

AIA WASHINGTON COUNCIL

ISSUE BRIEF

ARCHITECTS ARE PROBLEM SOLVERS AND COLLABORATORS WE WANT TO BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

OVERVIEW

Architects work to protect the health, safety and welfare of our fellow citizens.

Architecture profoundly affects people and our communities. The work of architects is essential to human well-being. Architects embrace their ethical obligation to uphold this public trust.

As members of their communities, architects use their knowledge, skill, and experience to engage in civic life.

We want to be a resource for state government. We know there are difficult decisions to be made which take dedication and problem solving skills.

CORE ISSUES

• **Building Codes**

AIA Washington supports sound values of health, safety, and the protection of the public welfare. Additionally, the AIA supports the fair development, evaluation, and use of codes and evidence-based rating systems that promote the design, preservation, and construction of sustainable communities through high performance buildings.

• **Carbon Policy**

Recognizing that buildings are a significant contributor to carbon emissions, the AIA supports governmental policies, programs, and incentives to encourage energy conservation as it relates to the built environment. The reduction of carbon in the atmosphere is critically needed and we support a suite of legislative and regulatory strategies, including monetizing carbon, that implement sustainable design practices to advance the goal of achieving carbon-neutral buildings by the year 2030.

• **Invest in Washington State – Support a Robust Capital Budget**

AIA Washington believes it is important to our state economy, as well as our health, safety, and welfare, to invest in the capital budget. The process for funding and implementation of all projects should be upheld. This includes transportation, educational facilities, and other public works. It is important to maintain funding of projects already in the pipeline, and protect the taxpayer dollar by funding each phase of a project in the next funding cycle. Capital funding should not stipulate the materials or method of delivery. Those decisions require the input and expertise of the public agencies and their selected design professionals.

Architects are an asset for informing on how to get the most value for the tax payer's dollar.



KEY POINTS

- *Architects are profoundly involved in the goal of bettering our communities*
- *Architects are trained to be collaborators and problem solvers.*
- *Invest in Washington State through a robust Capital Budget*
- *Promote a fair tax code*
- *Promote planning that attains livable communities*
- *Protect the health, safety, and welfare of Washington State citizens*

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