



August 18, 2026

The Honorable Mike Carey
1433 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Congressman Carey:

On behalf of the American Council of Engineering Companies – the business association of the nation’s engineering industry – I would like to express our support for the Revitalizing Downtowns and Main Streets Act (H.R. 2410).

Founded in 1906, ACEC is a national federation of 51 state and regional organizations representing more than 5,500 engineering firms and 650,000+ engineers, surveyors, architects, and other specialists nationwide. ACEC member firms drive the design of America’s infrastructure and built environment.

By providing federal tax incentives to convert vacant and underused commercial properties into housing, the legislation you and Congressman Gomez introduced will revitalize downtowns while addressing housing affordability. H.R. 2410 will help people like teachers and firefighters be able to afford a home in the towns and cities they serve.

Converting commercial properties into housing can increase foot traffic, support local businesses, strengthen municipal tax bases, and make better use of existing infrastructure. This type of project can also help communities reinvest in established neighborhoods rather than extending development farther from existing services and infrastructure, creating more vibrant, walkable, and economically resilient downtowns and commercial districts.

Engineering firms are here to help. Commercial-to-residential conversion projects often require extensive site evaluation, utility upgrades, transportation improvements, stormwater management solutions, structural modifications, surveying, environmental services, and coordination with public infrastructure systems. Engineering firms play a critical role in planning, designing, and delivering the infrastructure improvements needed to support new housing and economic activity.

On behalf of the nation’s engineering industry, thank you for your efforts to revitalize downtowns and advance affordable housing solutions. Please let us know how we can assist in this matter.

Sincerely,

Linda Bauer Darr
President & CEO