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H.G. (GERRY) SCHWARTZ JR. IS THE 2016 W.N. CAREY JR. DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENT

WASHINGTON -- In recognition of his outstanding service to transportation research and to the Transportation Research Board (TRB), H.G. (Gerry) Schwartz Jr. is the 2016 recipient of the W.N. Carey Jr. Distinguished Service Award. Retired chairman of Jacobs Civil, Schwartz is now a private consultant. The Carey Award — named in honor of W.N. Carey Jr., TRB’s executive director from 1967 to 1980 — recognizes individuals who have demonstrated distinguished leadership and service to TRB and will be presented on Jan. 11, 2017, at the 96th TRB Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C.

Schwartz has served TRB for approximately 20 years, beginning as a member of the Committee for a Study for a Future Strategic Highway Research Program (F-SHRP), followed by an appointment to the National Cooperative Highway Research Program Oversight Panel for the F-SHRP Project. These two committees assisted in creating the foundation for the recently completed and successful second Strategic Highway Research Program (SHRP 2), which developed ways to improve highway safety, reduce congestion, and enhance methods for renewing roads and bridges. As vice chair of TRB’s Subcommittee on National Research Council Oversight, he ensured that Research Council procedures and policies were faithfully employed in the SHRP 2 projects, committee appointments, and report review. Schwartz was also a member of the TRB Executive Committee for 10 years and continues to serve on the Resilience Task Force.

A nationally recognized civil and environmental engineering leader, Schwartz spent most of his career with Sverdrup Civil Inc. (now Jacobs Civil), which he joined in 1966. In 1993, he was named president and chairman, directing the transportation, public works, and environmental activities of Sverdrup/Jacobs Civil. He was executive principal on some of the largest civil works and transportation projects in this country. Schwartz has served on the Advisory Boards for Carnegie Mellon University, Washington University, and the University of Texas, Austin, as well as 10 years on the Board of the Louis Berger Group. He is president emeritus of the American Society of Civil Engineers and of the Water Environment Federation and is a past president of the Academy of Science of St. Louis.

In recent years, Schwartz has focused his professional efforts on studying the impacts of climate change on transportation systems. He served as convening lead author on the past two National Climate Assessments, which inform the president, Congress, and the American people on the current state of scientific knowledge about climate change effects on U.S. regions and key sectors.
Schwartz was elected to the National Academy of Engineering in 1997 and was named a National Associate of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine in 2008. He has served on various Academies study committees, including the Committee on Adapting to the Impacts of Climate Change — which he chaired, the Board on Infrastructure and the Constructed Environment, and the Committee on America’s Climate Choices.

The mission of the Transportation Research Board is to provide leadership in transportation innovation and progress through research and information exchange, conducted within a setting that is objective, interdisciplinary, and multimodal. Its annual meeting -- a major focal point of TRB’s activities -- provides an opportunity for transportation professionals from all over the world to exchange information of common interest. Approximately 13,000 policymakers, administrators, practitioners, researchers, and representatives of government, industry, and academic institutions are expected to attend the 96th TRB Annual Meeting, in Washington, D.C., taking place Jan. 8-12, 2017. The meeting, held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, includes more than 5,000 presentations in more than 800 sessions and workshops covering all aspects of transportation.

TRB is part of the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine -- private, nonprofit institutions that provide independent, objective analysis and advice to the nation to solve complex problems and inform public policy decisions related to science, technology, and medicine. The Academies operate under an 1863 congressional charter to the National Academy of Sciences, signed by President Lincoln. For more information, visit http://national-academies.org.

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