



*American Council of Engineering Companies of New York*

January 19, 2024

Dear Member:

As we embark on the new year, the consulting engineering industry has a lot to be thankful for. Business is strong in many markets that ACEC New York's member firms operate in. On the heels of funding commitments made by the government, and considering the pressing sustainability, resiliency, and other needs in the built environment, our industry is busy. And at the city level, there is a commitment to improve the processes of government to move projects faster.

At the same time, there are many serious challenges facing our firms. There is a nationwide shortage of Professional Engineers; our workforce is incredibly tight and competitive; we are asked by clients to do more with less; inflation is escalating costs; real estate clients are impacted by changing building use patterns, high interest rates, and other factors; the wider economic outlook is uncertain; and in the Metro Region, the public sector's resources are stretched thin by the ongoing migrant crisis.

In this context, the present time is one for us to capitalize on the opportunities before us, and to work together through our business association, ACEC New York, to find solutions to the common challenges we face. To do so, it is critical we remain engaged with New York City's policymakers including the Mayor's Office, City Comptroller, City Council, and the Borough Presidents.

These officials play a central role in forming the city's municipal budget, identifying funding priorities, amending Building Codes, conducting oversight of procurement and the capital agencies, and enacting laws that regulate the business environment.

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

In 2024, the NYC PAC will advocate with policymakers to advance priorities including:

- **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 projects;
- **Strong Capital Funding;**

- **Progressive Design-Build authorization for city agencies;**
- **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 Bill Murray, Vice President of the Metro Region, 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.