



Keynote Speaker Maria Lehman

PhD, P.E.
ASCE 2023 President
American Society of Civil Engineers, USA

Maria Lehman, P.E., ENV SP, F.ASCE, is GHD’s infrastructure market leader for the United States since May 2020. Maria was the former vice president for critical infrastructure for Parsons, COO and acting executive director of the New York State Thruway Authority and commissioner of public works for Erie County, New York. She has 40 years of diverse, increasingly responsible, multi-disciplinary technical and leadership experience, both in the private and public sectors, and in traditional and alternative delivery. She received her bachelor’s degree in civil engineering at the State University of New York at Buffalo, magna cum laude, and is a licensed professional engineer in several states.

She has served as principal-in-charge, project executive, program and project manager, and project engineer for more than 700 projects, which required everything from scoping, planning, environmental studies, preparation of plans, specifications, estimates, construction management, and operations and maintenance – ranging in size from \$10,000 to \$3.9 billion. Her strength has been around complex element coordination – well-developed project communications, government, and community relations, including innovative finance and grants – and fast-track implementation on complex projects. She has successfully led alternative delivery projects, such as design-build, best value, and public private partnerships.

Maria has served ASCE since her days at UB, first as a student, then as a younger member. She co-founded the Northeast Region Younger Members Council in 1983 and stayed active in her section, serving all board positions including president in 1990, while her husband Carl was president-elect. She was a delegate to the NYS and District 1 Councils and became a society director in 1993, followed by Zone 1 vice president in 2001. She has continuously served or chaired numerous society-level committees, councils, and institutes since 1993. She returned to the Society’s Board of Direction in 2018 as assistant treasurer.

Maria has won numerous national, statewide, and local awards including the ASCE President’s Medal, Edmund Friedman Young Engineer Award, UB’s School of Engineering Alumna of the Year, and the New York State Society of Professional Engineers Engineering Manager of the Year.

Keynote Presentation Title: Engineering the Future

Abstract: With an expanding global population, we must take care of our aging infrastructure to meet current needs, and at the same time, move it into the future with innovative technologies and capabilities that will enable us to combat the problems of tomorrow. In this presentation, ASCE

President Maria C. Lehman will share how we need to prepare future civil engineers to meet these challenges.

As the oldest engineering society in the United States, ASCE represents 150,000 members in 177 countries. ASCE stands at the forefront of a profession that plans, designs, constructs, and operates society's economic and social engine – the built environment – while protecting and restoring the natural environment.

Cite as: Lehman M., "Keynote Speaker", *The 2nd International Conference on Civil Infrastructure and Construction (CIC 2023)*, Doha, Qatar, 5-8 February 2023, DOI: <https://doi.org/10.29117/cic.2023.0003>