

NAIOP puts real estate's next generation at forefront

More than 80 of the commercial real estate industry's up and comers from throughout the New York metropolitan area recently gathered for NAIOP New Jersey's Developing Leaders Mixer held at Amanda's Restaurant in Hoboken, N.J.

Guest speakers included Hoboken Councilman Ravi Bhalla, who addressed the importance of public/private partnerships; and NAIOP vice president Michael Seeve, president of Mountain Development Corporation.

"NAIOP New Jersey is committed to supporting the advancement of the next-generation of industry professionals by engaging those at the onset of their careers in public policy initiatives," said Seeve.

"The importance of advocacy really resonates among this group. We need

to do what we can to keep the industry and state of New Jersey competitive and attractive for new companies as well as those expanding their operations here."

Developing Leaders is a special category of NAIOP membership available (annual dues are deeply discounted) to commercial real estate industry professionals aged 35 and under within the office, industrial and mixed-use sectors.

NAIOP is committed to involving young people and encouraging their growth within the association, highlighting the value of political representation and encouraging their own activism.

"Developing Leaders is so much more than networking," explained James Jones of PriceWaterhouseCoopers, a co-chair of NAIOP New Jersey's Membership Committee who focuses on programs and

benefits for Developing Leaders.

"As the only program of its kind in the area, the goal of Developing Leaders is to bring younger commercial real estate professionals together to positively impact our industry through public policy while promoting responsible job growth in our region. No other organization is doing this in the industry."

NAIOP New Jersey's 500 members are involved in the ownership, management, financing, development, master planning, design and construction of industrial, office and other related commercial proper-

ties throughout the region. Founded in 1970, NAIOP New Jersey is a chapter of NAIOP, the national commercial real estate development association with 16,500 members in North America. The New Jersey Chapter provides business and networking opportunities, education and professional development programs, research on trends and innovations and strong legislative and public affairs representation.

For more information about NAIOP New Jersey's Developing Leaders, call 732-729-9900 or visit www.njnaiop.org.