Performance Based Building Coalition, InfraAmericas honor P3 leaders

P3 champions from the public and private sector were honored at the Performance Based Buildings Coalition (PBBC)/InfraAmericas Awards Gala, which took place on 13 June at the Trump Golf Links at Ferry Point in New York City.

Winners were chosen by ballot. Over 630 votes were cast from 18 May to 3 June.

The University of California-Merced’s Vice Chancellor of Planning and Budget Dan Feitelberg won the Public Sector Champion award. Feitelberg led the implementation of the Campus 2020 project, which will use a P3 to add approximately one million square feet of academic, housing and student facilities by the year 2020.

Plenary Properties Merced (PPM) on 17 June was announced as preferred bidder for the project. The consortium consists of Plenary Group, Gowling WLG, Johnson Controls, and Webcor Builders.

Other nominees in the category were Joe Pavona, Special Advisor for Public Private Partnerships for the Michigan Office for Public Private Partnerships, and Congressman Lee Zeldin (R-NY).

Cost reduction
Stuart Marks, senior vice president at Plenary, was named the Best Private Sector Innovator. The award honors an individual who has demonstrated innovative solutions that have led to a tangible cost reduction in a recent, performance-based DBFOM P3 project.

Marks played a leading role in the pursuit and successful closing of the Long Beach Civic Center P3 project, which lasted three years from the date the RFQ was issued to financial close.

Other nominees in the category were Macquarie Group Executive Director-Infrastructure Nick Hann, and Farhad Soltanieh, investment director at Skanska Infrastructure Development.

Arup Principal Ignacio Barandiaran (pictured) won the Best Transaction Advisor award. The award honors the advisor who has provided the strongest financial and/or technical guidance to owners or concessionaires in the development of performance-based, DBFOM P3 projects.

Barandiaran led the Arup team that advised the City of Long Beach and the Port of Long Beach on the Long Beach Civic Center P3. The project reached financial close in April.

Barandiaran is currently leading Arup’s advisory team in developing the business case for the proposed Los Angeles Convention Center P3.

Other nominees were Arnaud Misandeau, project manager at Aecom, and Kent Dussom, who is also senior project manager at Aecom.

Norton Rose Fulbright’s US Head of Infrastructure, Mining and Commodities Mike Pikiel won the award for Social Infrastructure Lawyer of the Year.

Pikiel represented Plenary Group and the project company, Plenary Properties Long Beach LLC, on the Long Beach Civic Center P3 project. Pikiel also represented the preferred bidder for the Consolidated Justice Center Project in Indianapolis, and is the primary author of legislation being advanced by the PBBC to create a new category of tax-exempt exempt facility bonds for certain “qualified government buildings.”
Other nominees in the category were Patrick D. Harder, chair of Nossaman’s Infrastructure Practice Group, and Eric Petersen, a partner at Hawkins Delafield Wood.

Purdue University President and former Governor of Indiana Mitch Daniels, won the Overall P3 Champion Award. Daniels, as Purdue’s leader has searched for opportunities to partner with the private sector, as evinced by the State Street Redevelopment project, which reached financial close earlier this year.

As Governor, Daniels spearheaded the USD 3.8bn lease of the Indiana Toll Road. He also led the procurement of the East End Crossing of the Ohio River Bridges project.

Other nominees in the category were Aecom Capital’s Senior Vice President, North American Strategic Development Director for Public Private Partnerships Samara Barend and P3c Media President Eric Iravani.