November 13, 2008
The Second William O. Lipinski Symposium on Transportation Policy
To Symposium Participants:

As the honorary host, I welcome you to The Second William O. Lipinski Symposium on Transportation Policy. This year’s conference, on the Evanston Campus of Northwestern University, will use the upcoming 100th Anniversary (in 2009) of Daniel H. Burnham’s Plan for Chicago as a vantage point from which to envision a transportation system that meets the needs of our region and the nation for the next hundred years in terms of accessibility, capacity, quality, and sustainability.

It is the right time to assess both our regional transportation needs and the role that the Chicago region plays in our national transportation system. Next year will see the expiration of the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, and Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) and Congressional action to reauthorize the legislation that funds and ensures America’s surface transportation systems and thus undergirds American mobility and prosperity.

I am pleased to note that the architects of this legislation—including the Chairman and Ranking Member of the U.S. House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure—will be on hand to discuss their plans with transportation experts from across the region and around the country. We look forward to an interesting program and a lively discussion.

Sincerely,

William O. Lipinski
Member, 1983 - 2005
U.S. House of Representatives
The 100th anniversary of Daniel H. Burnham’s Plan for Chicago (2009) is a vantage point from which to envision a transportation system for the Chicago region that meets the accessibility, capacity, quality, and sustainability needs of our society and economy for the next 100 years.

8:30: Welcome
   William O. Lipinski

8:35: Opening Remarks
   US Rep. John L. Mica (FL), Ranking Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

8:45: The Burnham Plan: A Visionary Legacy
   Carl S. Smith, Franklyn Bliss Snyder Professor of English & American Studies, Northwestern University

9:15: The Context: Energy and Environment (followed by audience Q&A)
   Michael Toman, Adjunct Professor, Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies, Johns Hopkins University, Washington, DC
   Moderator: Joseph Schofer, Associate Dean and Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science; and Director of Infrastructure Technology Institute, Northwestern University

10:15: Break

10:30: Critical Issues for Transportation Policy and Finance (followed by Audience Q&A)
   Martin Wachs, Director of Transportation and Space, The Rand Corporation
   Moderator: Joseph Schofer

11:30: Implications for Chicago: Panel Discussion
   Larry Johnson, Argonne National Laboratory;
   Joseph Schwieterman, Director, Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development, and Professor, DePaul University;
   Joseph L. Schofer
12:00: Lunch in the Atrium dining room

1:00: The David F. Schulz Award for Outstanding Public Service in Transportation and Infrastructure Policy
     Presented by William O. Lipinski

1:10: Remarks
     US Rep. James L. Oberstar (MN), Chairman, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

1:30: Break, then relocate to Tribune Auditorium

1:45: Responding to Chicago’s Transportation Challenges: Planning Big, Making Magic (followed by Audience Q&A)
     Frank Kruesi, Director, City of Chicago’s Washington, DC, Office of Intergovernmental Relations

2:45: Break

3:00: Transportation for the Future: What’s Ahead for Reauthorization of the Surface Transportation Act?
     US Rep. Jerry F. Costello (IL), Chairman, House Subcommittee on Aviation;
     US Rep. John J. Duncan, Jr. (TN), Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit;
     US Rep. Daniel Lipinski (IL), House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee;
     US Rep. Thomas E. Petri (WI), Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on Aviation;
     Introductions by Jason Tai, Chief of Staff to Rep. Dan Lipinski;
     Moderator: William O. Lipinski

4:30: What does it mean for Chicago?: Responding Panel and Open Discussion
     Jim Daley, Mayor, Village of Homer Glen, Illinois;
     William Grams, Executive Director, Illinois Road and Transportation Builders Association;
     Ron Huberman, President, Chicago Transit Authority;
     John F. McCarron, Adjunct Lecturer, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University; and Long-Time Op-Ed Contributor to Chicago Tribune,
     Rep. Elaine Nekritz, 57th District, Illinois House of Representatives;
     Milton R. Sees, Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation;
     Moderator: William O. Lipinski

5:30: Adjourn
Speaker Biographies

U.S. Rep. Jerry Costello (D-IL)
Chairman, House Subcommittee on Aviation


Costello began his career shortly after his graduation from high school, working full time as a law enforcement officer while attending college. He received his Associates Degree in 1971 from Belleville Area College, and his B.A. in 1973 from Maryville College. After graduation, Costello became recognized throughout the state for his creativity and ability in administering the region’s court services system. In 1980, he was elected Chairman of the St. Clair County Board, chief executive for one of Illinois’ largest counties. He took that experience to Congress in August of 1988.

Congressman Costello serves on the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, where he serves as Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee. He also serves on the Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials, and Water, Resources, and Environment Subcommittees and is a Member of the House Committee on Science and Technology, serving on the Energy and Environment and Investigations and Oversight Subcommittees.

Representative Costello is recognized as a Congressman who works hard and gets the job done. When he served in local public office, Costello laid out a vision for Southwestern and Southern Illinois, which he took to Congress: to boost the local economy by building a new transportation network for the region.

Congressman Costello is married to Dr. Georgia Cockrum Costello, President of Southwestern Illinois College. Her extensive career in education has included positions as a teacher, school principal, and Assistant Superintendent of the St. Clair County Regional Office of Education. She has also remained very active in volunteer organizations and community affairs. They have three children and seven grandchildren, all of whom reside in Belleville.

Jim Daley
Mayor, Homer Glen, IL

Mayor Jim Daley, elected to office April 17, 2007, has been a resident of Homer Glen since 1987. Jim earned his B.A. in Political Science and Criminal Justice from St. Mary’s College in Winona, Minnesota. Jim is the father of three children, and was recently married to Denise, mother of three.

As President and owner/manager of Daley Construction, Inc., Jim has had experience with Homeland Security on residential and water supply security and has been responsible for managing sewer, water and roadway infrastructure as partner of a Senior Housing Community. He is also a retired member of the Chicago Board of Options Exchange where he worked as a financial market expert for 14 years.

Jim has been involved in a number of organizations within the Village and Township including Republican Party Precinct Committee, Homer Township Emergency Management and Public Safety Committee, and served as the first Vice President of Homer Founders Club. Jim has also been very active in the Homer Stallions Youth Football League serving terms as President, Treasurer, Vice President and Coach.

Having been one of the organizers of the Committee to Incorporate Homer Glen, Jim feels a true responsibility as Mayor to fulfill the promises made to the residents to promote and manage the growth and development of Homer Glen and safeguard our natural resources and community character.

William G. Grams
Executive Director, Illinois Road Builders Association
Adjunct Professor, Harper College, Palatine, Illinois

Since late 1996, Mr. Grams has been Executive Director of the Illinois Road Builders Association, where he is responsible for the formulation and implementation of the annual work program for the Association, including legislation, IDOT and local government liaison, training, technical support, collective bargaining coordination, and public and governmental relations.

Previous to that he was Village Manager of the Village of Inverness and oversaw delivery of all municipal services to residents, including public works and streets, police, finance and building and zoning; the President of the Barrington Group Limited, where he was CEO of a multi-faceted, 10-person municipal consulting consortium specializing in lobbying, municipal service delivery, and technical research; the Executive Director of the Home Builders Association of Greater Chicago, where he was responsible for development of all association programs relating to the residential construction industry in the greater Chicago area; and the Executive Director of the Northwest Municipal Conference, where he managed the development and implementation of all programs for the largest regional council of governments in Illinois, including five national or state prototype programs.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1969 from St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, and a Master of Arts in Urban Planning from Loyola University of Chicago in 1974. He is married with two children (Michelle and Scott).

Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on Highways and Transit

United States Congressman John J. Duncan, Jr., was born July 21, 1947, in Lebanon, Tennessee. After being raised in Knoxville and attending the area’s public schools, he earned a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Tennessee in 1969. Congressman Duncan then attended the George Washington University National Law Center in Washington, D.C., where he earned a law degree in 1973.

In addition to his academic training, Congressman Duncan served in the United States Army National Guard. He enlisted in 1970 and rose to the rank of Captain before completing his service in 1987.

Congressman Duncan currently serves as Ranking Member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure’s Highways and Transit Subcommittee. He also holds seats on the House Committee on Natural Resources, which retains jurisdiction over national parks and natural resources, and the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Congressman Duncan’s efforts to cut government waste, reduce taxes, and limit bureaucratic red tape have been recognized by various organizations and national news media such as ABC News, CBS News, The Wall Street Journal, CNN, and U.S. News and World Report. He has been named among the five most fiscally conservative Members of Congress by the National Taxpayers Union and is one of the few Members of Congress to receive the Citizens Against Government Waste Super Hero Award.

Congressman Duncan lives in Knoxville and is an Elder at Eastminster Presbyterian Church. He is married to the former Lynn Hawkins of Sewanee, Tennessee. They have four children (Tara, Whitney, John, and Zane) as well as four grandchildren.

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He earned a Bachelor of Arts in 1969 from St. Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, and a Master of Arts in Urban Planning from Loyola University of Chicago in 1974. He is married with two children (Michelle and Scott).
**Ron Huberman**  
President, Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) Board

In 2007, Ron Huberman became President of the Chicago Transit Authority Board, which is the second largest transportation system in the United States and provides bus and rail service to the City of Chicago and 40 surrounding suburbs. Previous to that, Huberman was Mayor Richard M. Daley’s Chief of Staff for two years, having been Executive Director for the City of Chicago’s Office of Emergency Management and Communications since 2004, where he was charged with protecting life and property by managing the public safety communications system and coordinating major emergency response.

He has worked for the Chicago Police Department in various capacities. He was Assistant Deputy Superintendent for the Office of Information and Strategic Services, where he led the Research and Development, Information Services, and Records Divisions and the Office of Information and Strategic Services and formed the partnership with the Illinois State Police to expand statewide the Department’s award-winning Citizen and Law Enforcement Analysis and Reporting (CLEAR) system. He also launched Operation Disruption, an innovative strategy aimed at curbing violence and illegal narcotics activity.

Prior to being named Assistant Deputy Superintendent, Huberman served as Chief of Staff to the Deputy Superintendent for Administration, where he managed bureau operations and designed and implemented strategic plans for the Personnel, Records, Finance, Information Services and Research and Development Divisions, and worked as part of a senior management team charged with developing crime fighting strategies. Huberman has also served as a beat and tactical team officer. He has received numerous awards.

Huberman holds a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Social Service Administration from the University of Chicago, where he was both an Albert Schweitzer and a Soros Fellow. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Wisconsin.

**Larry R. Johnson, Ph.D.**  
Director, Transportation Technology R&D Center, Argonne National Laboratory

Larry Johnson has been at Argonne National Laboratory for 29 years and is the Director of the Transportation Technology R&D Center. Argonne’s transportation program includes research in hybrid vehicles, fuel cells, batteries, alternative fuels, engine emissions controls, tribology, advanced materials, thermal management, high performance computing, and technology assessments. Prior to coming to Argonne, he was with the Tennessee Department of Transportation for six years where he conducted environmental assessments. He is the author or co-author of over 70 publications or presentations in journals, books, technical reports, or conference proceedings. He is a past chair of the Energy Committee of the Transportation Research Board, has served on numerous committees, including the Technology Advisory Committee of the Federal Transit Administration, U.S. House of Representatives Maglev Technology Advisory Committee, the National Research Council Committee on Adiabatic Diesel Technology, and the review committee for Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. He is on the Board of Trustees for Kettering University and the Board of Advisors for the Institute of Transportation Studies at the University of California Davis. He has testified before congressional committees on transportation energy and planning issues. He has a patent on an integrated null-flux maglev suspension and propulsion system. His Ph.D. in public policy analysis was from the University of Illinois at Chicago.

**Frank Kruesi**  
Director, City of Chicago’s Washington, D.C. Office of Intergovernmental Relations

Frank Kruesi is the Director of the Washington, D.C. Office of Intergovernmental Relations for the City of Chicago, and he also teaches public policy at the University of Chicago. For nearly a decade he was the President of the Chicago Transit Authority, the nation’s second largest transit agency. In 1993, he was nominated by President Clinton, and unanimously confirmed by the Senate, as the Assistant Secretary for Transportation Policy; in that capacity he advised two secretaries of transportation. Before that, he was Chicago’s Chief Policy Officer under Mayor Richard M. Daley.

**U.S. Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-IL)**  
Member, House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee

Congressman Dan Lipinski is a proud native and Representative of Illinois’ Third Congressional District. The district includes large parts of south and southwest Chicago, as well as several suburban communities in west and southwest Cook County. All of these neighborhoods and the families who call them home make the Third District one of the most diverse and vibrant areas in the entire country.

As a skilled legislator and only Member from Illinois on the powerful House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Congressman Lipinski has been a leader in Congress fighting to increase funding for public transportation, as well as improving our nation’s transportation and infrastructure. As a member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Congressman Lipinski serves on the Subcommittee on Aviation, the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, and the Subcommittee on Railroads, Pipelines, and Hazardous Materials.

Lipinski also serves on the House Committee on Science and Technology; he is the Vice-Chairman of the full Committee and sits on the Subcommittee on Research and Science Education, and the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment. Additionally, Lipinski is a member of the House Committee on Small Business, and sits on the Subcommittee on Regulations, Healthcare and Trade.

Prior to his election to the House of Representatives, Congressman Lipinski taught Political Science at the University of Tennessee and at the University of Notre Dame. He served on the staffs of former Minority Leader Richard Gephardt, Congressman Lane Evans, Congressman Jerry Costello, former Congressman George Sangmeister, and former Congressman Rod Blagojevich. He also served on the staffs of the House Administration Committee and the House Democratic Policy Committee and worked for the U.S. Department of Labor and the Illinois General Assembly’s Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation.

Congressman Dan Lipinski earned a Bachelor’s Degree in Mechanical Engineering from Northwestern University, a Master’s Degree in Engineering-Economic Systems from Stanford University, and a PhD in Political Science from Duke University.

Congressman Lipinski and his wife, Judy, currently reside in Western Springs, IL.
John F. McCarron
Adjunct Lecturer, Medill School of Journalism, Northwestern University

John F. McCarron is a freelance writer, an adjunct professor at Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism, and a contributing columnist for The Chicago Tribune, where he once covered the urban affairs beat.

He is also a former financial editor of The Tribune and former member of its editorial board. In 1994 his op-eds won the prestigious Peter Lisagor Award.

Mr. McCarron left the newspaper in 2000 to become vice-president for planning and communications at the Metropolitan Planning Council. He later moved to independent consulting and freelance writing about all things urban, and to duties as senior “scribe” and in-house critic for LISC/Chicago’s New Communities Program. He also teaches a graduate-level seminar in urban issues at Northwestern’s Medill School. John continues to write a monthly column for The Tribune’s op-ed page and remains a frequent Friday night guest of Channel 11’s Chicago Tonight, The Week in Review.

Ranking Member, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Congressman Mica is currently serving his eighth term representing Florida’s 7th Congressional District, which stretches from the suburbs of Orlando to Jacksonville.

In the 110th Congress, Rep. Mica was selected by his peers in the House of Representatives to serve as the Republican Leader of the largest committee in Congress: the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure. He serves on all six of that panel’s subcommittees. In this leadership position, he helps set federal policy on aviation, highways, transit, rail, pipelines, coast guard, maritime transportation, water resources, economic development, public buildings, and emergency management issues.

Mica’s first focus as the Transportation Committee’s top Republican has been the need to develop a comprehensive and national strategic transportation plan.

Mica is a long-time champion of mass transit, and he has been the leading proponent in Congress for developing a high-speed rail system in the United States that compares with the best systems of Europe and Asia. In October, 2008, legislation that Mica helped to author was signed into law that will help bring high-speed rail to the United States.

A former Chairman of the Aviation Subcommittee, Mica was a principle author of the legislation that established the Transportation Security Administration, led Congressional efforts to create the programs to train and arm commercial airline pilots, and played an instrumental role in raising the retirement age for commercial airline pilots to age 65.

Mica is credited with bringing America’s devastated aviation industry back from the brink of disaster after the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks.

As a national leader in transportation, Rep. Mica’s efforts and vision in this field have gained him recognition by numerous organizations and national infrastructure groups.

Mica is a graduate of the University of Florida, a former member of the Florida House of Representatives and served as Chief of Staff to former U.S. Senator Paula Hawkins. Mr. Mica and his wife Pat have resided in central Florida since their marriage 36 years ago, and they have two adult children.

Illinois Rep. Elaine Nekritz (D-57th Dist.)

Illinois Representative Elaine Nekritz is in her third term in the Illinois House of Representatives. She represents the 57th District, which encompasses portions of several of Chicago’s north and northwest suburbs: Des Plaines, Glencoe, Mount Prospect, Niles, Northbrook, and Prospect Heights. Rep. Nekritz is the Chair of the Railroad Safety Committee, the Elections & Campaign Reform Committee, and the Water Subcommittee, and also serves as Vice-Chairperson on the Environment & Energy Committee. In addition, she serves on the Committee of the Whole, Appropriations–Higher Education, Environmental Health, Renewable Energy, and Judiciary I–Civil Law.

Chairman, House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

Rep. James L. Oberstar of Minnesota is arguably the top expert on transportation issues in the United States Congress.

Rep. Oberstar’s experience with the Committee he now chairs stretches back to 1963, when he joined the staff of his predecessor, Rep. John Blatnik. At the time, Rep. Blatnik was a senior Member of what was then called the Committee on Public Works. When Rep. Blatnik became Chairman of the Committee in 1971, Jim Oberstar became the Committee’s Staff Administrator.

First elected to Congress in 1974, Rep. Oberstar has served on what is now the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee for the past 34 years, along the way chairing the Subcommittees on Economic Development, Investigations and Oversight, and Aviation.

He is a leading advocate for policies and practices that enhance safety in all modes of transportation, and will be the key architect of the surface transportation authorization bill that will come before Congress in 2009.

Elected: 1974 (17 terms through 2008); Age: 74; Hometown: Chisholm, Minn.

U.S. Rep. Tom Petri (R-WI)
Ranking Member, House Subcommittee on Aviation

Tom Petri, who represents Wisconsin’s 6th Congressional District, was first elected in April 1979 and is serving his 15th term in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Petri is the Ranking Republican on the Aviation Subcommittee of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and served for 12 years as Chairman of that committee’s Highways, Transit and Pipelines Subcommittee and for an earlier subcommittee with similar responsibilities. He is a former Vice Chairman of the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee and of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, now named the Committee on Education and Labor. And, from 1987 through 1990, served as a member of the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct, better known as the House Ethics Committee. Petri is a former Chairman of the House British-American
Parliamentary Group, an official organization formed to strengthen relations with the British Parliament.

A persistent foe of government waste, Petri has repeatedly earned high marks from such organizations as the National Taxpayers Union, the Concord Coalition, Citizens Against Government Waste, Americans for Tax Reform, and the Watchdogs of the Treasury. Over many years he has repeatedly been named a “Guardian of Small Business” by the National Federation of Independent Business, and has won the “National Security Leadership Award” from the American Security Council.

Petri is known for his efforts to apply innovative solutions to problems, with a firm commitment to cost-effectiveness. Accordingly, Norm Ornstein, a prominent political scholar and expert on Congress has called Petri “one of the most thoughtful members of Congress, filled with lots of ideas about how to make government better,” while senior Washington Post columnist David Broder has called him “a notably independent, creative legislator.

Important Petri legislative initiatives have included those in the areas of student loan reform, the allocation of money for federal highway spending, cost-sharing for federal water projects, tax and welfare reform, banking policy, campaign reform, and health care reform. The 1996 Almanac of American Politics states that Petri specializes in “thoughtful and original solutions to problems” which “cut across ideological and party lines.”

Petri attended Goodrich High School in Fond du Lac and received undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard. He served in the Peace Corps and in the White House focusing on anti-drug efforts. He is married to Anne Neal Petri and has one daughter, Alexandra.

Joseph L. Schofer
Director, Infrastructure Technology Institute, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, and Associate Dean of the Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Northwestern University

Joseph Schofer is Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Associate Dean of the Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science, and Director of the Infrastructure Technology Institute at Northwestern University. He has served as chairman of his department and as Interim Dean of the McCormick School.

His expertise is in transportation policy and planning, including travel behavior market research and system and service evaluation. His recent research and professional work includes civil infrastructure planning and management, data as an asset for transportation system decision making, and sustainability of cities and their transportation systems. His work in transportation decision making and policy setting focuses on linking understanding of user behavior to system performance, outcomes, and decisions. He has published over 130 articles and book chapters and more than 50 technical reports.

Schofer serves on the Transportation Research Board (TRB) Committee on National Data Needs, TRB’s Section on Data and Information Systems, TRB’s Advisory Committee on Capacity for the Strategic Highway Research Program (II), The Board of Advisors of the University of California, Davis Institute for Transportation Studies, The Transportation Committee for the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning, The (Chicago) Mayor’s Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and the Citizen’s Advisory Board of Pace, Chicago’s suburban bus transit operator. He is a life Member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers.

Schofer earned his B.E. degree in Civil Engineering from Yale University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. in transportation engineering from Northwestern.

Joseph P. Schwieterman, Ph.D.
Professor, School of Public Service, DePaul University

Joseph P. Schwieterman, Ph.D., is director of the Chaddick Institute for Metropolitan Development and professor of public service management at DePaul University. A well-known authority on transportation and land-use planning, he is the author of several books, including When the Railroad Leaves Town: American Communities in the Age of Rail Line Abandonment, which was a finalist for the prestigious George Hilton Book Award. Schwieterman has testified before committees of the U.S. Congress on several occasions and is a regular guest on WBWM’s Noon Business Hour. He has a master’s degree in transportation from Northwestern University, a Ph.D. in public policy from the University of Chicago, and professional experience with United Airlines.

Milton R. Sees
Secretary, Illinois Department of Transportation

Mr. Sees has 40 plus years experience in a variety of roles related to the design, implementation, and funding of infrastructure projects. He began his career as an engineer technician with IDOT in 1964. Since that time, he has earned both BSCE and MPA degrees from the University of Illinois, and has been active in numerous national specification and transportation development efforts, involving the planning, funding and implementation of infrastructure enhancements. Mr. Sees’ career has included experience in both the public and private sectors. He has worked as a government relations liaison for the construction materials industry in Springfield, Illinois, and Washington, D.C., and recently operated several precast concrete manufacturing facilities in southern Illinois. January 2006 marked Mr. Sees return to IDOT when he was selected to become the Director of Highways. As Director of Highways, Mr. Sees had responsibility for the operation and maintenance of all state highways and bridges throughout Illinois. In September 2007, Governor Blagojevich named Mr. Sees Secretary of the Illinois Department of Transportation, overseeing personnel engaged in all facets, aspects and modes of transportation in Illinois.

Among his awards and recognitions are the Illinois Award and Engineer of the Year Award from the Illinois Society of Professional Engineers. Mr. Sees is a Registered Professional Engineer in Illinois and Virginia. Included in civic commitments are nine years of service on the Mt. Vernon, Illinois, City Council, with three of those as Mayor.

Carl Smith, Ph.D.
Professor, Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences, Northwestern University

Carl Smith is Franklin Bliss Snyder Professor of English and American Studies and Professor of History at Northwestern University. He is author of Urban Disorder and the Shape of Belief, which won the Urban History Association prize for best book in North American urban history, and The Plan of Chicago: Daniel Burnham and the Remaking of the American City, which recently won the Lewis Mumford Prize for Best Book in American Planning History. In collaboration with the Chicago History Museum and Academic and Research Technologies at Northwestern, he is author and curator of the historical web exhibitions “The Great Chicago Fire and the Web of Memory” and “The Dramas of Haymarket.”

Jason Tai
Washington Chief of Staff to Congressman Dan Lipinski

Mr. Tai has over a decade of extensive experience on transportation issues on the federal, state, and local levels. He currently serves as Washington Chief of Staff for Congressman Dan Lipinski with overall management and legislative responsibilities for the Washington, DC
In this role, he focuses on the Congressman’s responsibilities on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, including highway, transit, aviation, railroads, and water infrastructure issues. Mr. Tai was previously a senior official at the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). He served a dual appointment as the Director of Public and Intermodal Transportation and the Senior Policy Advisor to the Secretary with a broad policy and program management portfolio including Amtrak, freight rail, and other surface transportation issues. Mr. Tai was also the Chief of Staff for former Congressman Bill Lipinski who was then the Ranking Democrat on the House Subcommittee on Highway and Transit. Congressman Lipinski appointed Mr. Tai as Associate Professional Staff Member on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee where he was the Congressman’s lead staff negotiator on the $286.5 billion highway and transit funding bill.

Michael Toman
Adjunct Lecturer, Nitze School of International Studies, Johns Hopkins University

Michael Toman is a long-time adjunct faculty member at the Nitze School of International Studies, Johns Hopkins University. He has held senior analytical and management positions at RAND, the Inter-American Development Bank, and Resources for the Future. From 1994-1996 Mike served as a Senior Staff Economist for the Council of Economic Advisers, Executive Office of the President, handling energy and environmental issues. He also teaches at the Bren School of the Environment, University of California at Santa Barbara, and the Foreign Service Institute. Mike has authored a number of articles and books on topics including energy policy, climate change mitigation, environmental policy in Eastern Europe, and sustainable development.

Martin Wachs
Director, Transportation, Space and Technology Program, RAND Corporation

Martin Wachs is Director of the Transportation, Space and Technology Program and of the Supply Chain Policy Center at the RAND Corporation. Until the end of 2005 he was Professor of Civil & Environmental Engineering and Professor of City & Regional Planning at the University of California, Berkeley, where he was also Director of the Institute of Transportation Studies. He earlier spent 25 years at UCLA, where he was Chairman of the Department of Urban Planning.

Wachs is the author of 160 articles and four books on subjects related to relationships between transportation, land use, and air quality, transportation needs of the elderly, techniques for the evaluation of transportation systems, and the use of performance measurement in transportation planning. His research also addresses issues of equity in transportation policy, problems of crime in public transit systems, the response of transportation systems to natural disasters including earthquakes. His most recent work focuses on transportation finance in relation to planning and policy.

Dr. Wachs served on the Executive Committee of the Transportation Research Board for nine years and was the TRB Chairman during the year 2000. He is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, two Rockefeller Foundation Humanities Fellowships, a UCLA Alumni Association Distinguished Teaching Award, the Pyke Johnson Award for the best paper presented at an annual meeting of the Transportation Research Board, and the Carey Award for service to the TRB. He is a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners and a Lifetime Associate of the National Academy of Sciences. In 2006 he was named “Member of the Year” by the San Francisco Chapter of the Women’s Transportation Seminar and was awarded the lifetime achievement award as “Distinguished Planning Educator” by the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning.
The Infrastructure Technology Institute at Northwestern University was established in 1992 with a mission of research, technology transfer, management and policy studies, and education to improve the nation's transportation infrastructure. The Institute is an interdisciplinary center within Northwestern's Robert R. McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Science. It is located on the University’s campus in Evanston, Illinois, and funded by a grant from the US Department of Transportation.

Research

The Institute’s research activities are focused on development and deployment of advanced technologies for structural health monitoring, advanced infrastructure materials, analysis and testing techniques, and new tools for integrating infrastructure condition and performance information into system management, investment, and policy decision processes.

It is our objective to make ITI a national focal point for the development and exchange of ideas and methods for assessing and assuring the structural and functional health of the nation’s transportation infrastructure.

Technology Transfer

The Institute partners with public and private infrastructure agencies to deploy innovative technologies in real-world situations. Deployment partners include state departments of transportation, municipal governments, railroads, and private engineering firms.

Education

The Institute is active in transportation and infrastructure education at all levels from elementary school to Ph.D. studies and professional development.

Management & Policy

The Institute is actively engaged in transportation policy discussion at the local, regional, and national levels. The Institute Director and sponsored faculty are frequently consulted by public and private transportation and infrastructure agencies, including the Chicago Transit Authority and the Illinois State Toll Highway Authority. The Institute also sponsors several annual symposia on transportation issues.