

Endorsement for Illya Azaroff, AIA By: Benjamin Prosky, Assoc. AIA Executive Director AIA New York

December 17, 2019

I am pleased to write an endorsement for architect, Illya Azaroff, AIA regarding his candidacy for a position on the New York City Panel on Climate Change. Illya is truly a leader in the field of Climate Action and Resiliency Design. Illya co-founded AIA New York's Committee on Risk and Reconstruction in 2011. He was a critical leader following Hurricane Sandy; acting swiftly in coordination with a range of experts pull the committee together to advise the design community, city agencies and citizens of New York on how to resiliently reconstruct various scales of projects in the region. It is a testament to Illya's leadership and collaboration with co-chairs and AIA members, that the committee has grown substantively and continues to be active and engaged, bridging out to deal with a range of resiliency challenges locally and beyond.

Furthermore, Illya is adept at balancing teaching, a practice and his service to the design community; all which keep him well informed and connected. He served on the AIA New York Board of Directors, where he was a trusted resource on a range of issues related to climate resiliency. In this role he often advocated for action in this arena and was able to explain to fellow board members the science and complicated models behind climate events and how design must both anticipate and respond.

Illya regularly organizes, hosts and speaks at events related to climate resiliency at AIA New York and beyond. All his experience, expert knowledge, along with his energetic and affable personality, would make him an invaluable member on the New York City Panel on Climate change.

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