



# Speakers Biography

## Jill Zuckman

Jill Zuckman is Assistant to the Secretary and Director of Public Affairs at the Department of Transportation. She oversees the messaging and media for U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood, as well as for FHWA, FAA, FTA and seven other modes within the Department. She joined the Obama administration in February 2009, after spending more than 20 years as a political reporter.

Ms. Zuckman has worked for the Chicago Tribune, the Boston Globe, Congressional Quarterly and the Milwaukee Journal. She covered the last four presidential elections, as well as the Republican takeover of Congress in 1994 and the return to Democratic control in 2006. She is the recipient of the Everett M. Dirksen Award for Distinguished Coverage of Congress, as well as the New Hampshire Political Library’s New Hampshire Primary Award for her reporting on the first-in-the-nation primary state.

She is a 1987 graduate of Brown University, where she was a C.V. Starr Fellow, and a native of Washington, D.C.

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## Cathy St. Denis

Cathy St. Denis joined the Federal Highway Administration as Associate Administrator for Public Affairs in June 2009.

She comes to FHWA with more than 20 years of public affairs and media relations experience in the public and private sectors, where she developed, oversaw, and implemented communications campaigns on a wide range of public policy issues.

Prior to joining FHWA, St. Denis worked for the Glover Park Group, a communications firm started by former staffers in the Clinton Administration, including Joe Lockhart and Carter Eskew. She also worked in the Washington offices of Burson-Marsteller and Widmeyer Communications. In 1996, she managed communications for the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay and its sponsor, The Coca-Cola Company.

Her prior federal service includes serving as counselor to the Commissioner of the (former) Immigration and Naturalization Service, Doris Meissner. St. Denis began her career as deputy press secretary for Tom Daschle when he served in the U.S. House of Representatives.

She holds a Master’s degree from Northwestern University’s Medill School of Journalism and a Bachelor’s degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.