

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

September 29 – October 2, 2026

Tuesday, September 29

2:00PM – 4:00PM: Registration
Lower Lobby

3:00PM – 5:00PM: Presidents Reception
City Center Main Hall
Sponsored by Chemung Supply Corporation

5:00PM: Dinner on Your Own

7:30PM: Evening Networking Event
The Parting Glass (40-42 Lake Ave.)
Sponsored by Viking Cives

Wednesday, September 30

6:00AM – 7:00AM: Early Morning Coffee
Lower Lobby
Sponsored by Five Star Equipment

7:00AM – 8:00AM: Breakfast
City Center Main Hall

8:00AM – 9:15AM: Superintendents Roundtable
Saratoga Ballroom

9:15AM – 9:45AM: Break with Exhibitors
City Center Main Hall
Sponsored by GovDeals

Education Sessions: **Broadway Ballroom**

9:45AM – 10:45AM: **Beyond Roads and Bridges:
The Highway Superintendent's Guide
to Managing People**

Managing a highway department means managing people—and that can be the most challenging part of the job. This interactive presentation equips Highway Superintendents with practical tools for supervising employees effectively while complying with New York Civil Service Law and collective bargaining agreements. Through real-world examples and practical advice, attendees will learn how to counsel employees, document performance problems, conduct workplace investigations, administer discipline, and build credibility as supervisors. Special emphasis will be placed on the challenges faced by newly promoted Superintendents who are transitioning from working alongside employees to leading them.

Heather A. Giambra, Esq., The Law Office of Heather Giambra

10:45AM – 11:15AM: **DOT/CHIPS Update**
NYSDOT representatives will provide an overview of funding programs available to municipalities to construct transportation projects and program requirements.
Laura Hacker, NYSDOT
Amy Henges, NYSDOT

11:30AM – 1:00PM: Lunch
Saratoga Ballroom

Golfers head straight to the course
35 Grace Moore Rd, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Sponsored by Allegiance Truck Centers

12:15PM – 5:00PM: **Afternoon Activities**
• **Saratoga Race Track Tour: Meet at 12:15PM**
• **Beverage Tour: Bus Meet at 12:45PM**
Sponsored by VanBortal

Both tours end at the Horseshoe Inn
All are welcome to join us there from 3PM-5PM even if you do not attend the other tours. The bus will shuttle back and forth from the Horseshoe to the Hilton from about 3:30PM-5:00PM
Sponsored by Gorman Construction

7:00PM – 10:00PM: **Vendor Night, Reception & Dinner**
City Center Main Hall

Thursday, October 1

6:00AM – 7:00AM: Early Morning Coffee
Lower Lobby

7:00AM – 8:15AM: Breakfast
City Center Main Hall

8:30AM – 9:30AM: **Keynote Address - Col. Eileen Collins, Former NASA Astronaut & Retired U.S. Air Force Colonel**
Col. Collins will share lessons on leadership, teamwork, safety, and overcoming challenges from her groundbreaking career as the first woman to command a Space Shuttle mission. From her early days in the Air Force to leading missions at NASA, Collins offers an inspiring perspective on leadership, innovation, and the future of space exploration.
City Center MR2
Sponsored by Suit-Kote Corp.

Education Sessions: **Broadway Ballroom**

9:35AM – 10:35AM: **Legislative & Advocacy Update**
Association lobbyists will provide an overview of the 2026-27 Budget and Legislative Session.
Fred Hiffa & Megan Osika, Park Strategies

10:40AM – 11:40AM: **HighwAI: An Intro to AI for Highway Superintendents**
Designed specifically for highway professionals, this presentation will focus on practical AI tools, that can help departments work smarter, save time, improve decision-making, and enhance communication.
Nick DeVito, Town of Somers, Westchester County

11:40AM – 12:00PM: **Networking Break**
City Center Main Hall
Sponsored by Innovative Surface Solutions

12:00PM – 12:30PM: **Annual Meeting of the Members**
City Center MR2
(All Highway Superintendents are encouraged to attend)

12:30PM – 1:30PM: **Lunch/Vendor Lunch**
Saratoga Ballrooms

1:30PM – 2:30PM: **When Water Won't Behave: MS4 and Municipal Drainage**
This course explores common municipal drainage challenges and practical stormwater management strategies that apply to every highway department. While MS4 requirements will be discussed, the concepts, maintenance practices, and problem solving techniques are relevant to all municipalities, regardless of MS4 designation. Participants will gain practical tools for managing drainage systems and protecting infrastructure.
Tom Gschwind, Town of Cornwall, Orange County
Nick Rowell, Warren County Soil & Water Conservation District

2:30PM – 3:45PM: **Legal and Regulatory Panel**
Industry and legal experts will be available for a question-and-answer session.
Joseph V. Frateschi, Esq., Harris Beach, PLLC
Lori Mithen-DeMasi, Esq., General Counsel, Association of Towns of the State of New York
Moderator: David P. Orr, PE, Director, NYS LTAP Center, Cornell Local Roads Program

5:00PM – 6:30PM: **Reception**
Saratoga Foyer
Sponsored by Vestal Asphalt

6:30PM – 10:00PM: **Annual Banquet & Entertainment**
Saratoga Ballroom
Sponsored by: Alamo Group Snow & Ice Team

Friday, October 2

7:00AM – 8:30AM: Breakfast
Saratoga Ballroom

8:45AM – 10:00AM: **Retirement Informational Session**
Broadway Ballroom
A representative from the New York State and Local Retirement System will give a short presentation and answer any questions.
Education Sessions Sponsored by Peckham Industries, Inc.

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