ITS SEMINAR

PLANNING FOR RESILIENT AND SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE IN THE FACE OF EXTREME EVENTS: LESSONS FROM SEPTEMBER 11TH

Co-sponsored by the
Department of Urban and Regional Planning

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Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Services
New York University

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15, 2003
12:00 noon - 1:00 p.m.
Social Ecology I, Room 112

The September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on New York City's World Trade Center was a profound test of the city's transportation, water, environmental and communications infrastructure, with ramifications for the nation as a whole. The ways in which the system was able to respond to the immediate needs of workers at the site and restore services during the recovery period provide important lessons for planning for future infrastructure resiliency and sustainability. This seminar will present preliminary findings of a National Science Foundation (NSF) sponsored study of ways in which the design, configuration and operation of city and regional infrastructure services prior to the September 11th event shaped disaster response and recovery.

Rae Zimmerman is founder and director of the Institute for Civil Infrastructure Systems (ICIS) at New York University (NYU) and professor of planning and public administration at NYU's Wagner Graduate School of Public Services. She is a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In 1997, she was president of the Society for Risk Analysis, an international professional society of over 2,400 social scientists and engineers from academia, industry and government. Her research interests focus on environmental planning, management and impact assessment; environmental equity; performance of urban infrastructure; risk management; and public perceptions of complex technologies. She holds a Ph.D. in planning from Columbia University.