



Testimony of
The American Council of Engineering Companies of New York
Regarding the Executive Budget – Committee on Housing and Buildings
March 15, 2017

The American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) is the voice of the professional engineering community, representing over 280 member firms throughout New York State that collectively employ close to 24,000 people statewide, with a concentrated presence of firms located within the five boroughs of New York City. Of our total member firms, 50 are MWBE firms registered with the Department of Small Business Services. Our members are involved in all aspects of engineering for the public sector. We plan and design the structural, mechanical, electrical, civil, environmental, plumbing, fire protection and technology systems for the city's infrastructure, including transportation, energy, and wastewater treatment facilities, as well as public buildings. Our members are also involved in a host of planning, resiliency and environmental issues.

Since its founding in 1921, ACEC New York has served as a source of ideas, a sounding board and a professional resource for state and city leaders, including the Department of Buildings. ACEC weighs in on many important issues of our day, from infrastructure investment, efficient energy policy and alternative delivery systems to improving procurement practices. ACEC has volunteer code committees made up of professional members that work with the Department of Buildings providing engineering expertise when developing code and policy for the City. ACEC has prepared a series of recommendations on improving DOB that have been reviewed by the agency at the highest level and are being incorporated to a large extent into the agency's own reform efforts, which revolve around technology, transparency, and integrity, all to enhance efficiency and most importantly, safety. To that end, we support full funding for the departments modernization.

We appreciate the work that you and all of the Members of the Council do to improve New York every day and look forward to continuing to work with you on these important issues.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak before you today.