



Construction Industry Round Table

CIRT News

A force for positive change in the design/ construction industry

12/05/12 – CIRT Mourns Loss of Former Rep. Jack Brooks

Today, CIRT joins with the A/E community in mourning the loss of former Representative Jack Brooks (D-TX), who is remembered in the industry for this visionary legislation related to the federal procurement of architect and engineering services. "I am personally saddened to learn of Chairman Jack Brooks' passing yesterday in Texas. I have fond memories of the Congressman from my first days representing the A/E community. He was one-of-a-kind, a great character that has left a lasting legacy in our community" recalled CIRT President, Mark A. Casso.



CIRT President Mark Casso with Chairman Brooks (Mar., 1994)

Chairman Brooks is known for his namesake law, (Public Law 92-582, Public Law 100-656, and Public Law 100-679, codified in 40 USC 1101 et. seq. and 48 CFR 36.6), better known as the "Brooks Act." Not only is this ground breaking piece of legislation still on the books at the federal level, but it has also been enacted in almost every state as a "mini-Brooks Act", as well as being recognized as the preferred method or process by the American Bar Association's Model Procurement Code for State and Local Government. Years before "best value", "past performance" and other qualifications and competency-based metrics for government acquisition became commonplace, Rep. Brooks recognized that quality above low price was in the taxpayer's best interest. As a result, the United States stands as an example to the world in truly valuing the ingenious contributions quality design can make to our build environment.