

2025 Women in Construction: Alison Ashford, Seyfarth Shaw LLP

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Alison Ashford
Partner and Co-Chair

What is one project or achievement in your career that you are most proud of, and how did it impact your organization or community?

I take great pride in all of my projects but the Moynihan Station redevelopment project in New York City was particularly special. It involved the redevelopment of the historic post office building in the center of Manhattan into a brand new, state-of-the-art rail station, alleviating the pressure on train travel through Penn Station. The project was high profile, often being the subject of direction from the then New York State Governor and involved many stakeholders with competing interests. The project was a great success, thanks in large part to the wonderful performance of our client.

What trends or innovations do you believe will shape the future of your field, and how are you positioning yourself (or your firm) to be at the forefront?

Closer partnering between public/private developers and contractors will in part shape the future. There are pressures on both sides that require open dialogue, partnership and efficient solutions. We have the bench depth and across the board skillset to steer clients towards and through this type of strategy and outcome. In fact, it's one of the main reasons clients approach me and the other attorneys in my group.

Who or what has inspired you most in your career, and what advice would you share with the next generation of women entering the A/E/C industry?

I've been inspired and mentored by so many wise and wonderful people from both law firms and industry participants. On top of that, many have been women. Women supporting women is extremely fulfilling in a still largely male-dominated industry (both in terms of law and construction). This support has both short-term and possible long-term benefits, in that as women move up the ranks, they have more influence and power and can be great sources or referrals of opportunities.

What's your favorite way to recharge or get inspired outside of work?

I love fresh air, plentiful sun and blue, blue water. Being outdoors is my favorite way to refresh.

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