

PANELISTS



Alexandra Gellman, Esq.

*Senior Counsel
AECOM Tishman*

Alex joined AECOM Tishman in 2014 and currently serves as Senior Counsel. She has represented the company on over \$8 billion of its work in New York City and spanning the United States, including some of NYC's most iconic projects such as One Vanderbilt, Hudson Yards, Manhattan West and projects at the World Trade Center. She acts as a trusted resource to AECOM Tishman's project teams, with her main responsibilities including drafting and negotiating contracts with owners and trade contractors, evaluating project risk and strategizing deal terms, and monitoring projects throughout their lifecycle in order to anticipate and evaluate potential issues.

Prior to her current role, she worked for several real estate developers and management companies in New York. It was this real estate background – along with her passion for architecture and design – that led her to pursue a career in the construction industry.

Alex has a B.A. in communications from the University of Arizona and a J.D. from New York Law School. She is on the young leader's board of the Building Trades Employers' Association and the Citizens Budget Commission of New York City and was a mentor in Legal Outreach program in 2014-2018. She earned an outstanding woman award from Women Builders Council, and one of ENR's top 20 under 40 in 2018.



Todd Mayo

*Regional Manager
Capital Project Management Inc*

Todd Mayo is a construction consultant with Capital Project Management Inc. providing claims analysis and expert witness testimony. He has over 20 years' experience in the construction industry including management positions on numerous megaprojects and as an executive at a large union trade contractor. His experience spans numerous sectors including high-rise, rail, airport, highway, bridge, tunnel, residential and interiors construction. He has substantial experience in construction management, contract and commercial management, operations, scheduling, as well as claims and disputes for troubled projects on behalf of both owners and contractors. He is a member of the Construction Management Association of America and American Society of Civil Engineers. Project highlights include the World Trade Center Reconstruction Program, East Side Access, Hudson Yards and LaGuardia Airport.



Sarah Sparer, Esq.

Associate General Counsel
SOM

Associate General Counsel for Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM). SOM one of the largest and most influential architecture, interior design, engineering, and urban planning firms in the world. Founded in 1936, they have completed more than 10,000 projects across 50-plus countries. They are renowned for their iconic buildings and their steadfast commitment to design excellence, innovation, and sustainability. The firm maintains offices in Chicago, New York, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Washington D.C., London, Hong Kong, Shanghai, Mumbai and Abu Dhabi.

As Associate General Counsel, Sarah provides legal, commercial and risk management advice to the senior leaders of SOM on all areas of managing an international professional design services firm. Sarah's work includes negotiation of design services and commercial agreements, counseling on international incorporation, intellectual property, licensing, risk management, compliance, data privacy and training staff on risk avoidance. Prior to joining SOM, Sarah worked as an Associate at the boutique construction law firm, Quinn, McCabe LLP where she represented real estate development and construction industry clients, including developers, design professionals, contractors, suppliers and property owners in both litigation and transactional matters.

Sarah is a graduate of Brooklyn Law School (2012) and the University of Michigan (2008), a member of the New York City Bar Association Construction Law Committee and also serves as a Chair of the Design and Construction Committee for UJA.



Robin Zeidel

President
Zeidel & Associates P.C.

Robin Zeidel is the founder and president of Zeidel & Associates P.C. She handles a wide spectrum of transactional legal work, with a particular focus on real estate, development, operations and hospitality, including architecture and construction projects of all kinds. She has extensive experience in the hospitality sector and has handled numerous transactions involving hotels, resorts, bars, restaurants and spas on behalf of both owners and operators. Ms. Zeidel is a member of the Academy of Hospitality Industry Attorneys, the International Council of Shopping Centers, the American Bar Association, the New York State Bar Association and the Westchester County Bar Association. She has received an AV Preeminent® Peer Review Rating™ from Martindale-Hubbell®.

Prior to founding the firm in 2010, Ms. Zeidel held the position of Assistant General Counsel at Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. During her tenure at Starwood, Ms. Zeidel was appointed to the Steering Committee of the Association of Corporate Counsel's Real Estate Committee. Ms. Zeidel began her legal career at Strock & Strock & Lavan's New York office, and practiced real estate there and at other preeminent New York City firms, representing owners, developers, retailers, office tenants, lenders and borrowers in a broad variety of transactions. Ms. Zeidel graduated magna cum laude from Brooklyn Law School and obtained her B.A. from Vassar College. She lives in Westchester County, New York, with her husband and two children.