



AIA New York Political Action Fund 2021 NYC Candidate Questionnaire

The American Institute of Architects New York (AIANY) is a professional association for New York City's architects and related professionals. Our over 5,500 members include private and public sector architects, firm owners and employees, academics, code consultants, architecture students, and others.

We advocate for a political environment favorable to progressive design solutions for the issues facing NYC's built environment. More information about our advocacy efforts and public positions is available [through our website](#). This questionnaire will assist our members in understanding which candidates are supportive of architects and design.

The American Institute of Architects

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Instructions: Please email back the answers to the below questions in a Word document or PDF. Answers should be no more than 100 words. These should be **emailed to Adam Roberts, Director of Policy, at aroberts@aiany.org**. Answers are **due no later than November 13, 2020**.

Candidates will be assigned a percentage-based rating based on the answers to these questions. To clarify, this is not an endorsement, as multiple candidates in a race may receive the same rating. Candidates who score highly may receive the following benefits:

- Graphic indicating the percentage rating they received, which can be used for campaign purposes.
- AIANY members will be notified of ratings of candidates running in their districts, boroughs, and citywide.
- Financial contributions may also be sent to candidates who score highly.

Any questions regarding the questionnaire should be sent to Adam Roberts, Director of Policy, at aroberts@aiany.org or 212-358-6116.

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Regina Myer
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Adam Roberts
Director of Policy
Ayo Yusuf, AIA
Committee Member

Please email back the below questions along with their answers:



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Candidate Name:

Office:

District:

Political Party:

Point of Contact Name, Cell Phone, and Email:

1. The City is facing budget challenges due to the current crisis. What are your top priority areas that must remain well funded? Do you see any implications for architecture and the built environment within these priorities?
2. How will you support the development of affordable housing in the city? What are your thoughts on allowing for greater housing and population density in your district to increase the amount of affordable housing available?
3. Legally, the City is required to provide shelter for all New Yorkers. What more can it do to provide decent living conditions for the homeless?
4. The COVID-19 crisis brought to light architectural issues faced by economically distressed New Yorkers, including overcrowded apartments and a lack of access to public space. How should the public sector and the private sector respond to these inequities?
5. How would you address neighborhood and borough inequity regarding funding for public works and public space?
6. How would you increase the amount of buildings complying with Local Law 97 of 2019, the “Climate Mobilization Act”?
7. Right now, New York State funds most mass transit operations and capital projects. What level of funding do you think the City should be providing to these projects?
8. Would you support the elimination of the City’s use of “low-bid” procurement for services, including for design work? Would you support giving the qualifications of the bidder equal or greater weight than price when the City is considering a bid?
9. Agencies at the city, state, and federal level are increasingly using design-build for capital projects. While design-build can lead to faster construction, it also places architects under the supervision of general contractors, instead of reporting directly to the agencies. What do you think the implications of this may be for the quality of work performed and would you support changing the way in which New York City utilizes design-build?
10. What can the City do to encourage greater participation of minority and women owned businesses (MWBs) in design and construction of public works?