

ACEC New York City PAC

American Council of Engineering Companies of New York City Political Action Committee

January 16, 2019

Dear Member:

With the 2018 elections behind us, momentum is now growing to support infrastructure and building improvements. 2019 is an important year for the engineering community to take an active role in local politics.

Mayor Bill de Blasio has dramatically increased the amount of infrastructure spending during his term, with early focus on affordable housing and post-Sandy storm protection. De Blasio is using design-build procurement, for which the city was granted authority by the state legislature, for improvements at the New York City Housing Authority, to close the Rikers Island jail complex and to rehabilitate the BQE Cantilever in Brooklyn.

Meanwhile, the Mayor's Office of Contract Services is working in earnest with City Agencies to expand the PASSPort webportal and to improve the City's processes for procuring services. At the City Council, significant legislation is being considered which, if enacted, would mandate that thousands of buildings Citywide undertake deep energy retrofitting in order to reduce their carbon footprint. Bills have also been introduced to reform processes at the Department of Buildings and to adjust M/WBE goals in City contracts.

Whether the City government is planning for buildings/infrastructure, developing legislation, procurement or general business policies, these decisions directly impact the engineering industry.

Our NYC Political Action Committee enables our Association to support elected officials who understand and appreciate the goals, objectives and values of the engineering community. The PAC enables us to raise awareness among influential policymakers about issues of import to our industry. Recent issues affecting your business include:

- Legislation requiring all City agencies to implement electronic invoicing.
- A more-stringent NYC Energy Code, postponed several times to provide our members the ability to propose amendments. The City Council accepted our amendments and addressed our concerns.
- Legislation establishing the "NYC Energy Policy Subcommittee" initially did not include a P.E. on this Subcommittee. ACEC New York advocated for a P.E. to be added and the City Council amended the legislation to do so.
- NYC DOB agreed to postpone finalizing a proposed rule, which would significantly amend the NYC Electrical Code, in light of concerns raised by our members.
- The City Comptroller and Mayor's Office of Contract Services met with ACEC New York leaders several times to discuss procurement reforms including Change Orders, electronic invoicing and salary caps. This initiative is ongoing.

Only continued advocacy will keep elected officials supportive of the engineering industry and the need for critical infrastructure in the forefront.

To support the PAC, principals and key employees of all ACEC New York Metropolitan Region firms are asked to contribute \$100 a year and board members \$250. Of course, members can voluntarily contribute larger amounts. Whether you and your leadership team give \$100 or \$1000, it is important that we receive a large number of contributions in order for our PAC to be a tool for increasing and maintaining our presence in New York City's political field.

Please note the NYC PAC can only accept personal – not firm – contributions. The one exception is if a firm itself has a Federal PAC that only receives personal contributions. In this case, a firm could write a check from the firm PAC to the ACEC New York City PAC.

There are two advantages to donating through the Association's PAC. First, this limits any concerns one might have relating to campaign contributions securing an advantage for any individual firm as the PAC acts on behalf of the industry as a whole. Additionally, principals of firms that do business with the City of New York are limited in the amounts they can contribute directly to candidates. Those limits are not applicable to contributions to or by the ACEC New York City PAC so we encourage you to donate to the Association's PAC.

Thank you in advance for your continued support. If you have any questions, please contact Bill Murray, NYC Director of Government Relations, at 212-682-6336.

Sincerely,



Vicki Arbitrio, P.E.
Chair
ACEC New York/Metro Region



Thomas Schoettle, P.E.
Chair
ACEC NYC PAC

Enclosures: NYCPAC Q&A & Return Envelope

Additional Notes:

- Contributions are not deductible for federal income tax purposes as charitable contributions.
- A full 2018 NYC PAC Report is available in the [Members Only/Organization Documents](#) section of our website.
- ACEC New York's Agenda and Positions are available in the [Advocacy](#) section our website.
- Checks should be made payable to ACEC New York City PAC and mailed to:
ACEC New York
8 West 38 Street, Ste 1101
New York, NY 10018
(please list your firm name on check memo)