

nerej

THE LARGEST WEEKLY COMMERCIAL/INVESTMENT NEWSPAPER IN THE WORLD

Women in Real Estate

Morra of Margulies Perruzzi Architects

Janet Morra



Margulies
Perruzzi
Architects

Real estate organizations / affiliations: AIA, BSA, NEWIRE, USGBC

What award or recognition has been the most meaningful to you and why?

Our firm has received many awards, but I am most proud of the Accessible Design Award that we received from the Massachusetts Architectural Access Board and the Boston Society of Architects for our BlueCross BlueShield facility in Quincy. It was a particular goal of BCBS to go “beyond ADA” and design a facility that was truly accessible to all. I had an opportunity to work with some of their differently-abled associates and to really understand some of the invisible barriers that they faced every day. It was a profound learning experience and it was an honor to receive an award for this achievement.

How has the need to create a more sustainable environment influenced the way you do business?

I have seen changes in two major areas:

1) The ability to design a “greener” project has changed all of our projects, whether or not sustainability was a stated goal of our clients. The recent boom in affordable green building materials allows us to select more sustainable products without a cost premium, which in the past hindered their selection.

2) Both design and construction documentation have become overwhelmingly electronic, resulting in a drastic reduction in the amount of paper being used. Although this might seem like a small item, it really amounts to a major decrease in the use of natural resources.

Janet Morra, AIA, LEED AP ID+C, is principal at Margulies Perruzzi Architects, Boston, Mass.
