

Chairman
MILO E. RIVERSO*

Vice Chairmen
LOUIS J. COLETTI*
RALPH J. ESPOSITO*
CARL GALIOTO*
MAUREEN A. HENEGAN*
CYRUS J. IZZO*
GREGORY A. KELLY*
HENRY KUYKENDALL*
GARY LaBARBERA*
JILL N. LERNER*
MITCHEL W. SIMPLER*

President & CEO
CARLO A. SCISSURA*

Treasurer
SABRINA KANNER *

Secretary
JOSEPH G. MIZZI*

General Counsel
MICHAEL S. ZETLIN*

Past Chairman
RICHARD CAVALLARO*

Directors

HUSAM AHMAD
JOSEPH J. ALIOTTA
VINCENT ALVAREZ
JAMES G. BACH
AINE M. BRAZIL
LYNNE P. BROWN
PETER CAFIERO
ANDREW CATAPANO
VICTORIA J. CERAMI
EDWIN CHRISTIAN
CHERYL MCKISSACK DANIEL
WILLIAM J. GILBANE III
JOHN J. GILBERT III
DAVID M. GREENBERG
SHARON GREENBERGER
SUSAN L. HAYES
JOSEPH A. IENUSO
MARIAN KLEIN FELDT
CHRISTOPHER LARSEN
GEORGE E. LEVENTIS
JEFFREY E. LEVINE
ANTHONY E. MANN
ANTHONY MANNARINO
PETER A. MARCHETTO
CHRIS MCCARTIN
CHARLES F. MURPHY
MYSORE L. NAGARAJA
TERRENCE E. O'NEAL
RAYMOND M. POCINO
JOHN F. POWERS
TODD RECHLER
FRANCES A. RESHESKE
JONATHAN D. RESNICK*
LAWRENCE P. ROMAN
MICHAEL F. RUSSO
ANTHONY P. SCHIRRIPIA
SCOTT SELTZ
VICKI MATCH SUNA
MICHAEL J. SWEENEY
MATTHEW VAN BUREN
ELISE WAGNER
CHRISTOPHER O. WARD
IRIS WEINSHALL
ELI ZAMEK

**Executive Committee Member*

DIRECTORS EMERITI

RICHARD T. ANDERSON
RAYMOND P. DADDAZIO
PETER L. DICAPUA
JOHN M. DIONISIO
MARY-JEAN EASTMAN
PETER GOETZ
STUART E. GRAHAM
RICHARD SETH HAYDEN
JOHN F. HENNESSY III
THOMAS IOVINO
LEEVI KIL
HERBERT K. KOENIG
JEFFREY M. LEVY
JOHN V. MAGLIANO
WILLIAM A. MARINO
GERARD A. NEUMANN
ROBERT S. PECKAR
THOMAS Z. SCARANGELLO
FRANK J. SCIAME
ROBERT E. SELSAM
DOMINICK M. SERVEDIO
MARILYN JORDAN TAYLOR
DANIEL R. TISHMAN
RICHARD L. TOMASETTI



March 9, 2018

The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo
Governor of New York State
Executive Chamber
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

RE: NYS Executive Budget: Transportation and Economic Development - Article VII Legislation (Part Q)

Dear Governor Cuomo:

The New York Building Congress is a membership coalition composed of more than 550 constituent organizations in the design, construction and real estate industry, employing over 300,000 tradespeople and professionals in the New York region. We urge you to reconsider language in the State Budget Article VII bill which seeks to broaden mandates for MWBE participation on State projects.

Consistent with our mission of building a better New York, the Building Congress has long supported efforts to grow minority/women owned businesses. Through membership events, industry research, and support of workforce development programs, the Building Congress seeks to provide opportunities to promote the growth of MWBE firms and a diverse workforce.

However, the changes proposed in the Executive Budget, Transportation and Economic Development - Article VII Legislation (Part Q) could actually deter broad industry participation. Minority and women owned business participation could actually be discouraged by the punitive approach taken in this bill. We therefore urge this language be removed from the budget so that a more robust policy discussion can be had outside the abbreviated timeframe of the budget process.

It's critical that a healthy dialogue take place between key stakeholders to address these critical issues and increase participation of MWBE firms on State construction projects. It is my hope the Building Congress and our members will contribute to that dialogue and help achieve our shared goals.

The Building Congress strongly supports strengthening programs that develop MWBE firms, allowing them to thrive in this robust but competitive construction market. However, we ask that this effort take place outside of the State Budget process, to ensure a deliberative and lasting solution that increases MWBE participation without unfairly penalizing contractors.

Very Truly Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carlo Scissura', written in a cursive style.

Carlo A. Scissura, Esq.
President and CEO
New York Building Congress

CAS/jp