

## Voters on Charter Revision Should Note Chapter Input

In voting for or against the various charter revision propositions on Election Day, certain New York Chapter contributions should be kept in mind.

**Proposition Two**, Management Reforms, contains a section on the Comptroller which includes two provisions for which the Chapter, together with the Consulting Engineers, has been fighting for years, and which were strongly recommended to the Charter Revision Commission at its hearings. Quoting from the Commissioner's Final Report:

- The Comptroller may provide for the submission of disputes arising under contracts to impartial arbitration.
- The Comptroller shall be prohibited from revising the terms of a contract with the City after its execution.

**Proposition Four**, Planning Reforms, includes a provision concerning the granting of variances by the Board of Standards and Appeals which is of great importance to architects: "The Board of Estimate shall have discretionary authority to review a decision of the Board of Standards and Appeals to determine compliance with the requirements of the zoning resolution . . ." At present the Board's decision on hardship variances can be appealed only through the courts.

If Proposition Four passes, the Board of Estimate could hold public hearings at which interested parties could be heard. Another provision in Proposition Four would require the Board of Standards and Appeals to include detailed findings in its decisions on hardship variances.

The above items should weigh heavily in assessing how to vote on Propositions Two and Four.  
*GL*

## West Side Highway Events in Summary

There has been much controversy over the development of the new West Side Highway. A summary report has been prepared by Henry Whitney, Chairman of the Chapter's Urban Planning Commission, entitled "The West Side Highway - Desecration of The Environment Or Unique Environmental Opportunity?"

The informative report summarizes and provides an excellent overall view of the pro's and con's of the development of the West Side Highway plan, the Chapter's recommendations and events that have occurred since the plan's inception.

The report is available at Chapter Headquarters.

*MJC*

## Chapter Library Has Aids to Practitioners

The Chapter's library contains reference material of importance to the practitioner, and members are welcome to utilize the material.

Some of the sources, in addition to those on technology and history, are as follows:

- NYC Zoning Resolutions, updated.
- NYC Building Code.
- NYC Fire Prevention Code.
- BOCA (Building Officials and Code Administrators) Code, 1975.
- Guidelines for Improving Practice: Architects & Engineers Professional Liability, updated; Schinnerer.
- OSHA material.
- Commerce Business Daily.
- Research material, including: Industrialization Forum: Building Systems Construction Analysis Research, updated; and others.
- Most AIA publications, including Task Force Reports, such as Design-Build Bid, Into The Mainstream (A Syllabus for a Barrier-Free Environment), and Compensation Management Guidelines for Architectural Services.
- Current and back issues of the following magazines, indexed: AIA Journal, Architecture Plus, Architectural Record, Architectural Forum, Progressive Architecture, Interiors, Engineering-News Record, Building Design & Environment.

Any material may be looked at in the Chapter office, but cannot be taken out.  
*RS*

## Executive Committee Actions

October 1, 1975

- Resolved to support the candidacy of Kenneth Klindtworth to succeed, Herbert Epstein as one of the three AIA Board members for the New York Region.
- Reviewed the discussion at the September 25 chapter meeting on suggested changes in the Standards of Ethical Practice.
- Resolved to resubmit to the Institute a proposal to add to the Standards of Ethical Practice a paragraph concerning employer-employee relations; the Chapter's effort last year was defeated at the Atlanta convention.

## Welcome to New Members

The NYC/AIA welcomes the following members:

### Corporate

Arthur Saul DeBow

### Associate

Harold Collins (AIA)

## Candidates for Membership

Information received by the Secretary of the NYC/AIA regarding the qualifications of candidates for membership will be considered confidential:

### Corporate

James Frederick Horner  
Kenneth Shih-Hai King  
Helen Kontogianis  
Kenneth T. Lydon  
Alexander Purves  
Richard M. Rosan  
James Trunzo  
Peter Woll

### Associate

Joseph Patrick Bresnan  
Samuel M. Klepner  
Andrew R. Wojtas  
Maxine Weill Wojtas

## Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactors — Why?

After extensive discussion, the Executive Committee has adopted a position paper prepared by the Natural Environment Committee which opposes further development of the Liquid Metal Fast Breeder Reactor as an energy source until several substantial dangers are eliminated and questions regarding its use are answered. For example:

1. The LMFBR produces large quantities of plutonium as a by-product of its operation. Plutonium, even in minute quantities, is extremely dangerous to health and safety. Its "half-life" will endure for 24,500 years!
2. Plutonium's use can be easily converted to the art of weaponry with the technology that exists today.
3. By itself, plutonium is a highly toxic, carcinogenic and mutative substance.
4. There is no acceptable means for the long-term disposal of the radioactive wastes produced by the LMFBR.
5. Vast amounts of electric energy are required for processing.
6. There has been serious scientific question of ERDA's (Energy Research and Development Agency) environmental impact statement for the proposed LMFBR site at Clinch River, Tennessee.

Since no other energy source can be anticipated in the coming decades, (except solar, windpower and similar non-depletable sources) our projections must be related to the presently available conventional sources, thereby making the practice of energy conservation the major method for carrying us through the coming decades. The importance of the impact on the architectural profession led to the Executive Committee action.

DVR

## NYSAA Convention

The NYSAA held its annual convention at Grossinger's, New York - October 8 thru 10. The poor attendance at the convention is a major concern to the NYSAA.

Election of officers for 75-76 was held. Congratulations to Carl Petrilli, of the New York Chapter, who was elected to serve as Vice President. An AIA Regional Director's seat, vacated by Chapter member, Herbert Epstein, FAIA, has been filled by Kenneth Klindtworth of the Staten Island Chapter.

The convention body approved two additional seats on the NYSAA Board of Directors for the New York Chapter, raising our representation to three seats on a total Board of 25. The resolution for higher representation, originally presented to NYSAA by Kurt Karmin, was approved by the Executive Committee, Board of Directors and Convention body.

The NYSAA feels strongly that an increased representation will enable the New York Chapter to become more actively involved in the affairs of the Association.

MJC

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**Executive Committee 1975/76**  
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Peter Samton, Vice President  
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