

## PANELIST INFORMATION



**Giti Zarinkelk, P.E., F. SAME**  
*President, Founder, and CEO*



Ms. Zarinkelk was born and raised in Iran. After finishing high school at the age of 17, she moved to Turkey for college. After finishing college, she moved back to Iran and worked as a young engineer in Iran for a couple of years before moving to the US.

She first settled in Houston but due to the recession in the 80s, her engineering experience in the US started in Southern California with J. P. Kapp and Associates in Tustin, CA.

She moved back to Houston, Texas in 1991. She was involved with the \$1.2 billion Greater Houston Wastewater Program (GHWP) doing modeling and project management. Following the GHWP, she worked on the City's Street and Bridge Program. Following that, she started her own firm, Zarinkelk Engineering Services, Inc. in 2001.

Ms. Zarinkelk has been active in many professional organizations. She currently serves as a board member for the Coastal Water Authority (CWA). She was appointed in 2010 by Mayor Parker and re-appointed by Mayor Turner and continue serving with Mayor Whitmire.

She has served on the Board of Directors for the American Public Works Association, the Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) and the Houston Council of Engineering Companies (HCEC) and has supported those organizations for many years.

In addition to serving as a first ever woman President of the Houston/Galveston Post of SAME in 2007, she was selected as the Distinguished Member of the Year in 2000, received their Regional VP Medal in 2002 and was installed as a Fellow of the Society at the National Conference in 2007.

She is the first woman Honorary Consul of the Country of Namibia, Africa, and represents Namibia in Houston's Consular Corps.

Ms. Zarinkelk has over 40 years of experience in the planning, design, and program management of a diverse variety of civil engineering projects and has published numerous papers related to public and private partnerships. She has a son and two grandsons and is married to Michael J. Bagstad.