

BUILDING THE FUTURE AWARD

NYC BOROUGH-BASED JAILS PROGRAM

Accepted by

NYC DEPARTMENT OF DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION AND PROJECT TEAMS

The New York City Borough-Based Jails Program represents a transformative investment in the City's future—reimagining how civic infrastructure can support justice, safety, and community well-being. Designed to replace the long-standing Rikers Island complex, the program establishes a modern, borough-based system that is more humane, accessible, and integrated into the neighborhoods it serves.

Spanning four new facilities in Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, and the Bronx, the program reflects a commitment to dignity-centered design, sustainability, and operational excellence. These state-of-the-art facilities are being developed to support education, healthcare, and therapeutic programming, while improving connections to courts, families, and reentry services—critical elements in fostering better long-term outcomes.

At the core of this effort is an unprecedented level of collaboration across the public and private sectors. Led by the New York City Department of Design and Construction, the program brings together multiple design-build teams, program managers, architects, engineers, construction firms, and skilled trades working simultaneously across four complex urban sites. This integrated delivery approach, New York City's first at this scale, has enabled greater coordination, innovation, and efficiency in delivering one of the most ambitious capital programs in the City's history.

From resilient building systems and high-performance design to community-informed planning, each facility reflects a forward-looking approach to construction in dense urban environments. The program not only advances the evolution of justice facilities but also serves as a model for how large-scale public projects can be delivered through partnership and shared expertise.

For its vision, innovation, and lasting impact, the New York Building Congress is proud to recognize the New York City Borough-Based Jails Program with the Building the Future Award.