



September 2020 Newsletter

AIA Washington Council 2020 Civic Design Awards Announced

AIA|WA's 2020 Civic Design Awards winners were announced on Sept. 24. The Civic Design Awards celebrate the best examples of what can be realized when architects and civic clients work together to achieve quality design.

These projects represent the finest standards in innovation, sustainability, building performance, and overall integration with the client and surrounding community.

More information on the winning projects may be viewed on AIA|WA's [website](#). The announcement video may be viewed on AIA Washington Council's [YouTube Channel](#).

A big thank you to this year's Vancouver, BC-based jurors:

Danica Djurkovic, Director of Facilities Planning
City of Vancouver

Dr. Adam Pantelimon, Architect UK and France, FRI-BA, Intl. Assoc. AIA, OAR, MRAIC, MCIP, RPP, APPI, OUQ, ARB (UK), CNOA (France). Director of Capital Assets with the Government of Alberta, Ministry of Seniors and Housing, and President of the AIA Canada Society.

Natalie Telewiak, Principal
Michael Green Architecture (MGA)

Honor Award

Riverfront Park Pavilion

City of Spokane Parks & Recreation
NAC Architecture

Photo above left (credit: Meghan Montgomery)



Photo: Aaron Leitz

The Burke Museum of Natural History & Culture

Burke Museum,
Univ. of Washington
Olson Kundig



Photo: Chris J. Roberts Photography

Pathfinder Kindergarten Center

Mukilteo School
District
DLR Group

Civic Design Awards, cont.

Merit Award

Bill and Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science and Engineering
University of Washington
LMN Architects



Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Wetlands Classroom Building
Seattle Parks and Recreation
CAST Architecture

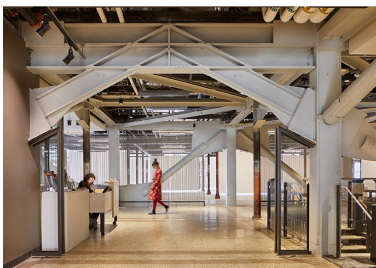


Upper Left: Bill & Melinda Gates Center for Computer Science & Engineering (credit: Tim Griffith)
Lower Left: Rainier Beach Urban Farm & Wetlands Classroom (credit: Meghan Montgomery)
Right: SR-99 Tunnel (credit: Jim Simmons)

SR-99 Tunnel Project
Washington State Department of Transportation
HNTB Corporation



Left: Discovery High School (credit: Josh Partee); right: Liberty Bank Building (Credit: Kevin Scott)



Left: ARTS at King Street Station (credit: Benjamin Benschneider); right: Seattle Asian Art Museum (credit: Tim Griffith)

Citation Award

Discovery High School
Camas School District
DLR Group

Liberty Bank Building
Community Roots Housing
Mithun

ARTS at King Street Station
City of Seattle Office of Arts and Culture
Mithun and Olson Kundig

Seattle Asian Art Museum
Seattle Art Museum
LMN Architects

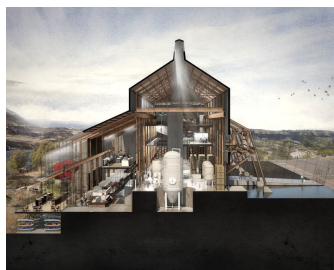
Honorable Mention

COVID-19 Response Sites
King County
DLR Group
Photo: Diana Brown



Rock Island Smelter Redevelopment
Port of Douglas County
Graham Baba Architects

Graham Baba Architects



Honorable Mention for Climate Action
Green Hill School
Department of Children, Youth & Families
DLR Group

DLR Group



Member Awards

AIA/HUD Secretary's Award

SMR Architects

Congratulations to SMR Architects in Seattle for winning the AIA/U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Secretary's Award. The award honors projects that exemplify excellence in affordable housing design and increase the quality of life for low- and moderate-income households.

SMR received the award – one of two presented nationwide – for Plymouth on First Hill, a **Plymouth Housing** facility that provides 80 units of permanent supportive housing for adults in Seattle experiencing homelessness. More info about SMR's award-winning design is available [here](#).



Plymouth on First Hill, Seattle

AIA Seattle Gold Medal

Walter Schacht FAIA



AIA Seattle awarded **Walter Schacht FAIA** its 2020 AIA Seattle Gold Medal. The Gold Medal is the highest award that AIA Seattle can bestow on one of its members. It recognizes distinguished lifetime achievement in architecture, including design and professional practice and service to the profession, the community, education, and the arts.

Walter has been a transformative member of AIA Washington Council as well, serving on AIA|WA's Board of Directors, guiding the chapter's state policy efforts, and chairing Washington's Capital Projects Advisory Board. In 2013, Walter was inducted into the AIA College of Fellows for his distinguished body of work and activism. In 2015, he received AIA Seattle's Community Service Award and AIA|WA's Jennie Sue Brown Award for exceptional service to the profession.

The Gold Medal will be awarded to Walter at AIA Seattle's **President's Dinner** on October 2.

Job Opening: State Building Code Council Managing Director

Washington's State Building Code Council is seeking a Managing Director.

This position manages the development and adoption of state building codes; directs the SBCC members, technical advisory group members, and staff in the rulemaking process necessary to keep the state building codes current; provides technical support to the SBCC; and serves as the point of contact for federal, state, and local government agencies, state and local governing bodies and associations, and the construction industry.

More information about this position can be found at careers.wa.gov. Click on "Look for Jobs" and type "SBCC" in the search window.



Clean Buildings Act Set to be Finalized



After nearly two years of stakeholder outreach and rule-making by the Washington Department of Commerce, the 2019 **Clean Buildings** legislation that sets state energy performance standards for new and existing commercial buildings over 50,000 sq. ft. is about to become law.

Commerce's "final draft" rules, on which the final rules will be based, can be viewed [here](#) along with ASHRAE Standard 100, which Commerce is using, with modification, to develop its average Energy Use Intensity (EUI) targets. The final rules will be issued by Commerce by November 1.

Compliance requirements will be phased in: buildings over 220,000 square feet will be required to comply by June 1, 2026; those greater than 90,000 square feet by June 1, 2027; and those greater than 50,000 square feet by June 1, 2028. Incentives will become available by June 2021.

Below are the bill's main provisions.

Performance Standards & EUI Targets

EUI targets for different building types will be set by Commerce. Targets may be lower for recently constructed buildings based on the state energy code at the time of construction. Multifamily buildings will not be required to meet the standard but will receive guidance on EUI targets and can be eligible for incentives.

The performance standards will also include a conditional compliance pathway for buildings that have conducted an audit and have made investments toward meeting the EUI target but have not yet hit the target. Exemptions are available for designated historic buildings if compliance would compromise the building's historical integrity. Other exemptions apply to agricultural and manufacturing buildings, non- or low-occupied buildings, and buildings experiencing financial hardship.



Incentives & Technical Assistance

The law designates \$75 million in incentives, to be administered by utilities, to assist buildings that will likely require more capital investment to achieve compliance. To qualify for an incentive, the building's baseline energy use must exceed its target by at least fifteen EUI units. The incentive is set at a rate of \$0.85 per gross square foot. Commerce will also provide technical support services, including training and support.

Reporting & Penalties

Building owners must report on compliance with the standard by the relevant deadline and then every five years thereafter. Compliance can mean meeting the EUI target or fulfilling the conditional compliance pathway. A building not in compliance can draw a penalty of up to \$5,000 plus \$1 per gross square foot of floor area per year.

Electric Vehicle Infrastructure

The law directs the State Building Code Council to adopt rules by July 1, 2021 requiring all new buildings that provide on-site parking to provide electric vehicle charging infrastructure.

AIA Comments

AIA|WA submitted comments throughout the rulemaking process, advocating for lower EUI targets; a need for the state to focus on greenhouse gas emissions reduction in addition to greater energy efficiency; and a call for significant education and outreach by the state to ensure owners, designers, and others understand the new requirements and know how to retrofit buildings that do not meet the standard.

In early December, AIA|WA will present a webinar to provide an overview of the state's Clean Buildings law and what architects and owners need to do to be ready. Look for more info on this event in our October newsletter.

C-PACER Ready for Prime Time

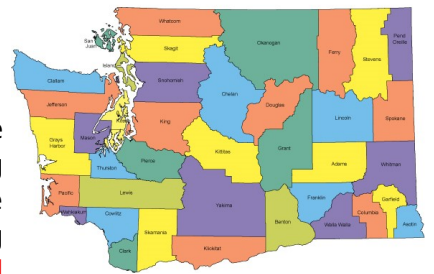
Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy and Resilience

AIA|WA-supported legislation to authorize PACE financing in Washington went into effect this summer. The new law enables private, low-cost, long-term financing for commercial and multifamily buildings to complete energy efficiency, renewable energy, and resilience (including seismic) projects. Importantly, the loans stay with the building, not the owner, and they do not appear on the owner's balance sheet. Both incentivize owners to make improvements even if they plan to sell the building in the medium term.

The state legislation enacted in March provided the authority for counties to develop PACE programs but did not establish a program itself, so C-PACER lending is not a reality yet. Individual counties must adopt their own legislation authorizing a C-PACER program before lending may begin. **Shift Zero**, Washington's zero net carbon

C-PACER programs will offer a critical financing tool for reducing emissions and making resiliency improvements to new and existing commercial and multi-family buildings. The loans will be a key component of the Clean Buildings program (page 4), and they will be an important topic of discussion between architects and owners.

building alliance (AIA|WA is a founding member), took on the role of developing model C-PACER legal documents for counties to use after Governor Inslee vetoed funding in the state legislation that would have allowed the Department of Commerce to develop the documents (the veto was a result of COVID-related budgetary concerns).



Shift Zero's documents are now available for counties to use in their own legal reviews and approval processes. Spokane, Whatcom, and King counties will likely develop programs first. King County expects its council to be ready to vote on a program in early 2021; Spokane and Whatcom counties may have programs approved by the end of this year. National and local PACE lenders are eager to start providing loans, and they have worked with Shift Zero to develop the model legal documents.

AIA|WA, along with Shift Zero partners, will engage in outreach to the less eager counties to encourage them to approve C-PACER programs. We will also be providing information for architects to lean about C-PACER loans so you can share this information with owners. In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact **Kirsten**.

State Economic Forecast Improves WA's Budget Outlook

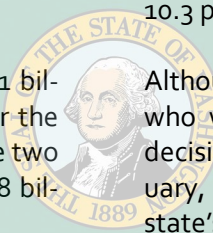
In late September, the **Washington Economic and Revenue Forecast Council** revised its June 2020 forecast for the projected general fund budget deficit. Surprising many, the deficit situation **improved** by more than 50 percent since June as a result of improved tax collections.

The June revenue forecast was increased by \$2.1 billion for the current biennium and \$2.2 billion for the 2021-2023 biennium. The projected deficit for the two biennia has dropped to \$4.3 billion from the \$8.8 billion deficit forecast last June.

According to the **Seattle Times**, Washington Economic and Revenue Forecast Council executive director

Stephen Lerch attributed the improvement largely to federal stimulus money, particularly the one-time \$1,200 checks and the additional \$600 in weekly unemployment benefits (these payments expired in July). The state's unemployment level in August dropped to 8.5 percent from 10.3 percent in July.

Although the forecast is good news for state legislators who will be responsible for navigating difficult budget decisions during the legislative session that begins in January, a significant deficit remains—\$2.3 billion in the state's current 2019-21 operating budget. Lawmakers will receive an updated forecast in November.



Architect Needed to Serve on SBCC Fire Code Technical Advisory Group

The State Building Code Council (SBCC) is seeking an architect to serve on the Council's International Fire Code Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for the 2021 code adoption cycle.

The International Fire Code TAG has an open seat that is reserved for an architect. The work period for this TAG is October 2020 through June 2021.



Technical Advisory Groups review new editions of the model codes to identify significant changes and review existing and proposed state amendments. The TAGs set a meeting schedule once convened.

The state building code adoption process depends on involvement of experts and professionals in the building industry. Applications to serve on a TAG consist of a letter of interest and a resume, plus an endorsement from AIA Washington Council.

For more information, contact [Kirsten](#). You may also contact the SBCC at sbcc@des.wa.gov.

AIA National Releases Inaugural Federal Policy Platform

AIA National released a guide to its first ever **federal policy platform** in advance of this year's presidential elections. The AIA Policy Platform serves as a statement of AIA's policy priorities, intended for the final U.S. presidential candidates and Congressional policymakers. General categories include:

- A future economy
- Climate action
- Healthy and equitable communities

The guide provides a color-coded snapshot of the policy origins of AIA's recommendations and their partisan affiliation.



AIA National's 2020 Policy Platform Statement

American architecture stands as a testament to our unique place in the world. Our architects work at the leading edge of a \$1T construction industry that promotes commerce and drives consumer confidence. Architects have always dared to reach higher and set new standards. Our next architectural achievements will be measured by how well they respond to a post-pandemic world, eradicate inequity, fuel economic recovery, eliminate carbon emissions, and nurture individual and community health.

Now is the time for urgent and decisive action on these issues. We step forward to address the needs of our economy, climate, and communities. We seek support for the crushing student debt of our members; support for disadvantaged businesses; and real progress to end the systemic racism that has existed for centuries and continues to grip our nation. We seek meaningful policies and commit to better buildings that will sustain a healthy country.

EVENTS

AIA Seattle

- AIA Seattle Honor Awards: virtual awards reveal on November 16, 7-8 pm. RSVP [here](#).

NW Washington

- Virtual Design Awards presentation: October 15, 6-7:30 pm. More info [here](#).

AIA Spokane

- Golf Tournament postponed to October 1. More info [here](#).
- 2020 Spokane Design Awards: virtual Awards Gala presented on October 22, 4:30-5:30. More info [here](#).

OPPORTUNITIES

AIA Seattle Community Engagement Forum

Open to everyone

Join AIA Seattle online, October 19-21, for this multi-day continuing education forum convening design professionals, citizen advocates, community partners, and government representatives in a discussion about the benefits of community engagement, how to ensure that engagement is real and impactful, and how to make these processes a part of our standard practice. Up to eight **AIA LU HSW credits are available**. More information [here](#).

AIA Southwest Washington Board

AIA SW Washington seeks member volunteers to serve on its Board of Directors. Contact [Tom Reiger](#), SWWA President, for more information.



AIA
Washington Council

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The AIA Washington Council serves as the collective voice for and a resource on state government policies that impact the practice of architecture for all architects and the profession through AIA components in Washington State.

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