

Queens Chapter

New York State Society of Professional Engineers

The Drawingboard

March 2011

Volume 11, Number 3

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President's Message

By [George Tavoulaareas, P.E.](#)
President
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Several weeks ago I attended a MCPC meeting with the other Borough Chapter Presidents. Past presidents **Chris Petallides**, PE and **Brian Flynn**, PE also attended the meeting. At the meeting we discussed ways to increase membership, ECB violations to professionals and the DOB expeditors. I will discuss these issues at our next general membership meeting which is this Thursday, March 24, 2011 at 6:30pm in Ft. Totten.

Rules Governing the City of New York

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/html/proposed/proposed.shtml>

Several new proposed rules can be viewed at the above address:

1. Energy Code changes:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/downloads/rules/Pdobcc02-25-11a.pdf> this includes info on filing representatives and inspections.

2. Energy Benchmarking:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/downloads/rules/Pdobcc02-14-11a.pdf> this establishes the requirements for bldg owners to evaluate their energy use and report it to NYC

3. ADOPTED Rule on Insurance requirements:

<http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycrules/downloads/rules/Fdobcc02-24-11a.pdf>

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4. City Council Intro 460 regarding changes to the noise code:

<http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/LegislationDetail.aspx?ID=828464&GUID=D0D704C1-C007-466A-910F-A057A576B0DF&Options=ID|Text|&Search=>

Next Meeting

The next general membership meeting will be held on Thursday, March 24, 2011 at 6:30PM.

There is a \$10 charge to attend the meeting if you're an NSPE member and \$40 if you are not a member.

Sponsor: ASSAABLOY Door Security Solutions

Learning Objectives: After completion of this course, participants will be able to:

- 1) Understand the importance of energy efficiency in door openings
- 2) Know the difference between Calculated and Operable R and U factors for optimal door opening energy efficiency
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Letter from the DEP Commissioner

From: Robert LiMandri
Subject: Amer Retirement
Date: Friday, March 18, 2011, 1:11 PM

Please join me in wishing First Deputy Commissioner **Fatma M. Amer** well as she retires from nearly 30 years of dedicated service to the Department of Buildings and New York City . With her vast knowledge of building regulations and unwavering commitment to public service, Fatma is a one-of-a-kind leader who has truly shaped the landscape of this great City, raised safety standards throughout the construction industry and left a mark on this Department that will last for generations to come. She has mentored hundreds of employees, and her willingness to teach, consult and listen has earned her the admiration of leaders throughout City government and the construction industry.

Her distinguished career with the Department first began in 1981 as a plan examiner in the Manhattan Borough Office, and she rose steadily through the ranks, elevated to the titles of Chief Plan Examiner, Deputy Borough Commissioner , Executive

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Engineer and Deputy Commissioner . In October 2008, I was honored to appoint her First Deputy Commissioner .

Throughout her career, Fatma never shied away from new challenges. She led the enormous task of revising the NYC Construction Codes for the first time in 40 years, created a task force to streamline zoning decisions and helped steer the Department as we faced intense public scrutiny in recent years.

Her groundbreaking work has truly made this Department a better place, and she will be sorely missed.

I welcome you to join my senior staff and me as we wish her luck in her new endeavors. Details regarding her farewell celebration will be released shortly.

Effective April 15, **Thomas Fariello** , R.A., will be serving as Acting First Deputy Commissioner . Tom has 25 years of valuable experience in the construction and design field and became a licensed professional in 1993. In his career, he has served as a Senior Associate at the Rice Partnership in Manhasset , NY , and a Plan Examiner at the City's School Construction Authority before joining the Department in 2003. Since then, he has served as a Deputy Borough Commissioner in Brooklyn and Borough Commissioner in the Bronx . He currently serves as Brooklyn Borough Commissioner .

In addition, Deputy Brooklyn Borough Commissioner **John Gallagher**, R.A., will serve as Acting Brooklyn Borough Commissioner , and **Frank Marchiano** , Director of Professional Certification and Audits Inspections, will serve as Deputy Borough Commissioner . John has nearly 40 years of experience as a licensed professional and joined the Department in 2003. Frank has more than 15 years of experience in the construction and design field and joined the Department in 2004. The Special Enforcement Program – Professional Certification Audits and Inspections Unit will now report directly to Queens Borough Commissioner **Ira Gluckman** .

Please join me in giving Tom, John and Frank all of our help and support.

Thank you.

Robert D. LiMandri

Commissioner

NYC Department of Buildings

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Web Link of the Month

Amazing Buildings

<http://www.4sight-tech.com/ppt/Building.pdf>

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7. Request a review of inspection results or re-inspection as soon as possible
8. Receive explanation from inspectors (if requested) on violation details and instructions for viewing inspection results
9. Access information in languages other than English
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If you feel that the service you received is inconsistent with the above, please use the City's online feedback tool, located at www.nyc.gov/customersurvey. All comments and information submitted through the feedback tool will be kept strictly confidential and used solely to enhance business customer service.

The logo for New York City, consisting of the letters "NYC" in a bold, black, sans-serif font.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

March 10, 2011

No. 18

DEP Launches New Online Permitting Process for Plumbers

Electronic Process Means Easier Submissions, Quicker Approvals, and Improved Tracking Of Water and Sewer Permits; Fulfills Customer Service Initiative in DEP's Strategic Plan

Environmental Protection Commissioner Cas Holloway today announced the launch of a new online permitting tool for plumbers doing water and sewer repairs and replacements on private property. Previously, plumbers would have to go to at least one DEP facility to obtain a permit to perform work on water and sewer service lines of private homes and businesses. The new online process will allow licensed master plumbers to submit and obtain permits online, streamlining their work and saving them multiple visits to city agency offices. Not only will the new system simplify customer interactions with DEP for plumbers who seek permits on behalf of homeowners, developers, and business owners, it will also allow plumbers to track their permitting history with DEP and better manage their active work. In 2010, DEP issued about 6,000 permits for repairs and replacements. Plumbers interested in taking advantage of the new online system can access it at www.nyc.gov/dep.

“Making it easier to do business in New York City is a key goal of NYC Simplicity,” said Deputy Mayor for Operations Stephen Goldsmith. “By streamlining the regulatory requirements for licensed plumbers, DEP has made an important contribution to our citywide reform efforts.”

“Improving business interactions with the city and simplifying the permitting process are top priorities for Mayor Bloomberg,” said Commissioner Holloway. “Now, plumbers can save the time and hassle of coming to a DEP office—or paying someone to come for them—and more time helping the city to grow and thrive. Online permitting will eliminate substantial transaction costs for plumbers, homeowners, and developers, and improve DEP’s ability to oversee the permitting process by increasing our ability to track work going on throughout the city. Like the recently announced Leak Notification Program, this is an example of using technology to improve customer service—a major component of our strategic plan.”

“We are excited as the Department rolls out their electronic filing initiative and optimistically await its evolution to many other permit activities affecting our membership and their interaction with the Department,” said Janene Meyerowitz, Executive Director of the Master Plumbers Council. “The membership of our Association appreciates the efforts of the Department to streamline the permit process, and look forward to additional enhancements. We also take this opportunity to emphasize our Associations’ commitment to continuing our participation with the Department, sharing our expertise, assisting with training programs, and other cooperative programs with the same common goals of protecting the water supply system of the City of New York.”

“The Plumbing Foundation is pleased that the DEP is moving forward with the process of

allowing licensed master plumbers to obtain permits online (if only for limited services at this time) with its Water and Sewer Online Permitting System,” said Terence O’Brien, Deputy Director of The Plumbing Foundation City of New York. “We think that utilizing technology benefits both the DEP and all the New York City licensed master plumbers. We applaud DEP for its forward thinking and look forward to our continued strong relationship with the agency.”

DEP issues approximately 76,000 total permits, certifications and registrations each year, including ones for plumbing, boilers, asbestos work and demolition. To improve interactions with the professional communities like plumbers, engineers, construction companies, and developers that rely on DEP for their work, DEP is restructuring and improving customer service by simplifying permitting, clarifying requirements and regulations, and increasing outreach. In 2010, of the more than 16,000 water and sewer system permits that DEP issued, about 6,000 of them are for repairs and replacements. The majority of the rest of the permits were for new service line connections. Property owners in New York City are responsible for maintaining their own water service and sewer service lines, which run from inside the property to the water main or city sewer in the street.

Only master plumbers licensed by the New York City Department of Buildings are permitted to perform sub-surface work and repair service lines. The four online applications in the Water and Sewer Permitting System are In-kind Repair of Water Service Line Connections, In-kind Repair of Sewer Service Line Connections, In-kind Relay of Water Service Line Connections, and In-kind Relay of Sewer Service Line Connections. To use the system, licensed master plumbers must first register in person with DEP. Registration includes completing an authentication form that is sealed by the licensed master plumber and signed by a Notary Public, and requires having an email account.

The Water and Sewer Permitting System enables applicants to submit electronic permit applications and receive electronic permits. Permit applications submitted via the new permitting system will result in a work permit that can be downloaded and printed. Applicants are also able to monitor and manage their permit applications conveniently after logging onto the website. The system also provides instantaneous notice by e-mail to applicants about the status of the permit application, that it has been filed, and that the review has been completed by DEP.

The new system will save plumbers the cost of travelling to and from the borough offices and reduce the time waiting for approvals. Previously, a plumber had to visit the Records/Permitting Borough office in the borough which the work was to be completed to get the application for the work approved by DEP. If approved, the plumber then went to the Customer Service Borough office, which is co-located in the same building only in the Bronx and in Brooklyn. After a review of account information and accuracy, a permit was printed and given to the plumber. A plumber doing work around the city needed to make multiple trips to different boroughs and to two different DEP offices within each borough. Additionally, if a plumber needed another copy of the permit, it required returning to the borough office to get a duplicate printed out. The new online permitting eliminates the multiple trips to different boroughs and to different DEP offices to get the permit, and to get any copies, if needed. Plumbers will still have the option to visit borough offices if they choose not to use the online application.

The new process is one of the goals outlined in *Strategy 2011-2014*, a far-reaching strategic plan that lays out 100 distinct initiatives to make DEP the safest, most efficient, cost-

effective, and transparent water utility in the nation. The new plan, the product of nearly one year of analysis and outreach, builds on *PlaNYC*, Mayor Bloomberg's sustainability blueprint for New York City. The plan is available on DEP's website at www.nyc.gov/dep.

DEP manages the city's water supply, providing more than 1 billion gallons of water each day to more than nine million residents, including eight million in New York City and residents of Ulster, Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties. New York City's water is delivered from a watershed that extends more than 125 miles from the city, and comprises 19 reservoirs, and three controlled lakes. Approximately 7,000 miles of water mains, tunnels and aqueducts bring water to homes and businesses throughout the five boroughs, and 7,400 miles of sewer lines take wastewater to 14 in-city treatment plants. Approximately 1,000 DEP employees live and work in the watershed communities. For more information, visit www.nyc.gov/dep or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/nycwater.

Contact: Farrell Sklerov / Angel Román (718) 595-6600



SEARCH BUILDINGS

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HOME

CONSTRUCTION SAFETY WEEK

ABOUT THE BUILDINGS DEPT

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CONSTRUCTION SAFETY WEEK

April 25 – 29, 2011

Schedule of Events

Monday, April 25

Build Safe / Live Safe: An Inside Look at NYC Construction Trends
9:00am to 1:00pm
NYU Rosenthal Pavilion
60 Washington Square South
New York, NY

Program Topics

Preventing Accidents in NYC
Safety Innovations at NYC's Largest Projects
New Concrete Requirements
Safe Demolition Operations
Safe Scaffold Operations
Community Partnerships

Lunch will be served at this event

Registration is required for this event. To register, please visit the link below:
www.ovationtix.com/trs/pe/8914055

Tuesday, April 26

Construction Site Visit
TBA

Wednesday, April 27

Tenants & Homeowners Night:
Annual Boiler Inspections & Resolving ECB Violations
5:00pm to 7:00pm
280 Broadway, 3rd Floor Conference Room
New York, NY

Thursday, April 28

Worker Memorial Mass
2:45pm

TRANSLATE THIS PAGE

Adobe Acrobat Reader
(required to view PDFs)

Construction Safety Week

St. Patrick's Cathedral
460 Fifth Avenue
New York, NY

Illegal Conversion Flyer Distribution
TBA

Friday, April 29

Professional Seminar: Urban Construction Challenges
1:00pm to 2:00pm
280 Broadway, 6th Floor Training Room
New York, NY

Professional Seminar: Benchmarking & Sustainability in NYC
2:15pm to 3:15pm
280 Broadway, 6th Floor Training Room
New York, NY

Professional Seminar: Safety Design in High-Rise Construction
3:30pm to 4:30pm
280 Broadway, 6th Floor Training Room
New York, NY

AIA credit is available for all three seminars.

Registration is required to attend the seminars. To register, please send an email with your name & the title of the seminar you want to attend to:
safetyweek@buildings.nyc.gov

 [VIEW SITE MAP](#)

Be An Engineer!



Sunday, April 3rd, 2011

White Plains High School

550 North Street, White Plains, NY 10605

11:00 am – 4:00 pm

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displays of interactive exhibits focusing on engineering and higher learning opportunities to help you meet the challenges of today's economic uncertainties.

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From: syee@nydailynews.com [mailto:syee@nydailynews.com]
Sent: Wednesday, March 09, 2011 10:40 AM
To: gltp@msn.com
Subject: Be a part of Queens Week--coming May 2011

The NY Daily News is proud to partner with the Queens Borough President, the Queens Chamber of Commerce and the Queens Economic Development Corporation to present the official guide to QUEENS WEEK.

Queens Week is a collection of events throughout the borough, starting with the QEDC's Taste of Queens on May 10th and ending with the Queens Chamber's Trade show on May 24th, that highlight and celebrate the diversity and energy that makes Queens great.

We are looking to the business leaders of Queens for their support in this section as we give Queens the recognition it so rightly deserves

QUEENS WEEK 2011

Don't miss this section targeting—and celebrating—Queens

Be a part of the official guide to the Queens Week celebration

The #1 newspaper in Queens is the #1 way to get your message heard.
 Connect with the 706,500 readers of the Queens/Long Island edition of the Sunday News.

The Daily News is the exclusive daily newspaper of Queens Week and will publish the official guide. The section will showcase a complete schedule of events which will include:

- **May 10**
 Queens, A Taste of the World
 Kick-off event: The borough's best restaurants gather at CitiField

FW: Be a part of Queens Week--comin...
for a foodie's delight. Visitors enjoy sampling food and drinks from
Queen's renowned international establishments.

- **May 11– May 23**
Queens Cultural and Entertainment Activities and Attractions.
- **May 24**
Queens Chamber of Commerce Trade Show
Closing event: Entrepreneurs and small business owners
will benefit from the counseling, workshops, training sessions,
and networking opportunities.

**Mechanical requirements
and closing dates**

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Quarter Page	4.313" w x 5.6875" h

Reservations Close: Friday, April 22, 2011

Materials Due: Tuesday, May 3, 2011

Don't miss this great opportunity.

For more information, contact:

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Sources: Scarborough Research, New York Market, R2

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