

NBE Honors the Life & Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

On Thursday, January 19, the agency joined together in person and virtually to celebrate the life and legacy of [Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.](#), a renowned leader and activist in the American Civil Rights Movement known for his instrumental role in ending racial segregation and strengthening civil rights for Black and African Americans.

This year's event was the 36th annual [Network of Black Employees \(NBE\) Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration](#). Attendees enjoyed live performances from retired former Labor Relations



Retired former Labor Relations Supervisor Norman Burns and William Kenneth Vaughan performing

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PA Engineers Lend Expertise to Help Shape NYC Building Code

Several Engineering Department employees were formally recognized by the City of New York for their contributions in helping to shape the city's new 2022 Building Code.

The PA's **Danny Cobourne**, C.E.M. (Senior Principal Fire Protection Engineer, Engineering & Architecture Design Division), **Sen-Pu Chiao**, P.E. (Assistant Manager, Design Standards Unit, Quality Assurance



From left: Danny Cobourne, Sen-Pu Chiao, Mario Palmieri, Brian Johnson, and Rufino Martinez, during a formal ceremony on January 10.

Division), **Mario Palmieri**, A.I.A. (Manager, Design Standards Unit, Quality Assurance Division), **Brian Johnson**, R.A. (Principal Architect, Design Standards Unit, Quality Assurance Division), and **Rufino Martinez**, R.A. (Principal Architect, Design Standards Unit, Quality Assurance Division) volunteered their time to this effort, lending their technical expertise to help review and adopt the 2022 New York City Building Code, which became the effective building code in the city this past November.

Underscoring the importance of the work, New York City Mayor Eric Adams issued a formal citation thanking all for their invaluable contributions. Thanks to their efforts, New York City will become a safer, more accessible, and resilient place to live, work, and visit.

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Next Week: OCI Spotlights Game-Changing Agency Projects

The Office of Continuous Improvement (OCI) invites you to attend its Excellence in Continuous Improvement Week



events next week on Wednesday, January 25 (in person at 4 WTC) and Friday, January 27 (virtual via Teams). This year's theme is *Everyday Improvement: Anyone Can Do It*. Staff from across the agency will share their continuous improvement efforts and discuss their learnings. Projects to be showcased include airport security credentialing, tolling revenue recovery, PATH's new contactless fare payment system, and much more. For more details and to RSVP, see the [Excellence in Continuous Improvement Week Overview](#) and the [RSVP form](#).

Next Week – Check Out the Innovation Hub’s Forward-Thinking Initiatives



Employees are invited to attend the next meeting of the agency’s [Innovation Hub](#) on Tuesday, January 24 at 3 p.m. This initiative, [launched last year](#), brings together much of the innovative work across the agency and encourages departments and staff to pitch ideas, *Shark Tank*-style, to Port Authority executives for funding. Last year’s Innovation Hub featured pilot projects using artificial intelligence, autonomous vehicles, and drones. This first meeting of the Hub in 2023 will also feature an update on the Transit Tech Lab and Employee Incubator. [Sign up using this form.](#)

WORKING ADVANTAGE DISCOUNT PROGRAM

Port Authority employees and retirees can take advantage of hundreds of discounts at stores, theaters, theme parks, and more through Working Advantage, the PA’s Employee Discount Program partner. Visit www.workingadvantage.com and use the PA Member ID number, 405042634.



GOT NEWS FOR NEXT TIME?

Do you have news from your team, department or employee group to share in the next *PA News*? Send it to panews@panynj.gov by January 27 to be included in the February 3 issue.



NBE Honors Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

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Supervisor **Norman Burns**, William Kenneth Vaughan, and Jasper Cain & The Rhythm Collective. Michael Alexander Blake, former New York State Assemblyman and President of Next Level Sports & Entertainment, provided a powerful and motivational keynote.

[A recording of the event is available.](#)

Also during the event, several employees (pictured at right) were honored and recognized for their ongoing work as members and supporters of NBE.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a Baptist minister and educated theologian from Atlanta, Georgia. After marrying his wife Coretta Scott in 1953, King moved to Montgomery, Alabama – a segregated city that would soon become the primary location for many events during the Civil Rights Movement. Notably, Dr. King led peaceful protests and other impactful, nonviolent demonstrations until finally, the [Civil Rights Act \(1964\)](#) and the [Voting Rights Act \(1965\)](#) were born and changed the course of history.

Through the example set by Dr. King, we invite you to be upstanders and change agents for equity and inclusion – in your department, the agency, the region we serve, and beyond.



Community Service Award
Malik Goodson
Project Manager, Capital Programs, WTC Department



Leadership Award
Ocean Stokes
Compliance Manager, Office of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion



Appreciation of Service Award
Jawauna "Jo" Greene
Director, Brand and Customer Partnerships

Celebrate the Year of the Rabbit at the WTC Oculus

In partnership with the World Trade Center, Consulate General of the People’s Republic of China, Asian Cultural Center, and the New York Chinese Cultural Center, the Port Authority is hosting a [series of events at the WTC Oculus](#) to mark the Lunar New Year celebration. Ring in the Year of the Rabbit with live performances, activities, and much more. See below or the [WTC website](#) for the schedule of activities.

Red & Gold Lighting

January 20 to 22 from 4 to 11:30 p.m.
The Oculus and One WTC will illuminate in the traditional colors of red and gold to celebrate the Lunar New Year.

Lunar New Year Celebration with TheBLANC

January 23 from noon to 3 p.m.
Join the Asian Cultural Center in celebrating the new year with a variety of gifts, activities, and photo booths.



Lion Dance Performance by the New York Chinese Cultural Center

January 28 from noon to 1 p.m.
Experience a traditional lion dance performance in the Oculus.

Traditional Dance and Musical Performance by the New York Chinese Cultural Center

January 29 at 4 p.m.
Enjoy a traditional performance of music and dance.

STAFF NEWS

Chief Engineer Jim Starace Retires; New Chief Engineer and Deputy Chief Engineer Named

After 36 years of exemplary service, including the last seven years as Chief Engineer, **James Starace**, P.E. will retire from the Port Authority, effective January 27. To ensure continuity and a seamless transition, **M. Rizwan Baig**, P.E. has been appointed Chief Engineer and **Amanda Rogers**, P.E. has been named Deputy Chief Engineer.

Jim joined the agency in 1986, kicking off a career that has also illustrated commitment, versatility, and movement forward. He has overseen a multitude of agency capital projects and has held various positions of ever-increasing scope and responsibility within the Engineering Department, including Resident Engineer for the construction of Newark Airport's International Arrivals Building, Resident Engineer for LaGuardia Airport, Engineer of Construction for the AirTrain Terminal at Jamaica Station and New Jersey airports, and Manager of the Construction Management Division.

In 2010, Jim was appointed Deputy Chief Engineer where he was responsible for management of the day-

to-day operations of the Engineering Department. He became Chief Engineer in 2015. We thank him for his service and wish him the best as he retires.

In his 30-year Port Authority career, including his most recent role as Deputy Chief Engineer, Rizwan has proven himself to be a transportation industry leader. As Chief Traffic Engineer, Rizwan led his team to a shared vision of design innovation, the use of new technology, collaborative project planning and execution. He was the driving force behind the creation of the agency programs for traffic safety and traffic asset management, and was an early supporter of the innovative initiative to create the agency Operations Center.

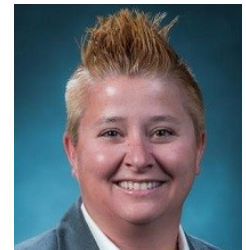
In her most recent role as Chief of Aviation Construction, Amanda has been focused on providing oversight of multiple construction projects at PA airports



James Starace



Rizwan Baig



Amanda Rogers

at a time of record investment and accomplishments in the redevelopment of all our airports. Amanda joined the agency in 2001 as an Engineering Associate before moving up the ranks of the Construction Management Division (CMD). For over ten years, Amanda served as the Resident Engineer at JFK Airport. From there, Amanda was the CMD Lead Engineer at LaGuardia Airport. In 2017, she was promoted to Senior Engineer of Construction where she oversaw key elements of construction on the "Restore the George" Program and other projects before being promoted to Chief of Aviation Construction.

Port Leadership Update

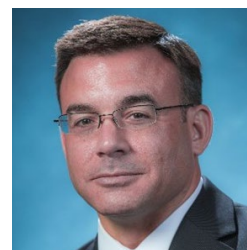
Michael Bozza has been named Deputy Director of the Port Department. In this role, Michael will provide direct oversight of the Department's port facilities, business services, commercial development, planning and capital program delivery. Mike has been the Assistant Director, Commercial Development in the Port Department since 2020 where he led the Leasing, Business Development and Industry Relations teams. Prior to that, he was the General Manager, New Jersey Marine Terminals.

Michael joined the Port Authority in 2001 as a Management Associate, and

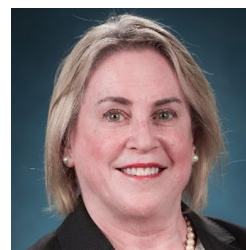
since then, has progressed through a series of management positions within the Real Estate, Aviation, and Port Departments.

Mary Lee Clanton will serve as a member of the Port senior leadership team as she takes on the role of Assistant Director, Capital and Port Planning. In this role, she will manage the Capital Plan Delivery, Agency Major Maintenance Program, Tenant Support, Port and Infrastructure Planning and Environmental Initiatives units.

Mary Lee joined the Port Authority in 1992 as a Senior Project Manager in the Engineering Department's Aviation Design



Michael Bozza



Mary Lee Clanton

Division. She held several progressively responsible roles within the Engineering and Aviation Departments before joining the Port Department in 2012. In her time at the Port Authority, Mary Lee has managed the Port Planning and Asset Management Unit before becoming the Senior Program Manager, Capital Program Delivery.

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PARA WANTS YOU

The Port Authority Retirees Association (PARA) invites active and retired Port Authority and PATH employees to join its almost 4,000 members.

PARA allows you to stay current with news about the agency, its employees and retirees, and with state and federal issues of importance to retirees, such as benefit, pension, and Social Security updates.

The membership fee is \$10 a year. Visit www.paranynj.org for more information and to sign up for PARA's email bulletins.



RETIREMENTS

Retirement News from SIB

After 33 years of service with the agency, Staten Island Bridges' **Mauro Pace** is ready to retire and start a new adventure. A retirement lunch was held on Thursday, January 19, at the SIB Goethals Meeting Room.

And after 35 years of service, **Anthony Noa**, also of SIB, will be cruising into retirement in his Corvette. A retirement breakfast will be held in honor of Anthony on Monday, January 30 at 10 a.m. at the Goethals Meeting Room. \$30 p.p. RSVP by January 23 to **Sheyna Jones**, **Carmella Davis**, or **Nicole Payne**.



CALENDAR

PAWC Power Hour: Audit

Tuesday, January 24 from noon to 1 p.m. Join the PA Women's Council for the next installment in its Power Hour series, where they will highlight women leaders of the Audit Department. All PAWC members will receive a calendar invitation. Non-members can [RSVP here](#).

PA-AAA: Lunar New Year Dinner Celebration

Friday, February 3 from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Join the Port Authority Asian American Association in its return to Manhattan's Chinatown for the Year of the Rabbit – Lunar New Year Dinner at [Jing Fong](#), 202 Centre Street, New York, NY. Enjoy a traditional 10-course Cantonese banquet, drinks, games, and the lively, lucky, and energized performance of a Lion Dance troupe. Tickets are \$60 cash to be paid at the door. [RSVP here](#) by Monday, January 30. To learn more, email PAAAA@panynj.gov.

Staff News

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Aviation Department Leadership Update

Jacqueline McCarthy has been named Deputy Director, Aviation Planning and Development. In this role, Jacqueline will lead the department's Capital Programs, Project Management, Asset Management, Aviation Planning, Environmental and Sustainability, and Forecasting functions.

Most recently, Jacqueline has served as a Program Director for Aviation Redevelopment. She joined the agency in 2004 as an Engineering Trainee, where she worked on several infrastructure projects for Aviation over the next eight years. She then worked as Supervisor of Maintenance Planning at EWR before returning to Engineering as a Program Manager and Senior Resident Engineer. Jacqueline came back to Aviation in 2016 and worked as a Program Manager and Senior Program Manager for the EWR Terminal A Redevelopment Program.



Jacqueline McCarthy

Gateway Project Program Director Named

Over the past year, the Gateway Development Commission (GDC) has taken major strides to advance both GDC's capabilities as an organization and to advance the Hudson Tunnel project. Throughout this effort, the Port Authority has played, and will continue to play, an important role in supporting the GDC on this important project. **William Laventhal** has taken on the role (within the Port Authority) of Program Director, GDC. In this role, William will serve as the primary Port Authority liaison to GDC, ensuring close communication with GDC and coordination of appropriate Port Authority resources for the GDC program.

William joined the agency as a Leadership Fellow in 2010. In 2015, William served as Special Assistant in the Executive Director's Office. He then transitioned to support the Gateway Program full time as the Strategic Planning and Policy Manager. Most recently, William has served as the Program Manager of the AirTrain Newark Redevelopment Program.



William Laventhal



Lock in Current Rates for the Bike-Share Benefit by January 29

If you've been considering a Citi Bike membership, there's no time like the present: Sign up before January 29 to take advantage of the current annual membership price of just \$80. Effective January 29, the annual public membership cost will increase to \$205 (not including tax), with the PA employee discount (50% off) increasing to \$102.50. E-bike and extra time fees will also be increasing.

Bike stations are available throughout Manhattan, the Bronx, Queens, Brooklyn, Jersey City, and Hoboken. To register or renew, visit citibikenyc.com and use program code **fj32axt3**. View [instructions here](#). For questions, dial (212) 435-2870, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., or via email hr_employeebenefits@panynj.gov.

