

All members, families and friends of Polish-American Engineers Association are cordially invited to attend our March meeting:

DATE: Friday, March 16, 2007

TIME: 7:30 - 8:00 pm - Social 1/2 hours
8:00 pm - Business and Technical Session

PLACE: Copernicus Center
5216 West Lawrence Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

SPEAKER: Mr. John LaPlante
Vice President and Director of Traffic Engineering
T.Y Lin International, Inc.

TOPIC: History of Chicago Lake Shore Drive

Chicago's Lake Shore Drive extends for 20 miles along the shore of Lake Michigan and has been called one of the world's most beautiful roadways. This presentation will chronicle Lake Shore Drive's evolution from its humble origins as disparate park drive segments through to the major traffic carrying parkway that it is today. Mr. LaPlante has been personally involved in many aspects of the maturing of Lake Shore Drive, with 30 years of experience with the City of Chicago, including City Traffic Engineer and Acting Commissioner of Transportation, followed by almost 16 years with T.Y. Lin International working on the two most recent roadway relocation and reconstruction projects.

John LaPlante is currently the Vice President and Director of Traffic Engineering for T.Y.Lin International, Inc. Since joining the firm in 1992, Mr. LaPlante has worked on such projects as the relocation of Lake Shore Drive west of Soldier Field, McCormick Place West Expansion, Southwest Michigan Non-Motorized Transportation Plan, O'Hare intermodal station study, and several bikeway and pedestrian projects for the City of Chicago, Chicago Park District, and several other municipalities (Wilmette, Downers Grove, Evanston, Naperville and Washington, DC).

Mr. LaPlante had previously worked for the City of Chicago for 30 years in various positions in the transportation engineering area. This included Engineer of Traffic Planning, Chief City Traffic Engineer, First Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, and most recently, Acting Commissioner of Transportation, where he was responsible for the planning, design and construction of all roads, bridges and mass transit facilities in the City of Chicago.

Mr. LaPlante received a B.S. degree in Civil Engineering from the Illinois Institute of Technology and an M.S. degree in Transportation Engineering from Northwestern University. He served three years as a Bio-Environmental Engineer with the US Air Force before joining the City on a full-time basis.

Mr. LaPlante has been active in many professional organizations, including being a Fellow member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers, where he has served on many national committees. He was President of the Illinois Engineering Council and the Western Society of Engineers, and is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, Transportation Research Board, Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals, and Women's Transportation Seminar. In October 1986, he was part of a four person teaching team that went to China to teach and advise on traffic management techniques.

A business meeting will precede the technical presentation. Coffee and pastries will be served during the intermission.

SPECIAL INVITATION for Polish engineers and technicians who recently came to Chicago.

CONFERENCE OF POLISH ENGINEERING ASSOCIATION IN NORTH AMERICA will be held in Chicago between 27-29 of April 2007. Program of the Conference is has been prepared (see separate document). We will be host of this Conference and we hope that we will be able to welcome engineers from all over the continent. We also expect Conference attendees from Poland and other European countries. Honorary Chairmanship was assumed by His Excellency Mr. Janusz Reiter, ambassador of Poland in Washington, Professor Andrzej Stelmachowski, President of "Wspolnota Polska", Dr. Inz. Wojciech Ratynski, President of Poland's Engineering Society "NOT" and Mr. Frank Spula, President of Polish National Alliance. Conference will be held at "The Wyndham Garden Chicago O'Hare", former Holiday Inn at 8201 West Higgins Rd. in Chicago.

PAEA will participate in **May 3rd Constitution parade** which is scheduled for Saturday May 5th Please mark Your calendar and support our annual march along Columbus Drive