AIA|WA Welcomes New Executive Director

Tammie Sueirro is AIA|WA’s new Executive Director, replacing Jeffrey Hamlett, Esq., AIA after five years of service to the Council.

Tammie holds a Bachelors of Architecture from California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. She was a principal at Mithun as well as the director of human resources and project director for Mission Driven Housing. In this role, she directed large-scale affordable housing projects, integrating a variety of innovative community engagement processes and building systems. She received a Certificate of Nonprofit Management from the University of Washington in 2011. Tammie was the Executive Director of Zeno, where she worked with low-income elementary school communities to develop a positive culture around mathematics, and most recently she was the Chief Administrative Officer for Plymouth Housing, which provides permanent supportive housing to homeless adults in Seattle. She has served on several boards, including chair of the board of Hospitality House Women’s Shelter in Burien and treasurer of the American Institute of Architects-Seattle.

Tammie can be reached at: (206) 957-1925 tsueirro@aiawa.org

The 20 by 2020 Building Challenge

AIA|WA partner organizations working on climate issues, including Shift Zero, have established the 20 by 2020 Building Challenge to provide "proof of concept" evidence that ambitious energy targets and science-based design and modeling can propel our shift to a carbon-sustainable future. Buildings that are certified as zero energy by Passive House, Built Green or ILFI are eligible to participate. More info is available here, including the deeply energy efficient projects already signed up designed by firms including Nicholson Kovalchick Architects, Perkins + Will, First Lamp Architecture, Weber Thompson and Mithun.
Architect Davina Duerr Appointed to State House of Representatives

Bothell Deputy Mayor Davina Duerr was appointed to serve in the State House of Representatives from the 1st legislative district (Bothell, Maltby) by the King and Snohomish County Councils. Duerr replaces Derek Stanford, who was elevated to the State Senate to replace Senator Guy Palumbo, who resigned in June.

Duerr has a bachelor’s degree in architecture from Syracuse University and is a senior interior architect at Ware Malcomb in Bellevue. She has served on the Bothell City Council since 2016. Duerr will hold the House seat through the 2020 election and will likely run for reelection then. The publication Washington State Wire published a Q&A with Rep. Duerr in which, she talks about the value architects bring to public policy:

“I am an architect by education and career. And I would say that definitely plays into my qualifications because architects are problem-solvers. Every design project is a puzzle to solve and I think that is very similar to the role of a legislator. You see problems and you try to fix them.”

House Dems to Choose New Speaker

House Democrats will meet this week to select their new leader and the presumptive Speaker of the House. This follows Frank Chopp's announcement last year that he would leave his leadership post after the 2019 session.

While a number of candidates expressed interest in the position after Chopp's announcement, the race appears to be coming down to two choices: Rep. June Robinson (Everett) and Rep. Monica Stonier (Vancouver). Whoever it is, it will be notable that the person selected will be the first female speaker in Washington's history and that both the House and Senate Democratic leaders will hail from outside Seattle.


AIA|WA is seeking an architect willing to serve on the SBCC’s Building Code Technical Advisory Group (TAG), which makes recommendations to the Council on the International Building Code and the International Existing Building Code. The TAG has an open seat in the category of Home Designer, so we are looking for someone who primarily works on residential projects. The TAG reviews new model codes against the previous version, assesses statewide amendment proposals and makes recommendations for the SBCC’s consideration. Members of a TAG are generally asked to serve for a full code cycle, but they may serve longer if desired. Contact Kirsten for more info.
AIA National Issues Report on Building Codes + Climate

AIA National’s Blue Ribbon Panel for Codes and Standards issued a report outlining AIA’s vision for the adoption and application of building codes and standards as design tools in a resource-constrained future. The publication, Disruption, Evolution and Change: AIA’s Vision for the Future of Design and Construction, details an aspirational path forward for the profession’s commitment to meeting 2030 climate objectives. The four focus areas of the report—energy, health/safety, welfare and transparency—help to frame discussions and partnerships to advance environmentally responsible design and construction. As part of the report, AIA National issued the following statement of values related to building codes and climate change:

WHERE ARCHITECTS STAND: A STATEMENT OF OUR VALUES

We stand for protecting communities from the impact of climate change. Global warming and man-made hazards pose an increasing threat to the safety of the public and the vitality of our nation. Rising sea levels and devastating natural disasters result in unacceptable losses of life and property. Resilient and adaptable buildings are a community’s first line of defense against disasters and changing conditions of life and property. That is why we advocate for robust building codes and policies that make our communities more resilient.

Dept. of Commerce Schedules 100% Clean Electricity Implementation Workshops

The Washington Department of Commerce will hold two public workshops to discuss implementation of Washington’s new 100% clean electricity law, known as the Clean Energy Transformation Act. Input from these workshops will help the agency set priorities for rulemaking work over the next two years.

- Tuesday, July 30, 9 am to noon
  Commerce Olympia Office
  1011 Plum Street SE, Olympia

- Thursday, Aug. 1, 1 to 4 pm
  Washington State Housing Finance Commission
  1000 2nd Ave #2700, Seattle

Webinar options will be available for both meetings. More info, including how to comment outside of these workshops, is available here.

2018 Commercial Energy Code Amendments Approved

On July 26, the State Building Code Council approved a list of amendments to the 2018 Commercial Energy Code that will take effect on July 1, 2020. On the whole, the amendments will strengthen the code, providing additional energy efficiencies, and respond to mandates by the Governor and the Legislature requiring a more efficient code with each revision cycle.

You may find a summary of the changes here and the full rulemaking document here. Minor changes were made to some amendments after this list was published.

2018 Residential Energy Code Amendments Under Review

The State Building Code Council is currently undergoing a review process for proposed amendments to the state’s 2018 residential energy code. Twenty-four proposals have been accepted by both the Council’s Energy Code Technical Advisory Group and the full Council to be moved forward to public comment.

The proposed residential energy code amendments are open for public comment through Sept. 27, 2019. The SBCC will also take public comments in person at hearings in Spokane (Sept. 13) and Olympia (Sept. 27). The effective date for the 2018 code amendments will be July 1, 2020.

Commenting on the proposals

AIA Washington Council will submit comments on the proposed amendments provided that enough consensus exists among members. While members are encouraged to offer comments directly to the SBCC, we welcome your feedback on any of the proposals and will incorporate it into our comment considerations. You are welcome to offer comments on as few or as many of the proposals as you wish. More details, and info about each proposal, is available here. If you need additional information, please let Kirsten know.

Upcoming Events

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AIA|WA is pleased to announce the jury for its 2019 Civic Design Awards Program on Sept 26. The Northern California-based jury is comprised of distinguished members of the San Francisco Bay Area's architectural community. Our jurors this year are:

**Renee Y. Chow, AIA**, is professor of architecture and urban design at University of California Berkeley as well as founding principal of Studio URBIS. She is currently serving as the William W. Wurster acting dean at the College of Environmental Design.

**Mark Cavagnero, FAIA**, founded Mark Cavagnero Associates in 1993 and has guided its growth into a design-centered practice serving clients internationally. His work embodies a timeless quality, visible in a broad range of renovation and new construction work.

**Ryan Jang, AIA, LEED AP**, is an Associate Principal at LEDDY MAYTUM STACY Architects in San Francisco. He has worked on a variety of project types, including higher education, multi-family housing, and civic projects.
AIA|WA represents architects in state government. We lobby officials; maintain relationships with the governor’s office, legislators and legislative staff; build coalitions with state agencies, organizations, consumer groups and other public bodies; track legislation that impacts architects and the practice of architecture; inform members about legislative and policy activities; and protect the legal welfare of architects. Let us know how we can help you!