We Help Make New York’s Infrastructure Work Better

The infrastructure needs of New York City and State represent a microcosm of the Nation’s infrastructure needs. The Big Apple’s infrastructure, serving millions of New Yorkers and citizens of surrounding states, relies on our transit systems to operate efficiently - to move people, goods and services in and out of the City.

The environmental needs for clean water and disposal of sewage are also foundational for a healthy thriving society. Furthermore, our schools must meet the needs of the children who enter buildings each school day.

These are but a few of the basic needs facing our great city and our country in the years ahead. Infrastructure needs have risen to become a top priority throughout the country.

Governors, senators and other elected officials are calling for funding to be appropriated for these needs. WDF stands ready to do its part.

WDF has a long, proud history of successful infrastructure projects in each market. We have worked on more than ninety schools for the SCA in the last several years.

Presently, we have 20 contracts in environmental work for the NYC DEP in plumbing, HVAC and GC.

We have proudly worked on New York’s finest hospitals (New York Presbyterian-Weill Cornell hospital) and university systems (Albert Einstein College of Medicine).

WDF teams of transit personnel have completed many surface projects including the Manhattanville Greyhound Bus Depot and the 100th Street Bus Depot and subway projects including the 1 and 9 Fan Plant, and the Whitehall Fan Plant for the MTA and NYCTA.

The WDF team is experienced and ready get to work to help repair, renovate and rehabilitate Wastewater Treatment Plants, Schools and Universities, Hospitals and the important transit systems which are at the heart of travel throughout our great cities.

WDF has built a team of highly experienced executives, estimators, project managers and project executives who are backed by a solid core of in-house and field

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2 On Site personnel who work efficiently and smoothly together to meet the client’s requirements.

Environmental Projects
Keeping clean water flowing into businesses, schools, hospitals, government offices and residences in New York City is a major task. Our men and women work hard to help the New York City Department of Environmental Protection meet this never ending challenge to deliver clean water.

New York City has fourteen wastewater treatment plants operating throughout the five boroughs and we are on the job at six. WDF’s work helps keep more than 950 million gallons of New York City water flowing daily.

The Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant located in Brooklyn, New York is the largest of the 14 wastewater treatment plants with a capacity of 310 million gallons per day. WDF is completing a plant upgrade and renovation, installing 48-96” piping, pumps and valves and upgrading the existing systems to automated systems. The project includes a new centrifuge building, digester gas service building and grid collection building. Newtown Creek has the largest sludge and storage tanks in NYC.

The Jamaica Wastewater Treatment Plant at Jamaica Bay, New York is a large general contracting and plumbing project for the New York City Department of Environmental Protection. This multi-phased project is a major upgrade of the existing facility. We will erect three new buildings with a renovation of an existing building. Included in this important infrastructure project are: improvements to the aeration system and rehabilitation of the aeration tank walkways; replacement of the sludge collectors in final settling tanks; modifications of the main sewage pump station, including a new electrical room; replacement of the primary sludge pumps and digested sludge and digester gas piping; all plumbing work for the new buildings and installation of new service water and seal water system.

According to the NYC DEP, the average New Yorker uses about 100 gallons of water daily – twice as much as residents of most European cities and many other places in this country.

Ravitch Commission on MTA Financing

Recommendations to Governor David A. Paterson

Richard Ravitch chaired the commission assigned to make recommendations to the MTA and the Governor on a laundry list of financial and operating problems facing the MTA. The report released on December 2, 2008 sets guidelines to deal with the considerable shortfall in revenue to the MTA due to tax losses.

Key Findings
There is an urgent need to act now to address the financial health of the MTA.

Impose new regional mobility tax in 12 county MTA Commuter District as an excise tax equal to one-third of one percent of wages paid. Income produced will be placed (after the first year) into a separate “lockbox” that will be under the purview of the MTA CFA.

Create the MTA Capital Finance Authority (CFA). Monies to be used to fund capital projects.

Establish regular cycle of fare hikes.

Impose cashless tolling on East River and Harlem River Bridges equivalent to a single subway fare.

Improve bus service in the region.

Strengthen governance of MTA. Establish a full-time Chairman.

Increase transparency and accountability. MTA should change the way it manages projects to promote schedule efficiencies.

One time use of mobility tax to lessen proposed 2009 fare and tax increases and service reductions.
Chuck Connor is a Multi-faceted and Multi-talented Man for all Seasons

Charles David Connor moves through the office and on the job site with a measure of surety that defines this man as someone who will get the job done – and done right.

Long before this sense of purpose was in place there was the little boy from Southern Pines, North Carolina who experienced the prejudice and discrimination in our country. The one room school with a pot belled stove sat across the street from the large well equipped school for the white children; being involved in the Civil Rights movement of the sixties.

The family moved to Westbury Long Island where he graduated from Westbury High School with letters and lots of trophies in track, football and gymnastics. This led to a scholarship with Iowa State football before life redirected him to serve his country in the military.

Charles, aka Chuck, is a man of pride and grace who is part of a large extended family that he speaks of with genuine love. The family’s ancestry is derived from African-Americans, whites, Americans, Christians, Muslims and Jews and he loves the mix of ethnicity, and the sometimes disparate beliefs which trigger great dialog. “So basically, I’m a mutt,” he laughs.

Perhaps this is the foundation for his interest in politics and social justice? He said, “I want to be a part of it all. Let my views be known, talk about what burns inside.” Chuck has written articles for the Subcontractors Trade Association (STA) magazine discussing issues that relate to affirmative action issues. He is also proud of his endeavors as chairman of the committee to restore The Colored Cemetery of 1812 and establish it as a monument to the hundreds of people interred there.

It wasn’t until his tour as an advisor ended in the earliest days before the full blown Vietnam War that he got into the construction industry. “My next door neighbor had a plumbing business,” so he took a job and began to learn the plumbing business. Years of hard work, night school — both technical and at NYIT, helped him become a partner with his next door neighbor, and “…started my journey.”

Life takes twists and turns and Chuck met every bend in the road head on. Once he left their business he worked for the Horowitz Brothers (plumbing) where he was a draftsman (after studying at NYIT). He then became an estimator for two years and a project manager for the James McCullagh Company.

In 1985, Chuck met Larry Roman and worked at RC Corp. (Larry’s dad’s company). This began the long business relationship with Larry Roman.

Eventually, in 1986, Chuck went out on his own and founded the Connor Management Group, Inc. and became the city’s largest minority owned subcontractor.

In 2001 Chuck took a position with WDF Inc. as a Senior Project manager bringing the same purposeful, pride and love of his work. “I like the ‘sexy’ projects that offer something new and challenging…to enter a project that ends up doing well.”

His latest success is the work performed at the Bronx Zoo renovating the Lion House into the Madagascar Exhibit which earned an Award of Merit from New York Construction magazine.

These days Chuck is working at the Tallman Island Water Pollution Control Center, just off the West- stone Bridge while tweaking the complicated systems in place at the Madagascar Exhibit where the live lemurs rely on a controlled ecological climate to survive.

However, Chuck doesn’t stop working when he goes home, “I’ve built everything in my house with my own hands.” He says with pride and the sense of a man who likes things to be done right.

Besides his three grown children and his wife Carla, Chuck loves his Corvettes as witnessed by the many model cars that decorate his office. However, his interest go beyond replicas; he also restores full scale Corvettes and competes at auto shows in Orange County, New York where he has won Best in Show and People’s Choice award for his 1958 white and red Corvette.

Bicycling is another of his interests. Chuck and wife Carla tour for charity as part of Joes Fix-it Shop to help good causes and stay in shape.

Chuck sings the Golden Oldies of the 50s and 60s in a Do-Wop. “But, I love jazz,” he smiles broadly. Chuck is truly a man for all seasons.
CEO’S MESSAGE

OUR #1 CONCERN IS YOUR HEALTH AND SAFETY

Both Joe LoCurto and I feel that the health and safety of our employees is of paramount importance.

Regarding safety issues, Joe has implemented dozens of new initiatives to take all reasonable precautions to give our employees a safe environment within which to work. Recently, Joe appointed Stefano Papalardo to work in conjunction with Amy Roman to ensure our employees have as safe a place to work as is reasonably possible. Few, if any companies stress safety in the workplace more than we do here at WDF.

On the health side, I have urged for years, and continue to do so, the health benefits and importance of not smoking, and to exercise and eat healthy. No matter how smart you are, no matter how dedicated a worker you are, no matter how loyal you are to WDF Inc., you can’t help our team if you are in the hospital or especially if you are in a grave. Smoking is one of worst health risks that can be easily prevented by quitting. Eat healthy, exercise regularly, don’t smoke and we can keep you, the productive employee, employed at WDF Inc. for a long, long time.

Many have asked why Joe and I are so passionate about your health and safety. It’s because we don’t feel people who work at WDF Inc. are only employees.

We look at people who work hard and dedicate themselves to the company as part of our special family.

Didn’t you know that WDF stands for “Wonderful, Dedicated Family”?

Amy Roman: Associate Safety Professional

Amy Roman has completed all requirements for certification as an Associate Safety Professional (ASP). This highly respected certifiation is awarded to individuals who meet academic requirements and have passed the first two extensive examinations.

For comments or questions, contact Ron Feldman by email at rfeldman@wdfinc.net and don’t forget to check our website http://www.wdfinc.net

WDF Toys for Tots program organizers L/R Carol Cascioli, Tonia Rose, Hingris Valezquez, Meghan Curtis, and Iris Rivera. (Missing from photo is Linda Earley.)