Leadership Roles and Expectations Compact

A position of leadership in ULI New York is a highly-valued volunteer member contribution to the Urban Land Institute (ULI) and the New York District Council. We thank you for taking on this position. All leadership positions have a one- or two-year term, renewable through appointment by the District Council Chair.

ULI is a global organization with offices and staff across the globe and a membership of more than 45,000. This compact has been formalized by ULI New York to: acknowledge the importance of your leadership role, to support a “one ULI,” to recognize your contribution, to ensure we utilize the intellectual capital from your service, and to make sure you gain the most value from your ULI participation.

By assuming a position of leadership with ULI New York you are agreeing to:

- Maintain your ULI membership in good standing and abide by the ULI Code of Ethics (see below).
- Provide leadership in the responsible use of land to create and sustain thriving communities worldwide and in the New York-region served by ULI New York.
- Make ULI New York a high priority in order to contribute your time and expertise.
- Support the New York District Council through sponsorship and/or foster new sponsors.
- Support membership by helping to engage existing members, recruit new members, and serve as a mentor when asked and promote District Council initiatives to increase diversity and inclusion.
- Champion the ULI brand, values, and priorities in your work.
- Where possible, engage in national and global ULI activities, such as serving as a Full Member, joining a National Product Council, and participating in the Fall and/or Spring meetings.

Additionally, leaders of all Committees, Local Product Councils, Affinity Groups (NEXT, WLI, YLG), and Programs (UrbanPlan, TAPs, Mentor Program) at ULI New York are responsible for the following:

- Take responsibility for convening meetings, developing meeting agendas, and delegating assignments to the volunteer members of your Committee, Council, Affinity Group or Program.
- Regularly attend meetings. For groups that meet monthly, attend 8 out of 12 meetings; for groups that meet bi-monthly, attend 4 out of 6 meetings.
- Take responsibility for leading the development of Committee, Council, Program, Affinity Group programming (e.g., identifying and securing guest speakers, securing project tours, etc.) and ensure that it reflects the District Council’s commitment to increasing diversity and inclusion.
- Communicate directly with the volunteer members of your Committee, Council, Affinity Group or Program when delegating assignments or developing programming.
- Contribute or bring in revenues through either sponsorship or Technical Assistance Panels (TAPs) that generate revenues for the District Council, where possible.

ULI New York officers and staff are available to support your efforts and to make sure your ULI service is meaningful and matches your needs and expectations. We look forward to your leadership.

Steve A. Kohn  
Chair, ULI New York  
Vice Chairman & President  
Cushman & Wakefield  
Equity, Debt & Structured Finance

Brian Collins  
Vice Chair, ULI New York  
Executive Vice President & Director of Development  
Silverstein Properties

Bethany Logan Ropa  
Chair for Mission Advancement, ULI New York  
Managing Director in Real Estate, Lodging & Leisure  
UBS Investment Bank
ULI’s Mission
The mission of the Urban Land Institute is to provide leadership in the responsible use of land and in creating and sustaining thriving communities worldwide.

ULI is committed to:
- Bringing together leaders from across the fields of real estate and land use policy to exchange best practices and serve community needs;
- Fostering collaboration within and beyond ULI’s membership through mentoring, dialogue, and problem solving;
- Exploring issues of urbanization, conservation, regeneration, land use, capital formation, and sustainable development;
- Advancing land use policies and design practices that respect the uniqueness of both the built and natural environments;
- Sharing knowledge through education, applied research, publishing, and electronic media; and
- Sustaining a diverse global network of local practice and advisory efforts that address current and future challenges.

ULI’s Content Pillars
The ULI Content Pillars provide a bridge between our broad mission and the programs that deliver it. The Pillars represent the timeless topics or concerns of the organization, within which the program of work must fit.

Housing and Communities
This pillar is firmly grounded in the founding of the organization in 1936. References to housing products and policy, and specifically to the provision of affordable housing, are included in ULI’s Articles of Incorporation. ULI fundamentally believes that housing is a fundamental underpinning of healthy and thriving communities.

Real Estate Finance and Investment
A great deal of ULI’s value to our members and ability to meaningfully deliver our mission relates to our activities in real estate capital markets, including providing a forum for the providers and users of capital to convene. ULI’s traditional focus has been on connecting capital to real estate through the creation of value. This pillar also encompasses the market and economic factors that affect the supply and demand forces that drive land use change.

Sustainability and Economic Performance
Specifically referred to in ULI’s mission and embedded in ULI’s dedication to the creation of long-term value, sustainability is more than energy efficiency or adaptation to climate change. It encompasses environmental, social, and governance issues as they relate to efficient use of resources and creating and maintaining a sustainable and resilient built environment.

Innovation in Development Practice
ULI’s applied research and education programs are based principally on best practices, on “what works,” and the process of real estate development remains central to the mission and to our members’ activities. We foster innovation, but look to practical experience and knowledge sharing to advance the state of the art. This pillar refers primarily to activities, at various scales, that are considered site-specific. ULI traditionally takes a case study approach, using real-world examples to illustrate broadly applicable principles and practices.

Shaping Successful Cities and Regions
Site-specific development occurs within a broader physical and policy context shaped by numerous actors and decision-makers. This larger context, from neighborhood to metropolitan region, is the subject of this pillar. Here, activities and issues transcend property boundaries and encompass land use planning and development policy, infrastructure, metropolitan growth strategies, and transportation issues.
1. Respect for the Land
I know that each parcel of land is a precious, distinct, and irreplaceable portion of this distinct and irreplaceable planet. I will treat it with the respect that it deserves, recognizing that I will be judged by the integrity and permanence of my developments, which will survive my lifetime.

2. Respect for the Profession
The Urban Land Institute has pioneered many of the practices and techniques that have become the standards in the land use and development profession. I will support the profession’s continuing efforts to create a wider understanding of sound land use and development principles and practices and to disseminate knowledge thereof through its research and educational programs. I will observe the highest standards of professional conduct and will seek continually to maintain and improve my professional skills and competence.

3. Respect for the Consumer
Recognizing that a good reputation is a possession and beyond price and that the quality of my product will determine the quality of my reputation, I will strive at all times to ensure the professional quality of my enterprise.

4. Respect for the Public
I will endeavor at all times to enhance public understanding of the development process, to preserve the public’s confidence and trust in my profession, and to protect the public welfare.

5. Respect for Equality of Opportunity
I will support the private enterprise system that can provide the widest latitude of equality for opportunity, creativity, and innovation.

6. Respect for Others in the Land Use and Development Profession
I will treat others in my profession fairly and honestly. I will share with them my knowledge and experience, recognizing that both the people and the land will benefit from the dissemination of that knowledge.

7. Respect for the Larger Environment
In attempting to provide adequate staging for decent environments in which people will live, work, and play, I will be ever vigilant toward preserving the quality of the larger environment—the air, the water, and the land.

8. Respect for the Future
Recognizing that change is inevitable, I will pursue excellence with an open mind, challenged by the need to provide housing and facilities for employment, distribution, relaxation, and enjoyment.

9. Respect for Future Generations
Recognizing that younger generations will be more affected by what we do than by what we say, I will do my utmost to set a good example and will participate wholeheartedly in the development community’s efforts to inform and encourage future generations of land use and development professionals.

10. Respect for Personal Integrity
I will employ the highest ethical principles and will observe the highest standards of integrity, proficiency, and honesty in my professional and personal dealings. I will remain free of compromising influences or loyalties and will exercise due diligence in ensuring that my performance is at all times creatively, competently, and responsibly managed.