

on the robustness and fragility of global human-made organizational systems—energy exploration and production, electricity transmission, food and water supplies, and the financial system, among others—to better understand the nature of risk, the structure of increasingly fragile systems, and the ability to anticipate and prevent catastrophic consequences.

REGIONAL PLANNING IN AN AGE OF INCREASING COMPLEXITY, INTERDEPENDENCE, AND EXTREME RISK

Robert Freudenberg Director, Energy & Environment

Richard Barone

RPA is America's oldest independent urban research and advocacy organization. RPA works to improve the prosperity, infrastructure, sustainability and quality of life of the New York-New Jersey-Connecticut metropolitan region. Some of the region's most significant public works, economic development and open space projects have their roots in RPA ideas and initiatives, from the location of the George Washington Bridge to the revitalization of downtown Brooklyn, Stamford and Newark to the preservation of open space and development of parks in the Palisades, Governors Island and Gateway National Recreation Area. RPA has pursued these goals by conducting independent research, planning, advocacy and vigorous public-engagement efforts. Every year, the most pressing challenges facing the region are debated at RPA's spring conference, the Assembly, which draws leaders and professionals from government, business, civic groups and the media. A cornerstone of our work is the development of long-range plans and policies to guide the region's growth. Since the 1920s, RPA has produced three landmark plans for the region and is about to begin work on a fourth plan that will tackle the urgent challenges facing our region, including climate change, fiscal uncertainty and declining economic opportunity.







