

Mass Timber Feasibility for NYC Schools

Presenter: Michael Balagur

Presenter Biographies and Experience:

Michael Balagur is a consultant with over 25 years of experience guiding institutional and commercial clients through the intersection of architecture, planning, sustainability, decarbonization, and public policy. He is the sustainability department manager and an associate vice president at EME Group Consulting Engineers and Architects, a Salas O'Brien company based in New York City. Michael Balagur has presented on mass timber feasibility at the Decarb NY Circularity Summit; on electrification of public buildings at BuildingEnergy NYC; and on deep energy retrofits at the Building Energy Exchange. He has advised architecture and engineering firms, government agencies, and advocacy organizations on technical and policy issues related to embodied and operational carbon reduction and other sustainability goals.

Abstract:

This presentation provides an overview of the policy and code context for mass timber construction in NYC; an introduction to critical mass timber design, construction, procurement and constructability considerations, and their applicability to typical new school construction in NYC; and a detailed feasibility and whole building lifecycle analysis of two test cases, a new elementary school and a new standalone gym building, demonstrating what could be constructed under the 2022 NYC Building Code.