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**Eugene Gilligan**

## **New York P3 bill likely to return next session**

Advocates for the passage of P3 enabling legislation in New York State will likely have to wait until 2015 for a bill to be acted on.

As previously reported in *InfraAmericas*, a bill that would enable P3s in New York State was not included in New York State's 2014-2015 budget that was passed by the New York legislature on 31 March. However, there remained a possibility that legislators could pass a P3 bill before the legislature adjourns for the year on 19 June.



But, because this is an election year, not much substantive legislation has passed since the budget, Matthew Neuringer, associate at Ashurst who also serves as New York State Senator Greg Ball's P3 Commission, told *InfraAmericas*.

In May, Ball, (R.C.I.-Patterson), sponsor of the P3 bill and a vocal advocate for P3s in the state, announced he was retiring from the senate. Neuringer, however, does not see that as a fatal blow to the effort, as finding a new sponsor for the legislation "could give it new life," he said.

### **Productive meeting**

Members of the Performance Based Building Coalition (PBBC), which advocates for P3 enabling legislation for social infrastructure projects, met on 2 June with staff members in the State Senate, the Senate Finance Committee, and the Assembly's Ways and Means Committee, Neuringer said.

"Generally, it appears that members are gaining a better understanding of, and becoming more comfortable with public private partnerships as an alternative procurement tool," he said. The PBBC will also continue its "dialogue and ongoing relationship" with organized labor throughout the process, he said.

Neuringer hopes these efforts will bear fruit when the legislature reconvenes in January, 2015.

He said the PBBC will undertake a "thorough approach to ensure that all of the necessary decision makers are well informed and prepared to act on legislation early next session," he said.

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