

2023 Women in Construction: Oni Lloyd, Urbahn Architects

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Oni Lloyd Associate-Architect

In the past year, what project or accomplishment are you most proud of? Serving as Urbahn's architectural site representative, I recently completed a three-year project in Queens, NY: the \$46.5 million, three-story PS 131Q addition in Queens, NY. It was extremely rewarding to witness the reactions of the school's staff and students once the addition was completed. I had never gotten to experience the impact our work as architects has on the users prior to this project. It felt like a personal achievement for me.

How can AEC companies recruit more women? Companies should create a supportive team environment in which young professionals, especially women, feel comfortable asking their colleagues questions. Being able to rely on and ask for advice from more experienced staff at Urbahn helped me develop the confidence that I could succeed in my position. There are multiple parties with different priorities on every design and construction job, which sometimes lead to conflicts and disagreements. It is always important to be able to take the time to review issues with your team. Being part of a supportive team is critical to both professional and personal growth.

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