Welcome to the dawn of CFMA’s 2019-20 Year! I am very excited, honored, and incredibly humbled to have the opportunity to serve CFMA this year as Chairman. It is my promise to all of CFMA’s members and HQ staff that I will always serve to the best of my abilities. I believe we have an exciting 12 months ahead and it is my honor to help lead CFMA during this time.

Since 2007, CFMA’s Annual Conference has been a highlight of my year and has played a definite role in my growth in CFMA, from chapter member to now Chairman. I expect this year’s Conference will be no different! While I hope this year’s Conference theme, Success Encompassed, has already sparked a little curiosity regarding the message I will convey at the Conference on Monday, June 3, here is a little more information to hopefully further pique your interest!

Success Encompassed is centered visually around, and represented by, a compass. A few years ago, while I was researching college graduation gift ideas, I stumbled across the idea of giving a compass. The compass represents how the knowledge we acquire during our education helps guide us throughout the course of our lives; it points us in the right direction, guides us along our journey, and redirects us if we get off course.

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As someone who believes it often takes some type of tool to guide us on our way, I was struck by how appropriate I found this to be, not only as a gift, but as a physical representation of how I view life.

Since first discovering this concept, I have continued to reflect on the messages we can take from the compass. While education, family, peers, and mentors can help us seek direction, CFMA is the professional success compass for all working in the world of construction finance. Hence, Success Encompassed! It is my hope that after my message, you will look at a compass with a slightly different view.

In closing, I look forward to seeing each and every one of you at CFMA’s 2019 Annual Conference at The Cosmopolitan Las Vegas on June 1-5. I am excited to share my journey to Chairman of CFMA and how it has forever shaped the role CFMA plays in my life — how Success Encompassed has become, and will always be, a key part of my journey. And I hope to convince you that your CFMA compass should forever be a part of your journey as well!

Thank you once again for entrusting me to serve as your Chairman this year. As CFMA’s membership numbers approach 9,000, and given the success we are currently experiencing as an Association, I cannot help but contemplate and appreciate these exciting times. As we look to the future, I will ensure that we never become complacent even while embracing our current successes. These are exciting times and I know we have even more exciting times ahead! ■