



American Council of Engineering Companies of New York

January 10, 2022

Dear Member:

Change is coming to New York City government on an unprecedented scale; on January 1, New York City Mayor Eric Adams, Comptroller Brad Lander, and 30+ new City Council Members took office.

Whether they are identifying infrastructure funding priorities, amending Building Codes, or modifying procurement processes, decisions by these policymakers will impact the business environment and our association's member firms for years to come.

It is more critical than ever that ACEC New York build its relationships with key elected officials, and support those who are advancing principles and policies that are aligned with our association's. The ACEC New York City PAC (NYC PAC) is our tool to take active part in the city's political process. The PAC engages officials and supports those who have demonstrated alignment with our policy objectives.

Our NYC PAC had a successful General Election in November. It received over 80 questionnaires from candidates. In the end, the PAC supported eighteen candidates in the election – sixteen of whom won and are now in public office. Candidates took notice of our PAC's independent polling, and our PAC additionally made it possible for our association's representatives to attend functions where they could speak directly with Mayor Adams and Comptroller Lander.

In 2022, the PAC will strengthen our relations with key officials. Public policy priorities the NYC PAC seeks to advance include:

- **Capital Commitment.** The city should prioritize infrastructure spending as a critical component for economic recovery from COVID-19 and for a sustainable, equitable future, including the implementation of congestion pricing to maximize badly needed transit capital funding.
- **Building Codes.** Assess and adopt innovative and technically sound best practices from around the country and the world.
- **STEM.** Ensure all students have access to education in science, technology, engineering and math to meet the needs of our 21st Century City.

- **Contract & Change Order Registration.** The City should adopt best practices from other government agencies to accomplish contract registration within 90 days, and expedite change order registration to be completed within 60 days.
- **Qualifications-Based Selection.** Protect the use of QBS in NYC and expand the use of QBS, which elicits the most innovative and cost-effective designs, to public authorities and public benefit corporations.
- **Payment Processing.** Agencies should adopt electronic invoicing ASAP in order to achieve payment within 30 days.
- **MWBE.** Set project specific goals while ensuring the diversity and quality of engineering and architectural services by careful assessment of available capacity, experience and expertise.
- **Design-Build.** Improve Design-Build contracting to include Progressive Design-Build, and use best practices.

Principals and key employees of all ACEC New York Metropolitan Region firms are urged 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 the NYC PAC receive a significant number of contributions in order to provide a robust tool for increasing and maintaining our presence on the New York City political landscape. Participating in our PAC is a form of civic engagement.

Please note the NYC PAC can only accept personal – not firm – contributions.

Principals of firms that do business with the City of New York may be limited in the amounts they themselves can contribute directly to candidates. However, those limits are not applicable to contributions to or by the ACEC New York City PAC so we encourage you to donate to our association's PAC.

If you have any questions, contact Taylor Palmer, Government Affairs Associate, at 212-682-6336.

Sincerely,



Cyrus Izzo, P.E.
Chair
ACEC New York/Metro Region



Thomas Schoettle, P.E.
Chair
ACEC NYC PAC

Enclosure: NYC PAC Q&A

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)

Note: Contributions are not deductible for federal income tax purposes as charitable contributions.