

# Ernest Modarelli

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Accomplished government affairs and strategic communications professional with extensive experience in public policy, stakeholder engagement, and large-scale project management within government and public sectors. Proven ability to drive legislative initiatives, manage complex relationships, and develop impactful communication strategies. Adept at navigating intricate regulatory environments and securing significant funding for public programs.

## Skills

### Government Affairs:

Government Contracts, Public Policy, Political Science, Government Affairs, Legislative Affairs, Regulatory Compliance, Federal Funding Allocation

### Strategic Communications:

Public Relations, Brand Management, Community Outreach, Communications, Digital Communications, Content Development, Media Relations, Public Speaking

### Project Management:

Project Management, Initiative Management, Planning, Relationship Building, Stakeholder Engagement, Program Growth, Reporting & Metrics, Tracking and Monitoring

### Contract Management:

Negotiation, Drafting and Draft Control, Compliance Adherence, Monitoring and Reporting

### Technical:

AI Utilization, Microsoft Office Suite, Google Workspace, CRM Platforms (Salesforce, etc.), Virtual Meeting Platform

## Experience

### Government Affairs and Strategic Communications Project Manager (*June 2022 – Present*)

#### Policomm

Led and managed complex government affairs and strategic communication projects, spanning healthcare, public transportation, education, politics, and community development.

- Led the development and implementation of a government programs initiative for a nonprofit which resulted in the abolishment of over \$650 million in unpaid debt for nearly 500,000 individuals across the United States.
- Secured and negotiated contracts with 23 state and local governments, including New York City, Los Angeles County, and the states of New Jersey and Arizona resulting in over \$70 million in grants for a nonprofit in the healthcare industry.
- Coordinated and designed the reporting mechanism utilized for the program management of 23 government contracts for a nonprofit
- Organized and led comprehensive public outreach efforts, on behalf of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority (MTA), in support of the \$51.5 billion capital program, ensuring public engagement and support.
- Partnered with the MTA to develop and implement public policies related to mass transit, such as Congestion Pricing, in collaboration with internal and external partners including elected officials on the federal state, and local levels.
- Consulted with project managers, planners, architects, and engineers on project design and community impacts for large infrastructure projects in Manhattan.
- Developed and maintained the digital presence of the United Nations International School.
- Coordinated the digital presence for the successful campaign to elect a New York City elected official.

## Education

### **Master of Science in Public Administration** | 2015

City University of New York (CUNY)

John Jay College

### **Bachelor of Science in**

### **Public Administration** | 2015

City University of New York (CUNY)

John Jay College

### **TEFL 120 Hour Certificate** | 2025

TEFL Universal

## **Special Advisor for Policy and Government and Community Affairs** *(October 2018 – June 2022)*

### Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

- Designed and executed the public outreach effort for the Port Authority Bus Terminal Replacement project.
- Executed over a dozen public presentations on project updates to community groups and elected officials.
- Worked with the New York and New Jersey Congressional and Senate delegations to have federal funding allocated to the project.
- Worked closely with consultant teams from WSP USA Inc., AKRF, HNTB New York Engineering, Louis Berger U.S., INC, Techno Consults, and more on advancing the project through the federal environmental review process.
- Led the research and policy development effort on intercity bus management.

## **Acting Deputy Director of Policy & Policy Advisor** *(September 2016 – September 2018)*

### New York State Executive Chamber, Office of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo

- Led the policy team on developing and reviewing major policy and legislative proposals for Governor Andrew Cuomo.
- Drove legislation through the New York State Assembly and Senate legislative process.
- Assisted with the execution of Gubernatorial events related to policy and special administration initiatives.
- Worked closely with the private sector to implement economic development projects across the state.
- Spearheaded special projects like, Congestion Pricing and the New York Buy American Act.

## **Board Member; Committee Chair** *(January 2010 – September 2016)*

### Manhattan Community Board 4

- Appointed official to advise city government on issues affecting Manhattan Community District 4.
- Drafted transportation related resolutions, represented the committee during working meetings, negotiated with stakeholders, and chaired monthly Transportation Committee meetings.