

June 19, 2017

Dear Majority Leader Flanagan, Speaker Heastie and Leader Klein:

As this year's legislative session concludes, we write you in strong support of design-build authorization for New York City. We are part of a wide cross section of business and labor leaders who support the utilization of design-build and the passage of legislation sponsored by Assemblyman Benedetto and Senators Lanza and Golden (A.8134/S.6427) before the end of session. It is a top priority for the member companies of the Building Congress and the Partnership for New York City.

This bill would authorize a design-build pilot for eight critical projects. Design-build will enable New York City to generate cost-savings, reinvest taxpayer funds into infrastructure, and deliver high-quality, on-time projects. These projects are vital, not just to the city's economy but also to the region. New York City has a pipeline of projects that are needed and ready to use design-build. A city is only as great as its basic infrastructure and New York City is far behind other global cities. Currently, New York City needs to spend \$45 billion over the next five years on infrastructure repairs and upgrades. These fixes cannot wait; transportation delays cost the city's economy millions of dollars an hour.

The city is committed to developing strategies for implementing design-build in consultation with relevant stakeholders. In fact, the city's proposal incorporates industry standards and best practices gleaned from the use of design-build by the federal government and 41 states.

The city's proposal is common sense, has bipartisan support throughout both houses of the legislature and should pass without delay. It's time for New York City to catch up to the rest of the country. Moreover, the anticipated \$1 trillion federal plan to rebuild our nation's infrastructure will be geared towards states and municipalities that are able to build better, faster and cheaper; lack of design-build authority for New York City hinders the city's ability to be competitive. Our infrastructure needs are immense and design-build will help the city significantly expedite project delivery on major projects, including the rehabilitation of the Brooklyn-Queens Expressway Triple Cantilever and the construction of the NYPD training facility at Rodman's Neck.

We respectfully request that the state Legislature authorize design-build for New York City.

Sincerely,

Michael L. Corbat, Chief Executive Officer, Citigroup Inc. and Co-Chair, Partnership for New York City

Kathryn S. Wylde, President & CEO, Partnership for New York City

Richard Cavallaro, President & CEO of Skanska USA Civil, Chairman, New York Building Congress

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