

## President's Corner



This past May our chapter successfully held our 57th Annual Conference & Equipment Show in Baltimore, MD. The chapter wants to thank everyone who participated in this event. This was the first conference to be held at the Baltimore Convention Center after the civil disturbances that had occurred before the meeting. We had great attendance and participation at the conference, and this is a testament to the perseverance of our membership. The chapter is very proud to have supported Baltimore City and our peers within the city.

The conference provided many opportunities to learn about best practices employed by others. Also, the exhibitors and sponsors provided innovative solutions offered by their companies to help our attendees be more effective in their jobs. Most importantly, we had the chance to see familiar faces and build new relationships with our fellow Public Works professionals.

Our chapter membership during the conference raised funds to contribute to the community. The conference 50/50 Drawing raised \$130 which was donated to Our Daily Bread Employment Center of Baltimore. Also, the extra conference tote bags were donated to the St. Francis House Food Pantry in Triangle, VA for bagging and distributing food to families.

US Congressman Elijah E. Cummings gave an inspirational speech about having "vision." He spoke about how we in the Public Works profession must have "vision" because the work we do is not just for today but for our grandchildren. Having vision was something that Baltimore native Abel Wolman possessed. We learned quite bit about the work Wolman completed through our keynote speaker Howard Rosen. As we move forward in our jobs, we need to remember to have the vision to solve today's and tomorrow's problems. Furthermore, I leave you with the Congressman's final remarks, "Public Works gets it done!"

**Matt Villareale**  
**Chapter President**  
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