

# Risk Assessment

## 10:30am – 12pm Suffolk Room 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

### **Moderator:**

**Will Willson FRICS AVS**

risk manager-specialist services geotechnical and tunnels, Parsons Brinckerhoff, Lawrenceville, NJ

### **Panelists:**

**Aaron C. James Sr.**

director, Office of Engineering, Federal Transit Administration, Washington, DC

**Vincent Gallagher Jr., P.E.**

vice president, Hill International, Inc., Philadelphia, PA

**Rick Wilson**

director, project control, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Los Angeles, CA

**W. Steven Meyer, P.E.**

chief capital development officer, Utah Transit Authority, Salt Lake City, UT



# Risk Assessment

*Introductions*

*Panel Bio's*

*Speakers*

**Aaron C. James Sr.**

**Vincent Gallagher Jr.**

**Rick Wilson**

**W. Steven Meyer**

*Q& A Panel Session*

**Please hold questions till end of all speakers**

# Risk Assessment

*Please complete survey – pink forms  
being passed around*

*AICP [City Planners] Credit – please sign  
form on way out*

# Risk Assessment

*The probability that the budget will cover projects through completion*

An important element in the evaluation and management of major projects, risk assessment involves the probability that the budget will bring the project to completion. The FTA manages the federal government's investment of taxpayer funds in transit projects and performs a risk assessment for projects that use federal funds. FTA's risk assessments are part of the New Starts planning and project development process. Come hear the lessons learned from prior risk assessments that can help you move through yours.

# Aaron C James Sr

Aaron James is the Director, Office of Engineering, USDOT Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Office of Program Management

Aaron has served as the Director of Engineering, at the US Department of Transportation, Federal Transit Administration, for more than 5 years now. Aaron is responsible for overseeing, from a national perspective, all engineering and construction-related activities involving fixed guideway transit, bus and other major transportation facilities and equipment funded by FTA. Additionally, Aaron is responsible for FTA's Project Management Oversight (PMO) Program, which performs reviews including risk and other assessments of active major capital projects totaling nearly \$16 billion.

Aaron has been a member of the transit industry for more than 30 years and has served the industry in several capacities; including design and systems engineering, manufacturing, consulting and industry trade association. He worked closely with numerous transit agencies in the U.S. and assisted them in the development of design and performance specifications.

Aaron is a member of the American Public Transportation Association Major Capital Investments Subcommittee and the Systems Engineering Subcommittee.

# Vincent Gallagher Jr

Vincent D. Gallagher, PE. is a Vice President with Hill International, Inc in Philadelphia, PA.

Vince is a Professional Engineer with over 35 years of diversified engineering and construction experience.

Vince has been one of the FTA's premier Project Management Oversight Contractors for nearly 20 years, and has had assignments from small to mega size projects. Vince directs Hill's PMOC efforts.

Some of the FTA assignments include transit projects in Boston, Philadelphia, Jacksonville, Tampa, Orlando, Nashville, Memphis and San Juan. Vince has been involved in Salt Lake City, Las Vegas, Washington, DC and the Dulles Metro Rail project. Vince has performed FTA sponsored risk assessments on several projects.

# Steven Meyer

Stephen Myer P.E.  
Chief Capital Development Officer  
Utah Transit Authority

Steve Meyer is the Chief Capital Development Officer for the Utah Transit Authority.

Prior to his current position, Steve served as the manager of engineering and construction for UTA's FrontRunner commuter rail projects.

UTA is currently 75% complete with their FrontLines 2015 program which will add 70 miles of rail transit with one commuter rail line and four light rail lines.

# Rick Wilson

Rick Wilson is a director of project controls, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation

Rick has nearly 30 years project control management experience in the planning, engineering and construction of large civil projects. Twenty-one of the 30 years has been in public transit, within both the private and public sectors.

Rick's public transit experience encompasses both light and heavy rail transportation projects. Under his leadership, the Metro Red Line Segment 3 North Hollywood and the Metro Gold Line Eastside Extension Projects were completed on time and within budget.

Recent accomplishments include obtaining Entry into Preliminary Engineering within record time for two mega New Starts Projects – Regional Connector and the Westside Subway Extension. Rick is recognized within the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority as a leader in risk assessments.



# Will Wilson

Will Willson is a risk manager with Parsons Brinckerhoff based in New Jersey.

Will is a Chartered Quantity Surveyor, a Fellow of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors and an Associate Value Specialist with the Society of American Value Engineers.

Will has served as a risk assessor for FTA through their PMOC program as well as working as a risk advisor for a number of Grantees. FTA projects include Sound Transit LR, Phoenix LR, San Francisco Muni CSP, LA Gold Line, Regional Connector and Westside extension, Honolulu HCTCP, Portland South Corridor and ESA NY

Will previously served as the Project Planning Manager for the Channel Tunnel High Speed Rail project in the UK during preliminary engineering and then headed up the risk assessment for the project during detailed design through to financial close engaged by the P3 engineering consortium London and Continental Engineering.

# Risk Assessment

## SESSION OVERVIEW

Aaron will provide an over view of current FTA policy on RA

Vince will provide a general overview of the current FTA RA process and history from a FTA PMOC perspective

Rick and Steve will provide lessons learned and feedback from their respective Agencies

They will then follow an open Q&A panel session where questions will be invited from the audience