

METRANS SEMINAR SERIES

Dr. Keith Hwang

Cheonggye Stream Restoration and Downtown Revitalization in Seoul

DATE Friday Jan. 28

TIME 11:00 am-Noon

LOCATION Lewis Hall(RGL)
Rm. 308

RSVP* Shawn Gong,
TGong@usc.edu
by Noon,
Thurs. Jan. 27

*Lunch will be provided for RSVPs.

ABSTRACT: The Cheonggye stream is an urban renewal project in downtown Seoul, Korea. The restoration project removed the 5.84km long elevated highway that covered the stream for over 30 years. Since its opening on Oct. 1, 2005, the Cheonggye stream has become a popular tourist attraction in Seoul. With this project successfully completed, Seoul has launched a major change in its urban planning paradigm from development to sustainability. The project has been crucial in re-introducing nature to the city and promoting more eco-friendly design by creating an urban environment with clean water and natural habitats for residents and visitors to enjoy. The project is beyond a simple construction work, it is a litmus test to see if Seoul can be upgraded into a globally competitive world city.

SPEAKER BIO: Hwang Kee Yeon is currently the president of the Korean Transport Institute. He was a senior research fellow and the Director of the Research Center for Cheonggye stream restoration at the Seoul Development Institute, the think-tank organization for Seoul Metropolitan Government. He was in charge of developing the masterplan of Cheonggye stream restoration and CBD redevelopment. Mr. Yeon received his B.A. in public policy from Yonsei University in Seoul, Master of Science in Planning from University of Oregon and Ph.D. in urban and transportation planning from USC. He is the author of 130 professional journal articles, has written 5 books concerning Transportation Demand Management, and was awarded "The National Medal of Honour" in 2005 from Korean Government.

