



NATIONAL ACADEMY OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION®

1600 K Street, N.W., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006

Phone:(202) 347-3190 Fax:(202)821-4728
www.napawash.org

For Immediate Release

October 30, 2017

Contact: Betsy Holahan bholahan@greatpointstrategies.com

**National Academy of Public Administration and
George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government
Hold Forum on Prioritizing Governance for Resilient Critical Infrastructure**
*Ambassador Richard D. Kauzlarich Delivers Keynote Address
at Final "Governing Across the Divide" Event*

WASHINGTON, DC – The National Academy of Public Administration and George Mason University's Schar School of Policy and Government today hosted a one-day interactive forum on the governance issues surrounding the four critical infrastructure lifelines of transportation, energy, water delivery and communications.

"We heard from a wide array of experts on how government leaders at all levels can work to safeguard our critical infrastructure, which is essential to the safety and well-being of all citizens," said **Terry Gerton**, President and CEO of the National Academy of Public Administration. "Today's forum helped us identify specific areas of governance that we can improve to ensure the resilience of essential infrastructure networks and systems."

Today's event was the final installment in a series of four regional *Governing Across the Divide* forums initiated by the Academy, which brought together government officials, academics and thought leaders from across the public, private, and nonprofit sectors. Previous *Governing Across the Divide* events took place in Sacramento, CA, Austin, TX, and Syracuse, NY. Academy leaders will highlight and discuss *Governing Across The Divide* findings at the upcoming Academy Fall Meeting, to be held November 16-17 in Washington, D.C.

"Resiliency isn't just about social vulnerability -- physical systems are also at risk now more than ever," said **Dr. Mark J. Rozell**, Dean of the Schar School of Policy and Government. "Today's symposium brought together regional scholars and practitioners to ignite a conversation about prioritizing critical infrastructure in a time of needed maintenance and expansion. We are grateful for their insights and look forward to enhanced tri-sector collaboration."

At the forum, opening remarks were delivered by the Academy's **Terry Gerton** along with **Dr. Tonya Neaves** and **Dr. Robert Dudley**, both of the Schar School of Policy and Government. **Ambassador Richard D. Kauzlarich**, Co-Director of the Center for Energy Science and Policy at George Mason University, delivered the keynote address,

while **Dr. Mark Troutman**, Dean of Faculty and Academic Programs at The Eisenhower School at the National Defense University, delivered the closing address.

The day included four interactive panels. On the first, *Resolving Governance Challenges for Resilient Transportation Infrastructure*, panelists included **Mortimer Downey**, former Deputy Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation; **Thomas Downs**, former President of Amtrak; and **William Shields**, Executive Director of the American Society of Public Administration.

The second panel, *Resolving Governance Challenges for Resilient Energy Infrastructure*, included **James Bennett**, Chief of the Office of Renewable Energy Programs in the Bureau of Ocean Energy Management at the U.S. Department of the Interior; **Jeffrey Baumgartner**, Senior Advisor for Infrastructure Security and Energy Restoration at the U.S. Department of Energy; and **Jessie Roberson**, Vice Chairman of the U.S. Defense Nuclear Facilities Safety Board.

The third panel, *Resolving Governance Challenges for Resilient Water Infrastructure*, included **Stanley Czerwinski**, former COO of the National Governors Association; **Christopher Kloss**, Chief of the Municipal Branch of the Water Permits Division at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; and **Adam Krantz**, CEO of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies.

The fourth panel, *Resolving Governance Challenges for Resilient Communications Network*, included **Jason Karp**, Chief Counsel of the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration at the U.S. Department of Commerce; **Jeffrey Stern**, State Coordinator for the Virginia Department of Emergency Management; and **Robert Deitz**, former Special Councilor to the Director at the Central Intelligence Agency and former General Counsel at the National Security Agency.

About the National Academy of Public Administration

Chartered by Congress to provide non-partisan expert advice, the Academy is an independent, non-profit, and non-partisan organization established in 1967 to assist government leaders in building more effective, efficient, accountable, and transparent organizations. Learn more at www.napawash.org

About the Schar School of Policy and Government

George Mason University Schar School of Policy and Government prepares leaders to advance the public good in the private, public, and nonprofit sectors by pushing the frontiers of conventional wisdom, applying rigorous analysis to complex issues, and making deep connections with decision makers. Learn more at www.schar.gmu.edu

###