since 2021. He is responsible for better, faster, and cheaper delivery of the MTA's capital program through innovative management of construction for the region's subways, buses, commuter railroads, bridges, and tunnels. Through C&D, he oversees the full capital delivery process and planning for future transit-oriented development and climate resilience investments. Under his leadership the agency has shown results bringing the system to a state of good repair and making it more resilient and accessible for millions of daily riders while containing costs and leveraging public-private partnerships.

Prior to joining the MTA, Mr. Torres-Springer served as Commissioner of New York City's Department of Design and Construction (DDC), where he led development and implementation of DDC's comprehensive plan to streamline capital project delivery.

12:45 PM EST

Lunch Break

1 HR

1:45 PM EST

55 MINS

The Future of Construction in NY: Innovation, Opportunity, and Impact



Samantha Liebman (Moderator)
Transit Reporter
NY1



Jason Clark
Executive Vice President, Division of
Minority and Women's Business
Development
New York State Empire State
Development



Eric C. Macfarlane
First Deputy Commissioner
NYC Department of Design &
Construction



Laura Popa
Deputy Commissioner, Bureau of
Sustainability
New York City Department of
Buildings



**Christopher J. McDermott, PE, DBIA,
LEED AP**
Senior Vice President, Program
Management
AECOM



Sean Szatkowski
Executive Vice President - General
Manager
Skanska USA Building

New York's construction industry is entering a transformative era, driven by innovation, strategic investment, and public-private collaboration. This panel will showcase how projects are advancing inclusive growth, sustainable development, and high-impact results, highlighting emerging construction trends, energy-efficient practices, affordable housing, workforce development, and fair contracting. Panelists highlight solutions shaping the state's next generation of construction projects.

2:40 PM EST
55 MINS

Public-Private Partnerships: A Critical Solution for New York's Growth and Development



Steve Kastenbaum (Moderator)
Reporter, Host
NPR, New York Gritty Podcast



PJ Berg
Executive Vice President
Real Estate Transactions, New York
City Economic Development
Corporation



Donovan Richards Jr.
Queens Borough
President



Carrie Torres
Director, Opportunity Programs Group
DASNY



Ali Chaudhry
Chief Infrastructure Development
Officer
Hornblower Group



Frederick Morris
Managing Director, Infrastructure,
Capital Projects and Climate Advisory
KPMG US

As New York faces aging assets and growing demands, public-private partnerships (P3s) are emerging as a vital tool for progress. This panel of government leaders, private-sector innovators, and financial experts will explore how collaboration can accelerate project delivery, reduce costs, and drive innovation. Discussions will include successful P3 models, key challenges, and strategies for ensuring accountability as New York builds for the future. Panelists will also examine how redeveloped infrastructure can create new economic opportunities for businesses across New York, fostering job growth, attracting investment, and stimulating local economies.

3:35 PM EST

Sessions Conclude