



American Council of Engineering Companies of New York

January 17, 2023

Dear Member:

For the consulting engineering industry, 2023 presents both historic opportunities and uncertainties. Metropolitan Region investment in building and infrastructure projects is projected to be very robust, while the design and construction sector simultaneously face economic headwinds related to workforce tightening and the risk of recession in the wider economy.

At the same time, NYC Mayor Eric Adams has announced a wide-ranging set of reforms intended to accelerate the development process for both private and public projects, some of which require legislative action at the local level.

Meanwhile, while the Mayor, City Comptroller and the City Council were all elected to office in late-2021, *the entire City Council is up for election again this year - 2023*. This is due to requirements in the city's constitution ("Charter") and changes in political district lines as a result of the 2020 U.S. Census.

As local legislators, NYC's 51 City Councilmembers play a key part identifying infrastructure funding priorities, amending Building Codes, and conducting oversight of procurement. It is therefore important as ever for ACEC New York to strengthen and grow its relationships with these elected officials.

The ACEC New York City PAC (NYC PAC) is our industry's tool to help strengthen these relationships. The NYC PAC engages and supports officials who have demonstrated alignment with ACEC New York's mission, principles, and our policy objectives.

The NYC PAC had a successful General Election in 2021. It received over 80 questionnaires from candidates running for office that year; the questionnaire quizzed them on their familiarity and position on ACEC New York's public policy priorities. In the end, the NYC PAC supported 18 candidates in the election – 16 won are now in office. Most of these City Council members are expected to run for re-election in 2023.

In 2023, the NYC PAC will advocate with these policymakers to advance the following priorities:

- **Recruitment and Retention of staff.** Adjust policies that interfere with the recruitment and retention of qualified personnel in the public and private sectors needed to deliver NYC's infrastructure projects, particularly in an inflationary environment; as well as

- **Strong Capital Funding;**
- **Progressive Design-Build;**
- **Prompt Payments;**
- **Faster Contract & Change Order Registration;**
- **Continuous improvement of the Building Codes;**
- **Making STEM a priority; and**
- **Protecting Qualifications-Based Selection.**

**Principals and key employees of all ACEC New York Metropolitan Region firms are urged to contribute \$100 a year and board members \$250 to the NYC PAC.**

Of course, members can voluntarily contribute larger amounts. Whether you and your firm's leadership team give \$100 or \$1000, it is important the NYC PAC receive a significant number of contributions in order to provide an effective tool for increasing and maintaining our presence on the NYC 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 Manager, at 212-682-6336.

Sincerely,



Thomas R. Schoettle, P.E.  
Chair  
ACEC New York's Metro Region Board



Ray Daddazio, P.E.  
Chair  
ACEC New York City 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.