



October 2019 Advocacy Newsletter

Former Executive Director Jeffrey Hamlett Receives Jennie Sue Brown Award

Jeffrey Hamlett, Esq., AIA, and former Executive Director of AIA|WA, was awarded the Council's highest member honor, the Jennie Sue Brown Award, at AIA|WA's Advocacy Summit on Oct. 24.

The award honors the legacy of Jennie Sue Brown, FAIA, and recognizes effective engagement in advocacy to advance the practice of architecture and the lifetime achievements of members who have: made a significant statewide contribution; served the profession through increasing public awareness, political action, or government involvement; and continually enhanced the practice of architecture.

Over many years of service to AIA|WA, Jeffrey served as a member of the Board, as AIA|WA's representative to the Architects and Engineers Legislative Council, as President of the Council, and finally as Executive Director from 2014-2019. Jeffrey provided strong executive leadership to the Board in guiding AIA|WA at a critical point in the organization's history, and under his leadership the Council survived its challenges and became a stronger, more effective organization.



With the Board of Directors, Jeffrey re-crafted the vision and mission of AIA|WA to focus on its core role of statewide legislative advocacy; led the effort to reorganize AIA|WA's leadership structure and operations as a means to improve

efficiency, accountability, and equitable representation of local components in Council operations and activities; and facilitated the move of AIA|WA's offices from Olympia to Seattle as a means to better utilize the resources of AIA Seattle and to locate the office nearer to the majority of members. Jeffrey was also instrumental in the revision of Washington's Architects Practice Act in 2010 and again in 2019.

Jeffrey will continue to serve the Institute and the profession in his newly-elected role as Regional Director and Strategic Council Representative for the AIA Northwest and Pacific Region.

Congratulations Jeffrey and thank you for your years of service to the profession in Washington.

Advocacy Summit Sets Agenda for 2020 Legislative Session

AIA|WA held its annual Advocacy Summit on Oct. 24 in Seattle, where members met in policy committees to review the chapter's goals for the 2020 legislative session and identify emerging issues. Here's a high-level look at what they decided:

PRACTICE ISSUES

Condos/HOAs

- Support the Washington State Community Association Institute's amendments to the Washington Uniform Common Interest Ownership Act (which governs condo and HOA law) to simplify owner opt-in procedures and modernize prior statutes. *Read a full description [here](#).*
- Oppose proposals for technical changes to WUCOIA that reduce or eliminate requirements for reserve studies.

Contracting

- Oppose legislation to require state contracts to undergo a review to determine if the work can be brought in-house (**HB 1521**), unless A&E is fully exempted.

TAXES, EDUCATION + CAPITAL BUDGET

Tax

- Monitor efforts to address missing revenues from 2019's B&O tax adjustments (the state is getting less revenue than expected due to poor bill drafting).
- Monitor legislation to impose a capital gains tax – AIA|WA supports a tax in theory but much depends on the details, especially which current taxes are offset, if any.



- Oppose legislation to require computer verification software for state contractors (**HB 1744**).
- Oppose legislation to require the naming of WSDOT project subcontractors (**HB 1321**).
- Oppose legislation to require bid documents for public works projects over \$1 million to include the names of all subcontractors (**SB 5457**).

Codes

- Oppose legislation to lengthen the building code cycle (**SB 5634**).
- Support legislation to address seismic risk reduction (**SB 5557** – task force).

School funding

- Support bills to reduce the voter threshold for school construction bonds (this requires a constitutional amendment) to 55 or 50 percent from the current 60 (**SJR 8201**; **SJR 8202**).
- Support funding reform via OSPI, including funding increases for K-12 construction. Place an architect on OSPI's funding committee.
- Evaluate efforts to exempt school districts from sales and use tax on construction.
- Participate in an OSPI statewide advisory group to address school safety; include design elements in any effort to address safety in school buildings.

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LIVABILITY & AFFORDABILITY

- Support potential legislation to require the inclusion of duplexes and triplexes in single family zones in certain cities. (Oregon passed [similar legislation](#) earlier this year.)
- Support legislation to require minimum density and density around public amenities in Growth Management Act (GMA) areas ([SB 5769](#)). Includes grant funding for planning.
- Support legislation to require minimum density around Sound Transit stations ([SB 5424](#)).
- Support efforts to extend [HB 1923](#), passed in 2019 to increase residential building capacity through voluntary options provided to cities, to allow a longer period for changes to SEPA appeals and/or more mandates for options that can be undertaken by cities.
- Support legislation to add income basis and density triggers to the housing element of comprehensive plans under the GMA ([SB 5440](#)).
- Support legislation that allows local governments to preserve affordable housing through property tax exemptions ([HB 1745](#)).
- Support legislation to enact a progressive real estate excise tax (REET) to provide funding for affordable housing ([HB 1921](#), others).
- Support a permanent funding source for the Housing Trust Fund.
- Support additional funding for growth management planning.

CLIMATE

- Champion legislation to allow a C-PACER (Commercial Property-Assessed Clean Energy & Resilience) financing mechanism for deep climate and seismic retrofits ([HB 1796](#)).
- Shape Rep. Beth Doglio's embodied carbon legislation (no draft yet), likely to center around environmental product declarations for state-funded projects.
- Support further restrictions on HFCs in refrigerants.
- Study any cap and trade (or "cap and invest") proposals.
- Advocate for state funding to provide training for code officials.

Non-legislative

- Participate in the Dept. of Commerce's [rulemaking process](#) for HB 1257, enacted in 2019, the building performance standard for commercial buildings.

2020 Legislative Session Facts

- Washington's State Legislature meets for 60 calendar days in even years and 105 calendar days in odd years.
- The 2020 session begins on January 13.
- All bills from the 2019 session which did not pass are alive for the 2020 session and revert to the highest committee they achieved in their house of origin. New bills may also be introduced.
- The state's three budgets are determined in odd years, with adjustments made in even years as necessary.

- Information about legislators, bills, session calendars, and more is available at the State Legislature's [website](#). All hearings and floor sessions may be viewed on [TVW](#).



AIA|WA Board votes to oppose I-976

AIA|WA's Board of Directors has endorsed the No on Initiative 976 campaign to forestall immediate cuts to dozens of vital transportation improvements statewide and avoid permanent damage to our ability to keep Washington's transportation corridors safe and effective.



From AIA|WA's I-976 statement

I-976 will significantly reduce state transportation-related revenues by capping car tab fees at \$30 per year; eliminating the 0.3% sales tax on vehicle purchases; and lowering electric vehicle and snowmobile fees. In addition, I-976 would cut Sound Transit's regional revenues by reducing the agency's motor vehicle excise tax rates and requiring the refinancing or terminating of existing Sound Transit bonds. Local governments would also be impacted; I-976 would repeal the authority of cities to generate revenues through vehicle fees used to pay for local roads, sidewalks, and more.

Many core values of the AIA—equity, environment, community, design quality, and life/safety—are affected by transportation choices and built infrastructure. Supporting mass transit projects are at the heart of AIA|WA's transportation agenda, addressing sustainability and quality of life issues while providing a range of transportation options to serve all of our state's communities.

Read the full statement [here](#).

Upcoming Events

AIA Central Washington

Holiday Party
Dec. 11 | Richland

AIA Seattle

Honor Awards
Nov. 4 | Town Hall

AIA Southwest Washington

Practice Management Firm Forum
Nov. 6 | Tacoma
Conversations RE: Tacoma
Nov. 7 | Tacoma

AIA Spokane

Winter Party
Dec. 3 | Barrister Winery

AIA Washington Council

2020 Capitol Connections
Jan. 23, 2020 | Olympia

AIA National

Grassroots
Feb. 18-20 | New Orleans

Make the Most of Your AIA Membership

AIA's 21 Knowledge Communities are great ways to connect with other professionals who share your passions and commitment. There are Communities for most project types, career paths, and job specialty areas.

AIA's Knowledge Communities are your source for information. Each community offers webinars, workshops, white papers, newsletters, in-person events, and an active discussion board. They are also where you can connect with over 90,000 member architects from across the world.



Academy of Architecture for Health

AAH advocates for innovations in design that help improve healthcare and shares the latest research through webinars, conferences and publications, and works with allied organizations.

Academy of Architecture for Justice

Justice facilities present architects with unique challenges. **AAJ** connects members with professional organizations and outside experts in a continuing quest for quality, efficiency, and justice.

Building Performance

Building Performance promotes architects as leaders in designing for better building performance, including criteria, codes, standards, programming, and managing. The result: buildings that are healthier, more energy efficient, and more durable.



Committee on Architecture for Education

CAE convenes architects, designers, and allied professionals for interdisciplinary work on how to design, build, and use educational, cultural, and recreational facilities to meet the needs of students of all ages.

Committee on Design

The **COD** promotes design excellence among members, the broader design community, and the public.

Committee on the Environment

COTE administers the industry's best-known awards program for sustainable design excellence, the COTE Top Ten Awards, and serves as the community and voice of AIA members regarding sustainable design.

Construction Contract Administration

CCA helps members and the larger building professions navigate issues, actions, and the impact of contract decisions. It produces case studies and best practices.

Corporate Architects and Facility Management

CAFM makes a positive impact on corporate architecture, covering topics including building science, energy retrofits, corporate architects, and facility management.

Custom Residential Architects Network

CRAN is the leading resource and voice for architects who focus on collaborative design with homeowners. It provides support, advocacy, and education for custom residential projects and professional development for its members.

Knowledge Communities, continued

Design for Aging

With changing demographics worldwide and the importance of design to quality of life and mobility, **DFA** works to enhance the built environment and quality of life for an aging society.

Historic Resources Committee

HRC works globally to identify, understand, and preserve architectural heritage, sharing its expertise with architects and the public through newsletters, conferences, and convention activities.

Housing and Community Development

HCD tracks housing and community design and development issues in the US and worldwide. It provides knowledge-sharing, networking, and leadership opportunities to architecture professionals and industry stakeholders.

Interfaith Design

Interfaith Design brings together professionals interested in religious facilities in a broad array of traditions, encouraging and supporting excellence in the design of worship spaces.

Interior Architecture Knowledge Community

IAKC provides leadership, expertise, and innovative programming to practitioners of interior architecture and design.

Practice Management Knowledge Community

PMKC is an information center on the business of architecture—the trends in financial management, risk mitigation, professional development, and more that will determine the future of the profession.



Project Delivery Knowledge Community

PD focuses on developing and sharing knowledge about all forms of project delivery, including design-build, public-private partnerships, and delivery method.

Public Architects Committee

What is the role of the public architect and how can it be enhanced? **PA** promotes excellence in public architecture and positions the architect as an essential element in civic engagement and the development of public facilities.

Regional and Urban Design

Resilience, climate change, and natural disasters are at the top of many municipalities' watch list. **RUDC** helps architecture professionals keep pace with changing conditions and improve regional and urban environments through excellence in design, planning, and public policy.

Retail and Entertainment

REC brings together leaders, practitioners, & clients in retail and entertainment as well as the architects and designers who specialize in this environment.

Small Project Design

SPD generates, collects, and disseminates knowledge on how to successfully run a small firm and complete small projects that do not fit into the model of departmental production that characterizes many larger firms.

Technology in Architectural Practice

As new technology emerges and becomes increasingly critical to practice, planning, and building, **TAP** keeps members ahead, serving as a resource for the profession and the public in the use of technology in the practice of architecture.

Join us at Capitol Connections 2020!

Join your fellow architects from across the state in Olympia for our annual Capitol Connections event on Thursday, January 23, 2020.

At Capitol Connections, you'll learn about the issues impacting the practice of architecture that are up for consideration during the 2020 legislative session. You'll also have the opportunity to join other architects at meetings with your own legislators, hear from legislators working on key AIA|WA topics, talk to AIA|WA's lobbyists, and get a glimpse into how your state legislature operates.

Travel costs for all members will be reimbursed. More info [here](#).



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