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Scissura gets set for new job at NY Building Congress

His agenda includes helping construction industry grow



Outgoing President Carlo Scissura (front row, center) is shown on the steps inside the State Legislature building during a trip to Albany earlier this year with Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce members. Eagle file photo by Paula Katinas

By Paula Katinas

Carlo Scissura, who announced last week that he is leaving the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce to become president and CEO of the New York Building Congress, said he is looking forward to his new job for many reasons — not the least of which is the fact that he admires the role the construction industry plays in the life of the city.

“The building community is at the center of many of the successes New York has experienced, and it is a driving force behind job creation and a strong economy,” Scissura said in a statement.

Scussura, a Bay Ridge resident who served as president and CEO of the Brooklyn Chamber of Commerce for four years before being tapped for the New York Building Congress post, is already setting goals for his new job.

“As president and CEO, I will work tirelessly to meet the needs of our membership, both private and public, assist in the continued growth of the construction industry and ensure that the Building Congress remains at the forefront of economic development, policy and legislation in New York and beyond,” he stated. “This organization and its members build New York, from public infrastructure to universities, hospitals and residential and commercial structures, and we will work together to guarantee that all communities benefit from and are a part of the great work of the Building Congress.”

Scissura will start his new job on Jan. 9.

The New York Building Congress is a coalition of business, labor, association and government organizations that promotes the design, construction and real estate industries in New York City.

Scissura will succeed Richard T. Anderson, who served as president of the New York Building Congress for 23 years. Anderson has been named president emeritus of the organization.

“Succeeding Dick Anderson, who has been the face of the New York Building Congress for more than two decades, is certainly going to be a challenge but we are certain that Carlo Scissura is the ideal person to take on this role,” said New York Building Congress Chairman Richard Cavallaro. “A veteran of both the public and private sectors, Carlo has devoted his career to spurring economic growth and development in New York City, and his home borough of Brooklyn in particular.”

Prior to joining the chamber, Scissura served as chief of staff for Marty Markowitz, when Markowitz was Brooklyn borough president. During his tenure, Scissura focused on restructuring operations at Borough Hall and driving Brooklyn’s economic development agenda.

He was also a member of several public and private boards in New York, including the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the Brooklyn Navy Yard Development Corporation and the Brooklyn Public Library.

His first foray into public life took place in 1999, when he ran for a seat on Community School Board 20 in the Bay Ridge-Dyker Heights area. After community school boards were abolished, he was appointed to the Community Education Council of District 20 by Markowitz, serving as president and chairman of the Legislative Committee.

Scissura is currently the president of the Federation of Italian-American Organizations and is spearheaded the building of the new Italian community center in Bensonhurst.