Bruce Podwal Seminar Series

November 3, 2009, 12:10 – 1:00 PM
Venue: Exhibit Room, Steinman Hall

59th Street/Columbus Circle Station Complex Rehabilitation
By
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Abstract
The 59th Street/Columbus Circle Station Complex is a key transit facility in Manhattan that is comprised of two subway stations: one station is on the IRT West Side Line, and the other station is on the IND 8th Avenue Line. Project scope includes rehabilitation, modifications, and reconstruction of existing underground station structures, construction of new entrances, new elevator. The project will improve the functioning, safety and efficiency of this important station complex, while improving accessibility and its appearance.

The Columbus Circle and the underground subway station complex reflect unique historical construction sequence. In 1904 the first line of New York subway, the IRT line, was constructed. The station was constructed directly under the Columbus monument. In the early 1930’s, the IND subway was built, crossing directly underneath the IRT platform and tracks. The current modifications require intricate underpinning and temporary supports; elaborate construction staging to meet stringent limitations and constrains, and to minimize impact on station operations.

Mr. Grigoryan, who is PB’s PM and Structural Engineer for this project, will discuss unique historical construction sequence, and current challenges encountered during the design and construction.

Bio
Aram Grigoryan is a Senior Professional Associate at Parsons Brinckerhoff. Mr. Grigoryan has 26 years of extensive structural experience in major underground structures. His expertise includes design, rehabilitation, underpinning, construction staging, and construction support.

Mr. Grigoryan is a graduate of Moscow Institute of Transportation Engineering, where he has received his M.S. degree in Structural Engineering with specialization in Bridges, Tunnels, Subways, Underground Structures.

He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and Structural Engineering Institute (SEI).

He is a licensed Professional Engineer and is registered in New York and Illinois.

Mr. Grigoryan has authored several papers on underground design, rehabilitation, construction, and underpinning that were presented and published at national and international tunneling conferences.

Recent major projects:
- 59th Street/Columbus Circle Station Complex Rehabilitation
- No. 7 Subway Line Extension under the 8th Ave Subway station;
- Atlantic Avenue Station Complex Rehabilitation;
- 42nd Street/8th Avenue Station Rehabilitation;