



## November 2019 Advocacy Newsletter

### November Election Results

#### Special Legislative Elections

Two special legislative elections were held in November featuring current legislators who were appointed in 2019 to fill seats that were open due to resignations:

In the 13<sup>th</sup> District (Ellensburg, Moses Lake), **Rep. Alex Ybarra** (R) defended his seat against challenger Steve Verhey (D), 75% - 25%.



Rep. Ybarra

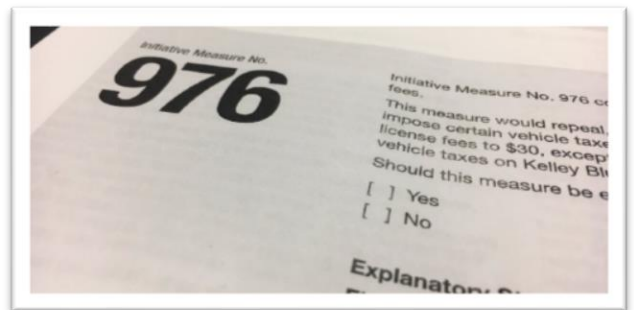


Sen. Lovelett

In the 40<sup>th</sup> District (Bellingham & San Juans), **Senator Liz Lovelett** (D) defeated challenger Daniel Miller (R) 70% - 30%.

#### I-976

It remains unclear how local governments and the state will be immediately impacted by the passage of I-976, which will reduce revenues for state, local, and regional transportation projects across the state.



A **lawsuit** was filed in King County Superior Court by Garfield County, Seattle, King County, and six other entities to block the initiative based on claims that it violates the state's one subject rule and it misled voters on the true impacts of the measure. A separate legal action seeks a court injunction which would prevent the initiative from taking effect prior to a decision on the initial lawsuit.

At the state level, the 2020 transportation budget was largely set during the 2019 legislative session; significant changes as a result of I-976 are not expected there until 2021. However, there will likely be discussions around revenue measures in Olympia in 2020. Immediately following the election, Gov. Jay Inslee issued an order halting work on all state transportation projects not yet begun. Sen. Steve Hobbs (D-Snohomish County) is chair of the Senate Transportation Committee and is expected to introduce a significant transportation package in 2020. AIA|WA will advocate for a strong, alternative funding source for transit in particular.

# AIA Participates in State Rulemaking for Commercial Energy Performance Standard

Architects from AIA|WA's Climate Committee are participating in the state Department of Commerce's [rulemaking process](#) for [HB 1257](#), legislation passed in 2019 to create a state energy performance standard for commercial buildings.

[ASHRAE standard 100](#) (2018 Energy Efficiency in Existing Buildings) will be used as the model standard, and the rulemaking process will modify the standard to meet specific requirements of the law. As part of the rulemaking, Commerce will propose energy use intensity (EUI) targets specific to buildings in Washington and create procedures for reporting conditional compliance and efficiency investment criteria. Along with developing technical and administrative rules for the mandatory standards, Commerce will be creating an early adopter incentive program.

AIA's objective in the rulemaking process is to provide technical expertise to help ensure that the legislation's goals related to carbon reduction are actually achieved by the program developed by Commerce. Since the stated goal is to reduce carbon emissions, but the ASHRAE standard will be measuring energy efficiency (EUI), AIA believes it is critical that the program be carefully calibrated to maximize carbon reduction.



## HB 1257, the Clean Buildings Bill

Commerce must establish a state energy performance standard for covered commercial buildings. In developing energy performance standards, the department shall seek to maximize reductions of greenhouse gas emissions from the building sector. The standard must include energy use intensity targets by building type and methods of conditional compliance that include an energy management plan, an operations and maintenance program, energy efficiency audits, and investment in energy efficiency measures designed to meet the targets.

In October, AIA|WA sent a [letter](#) to the Dept. of Commerce with AIA's initial thoughts on the rulemaking process, which included the following key recommendations:

- Identify space uses in ASHRAE 100 which may require adjustment for the "unique energy-using features" portion of the bill.
- Capture alternative energy sources other than the electrical grid.
- Create a list of trigger language for various jurisdictions.

Commerce will hold public stakeholder meetings in Seattle and eastern Washington through early 2020. Draft rules will be published in Spring 2020 followed by public hearings; the final rule will be published by Nov. 1, 2020.



**Passive House Northwest** has issued a [call for papers/presentations](#) for its [Annual Conference](#), which takes place March 12-14, 2020 in Seattle. Five presentation formats are available.

Submissions are due by Nov. 25.



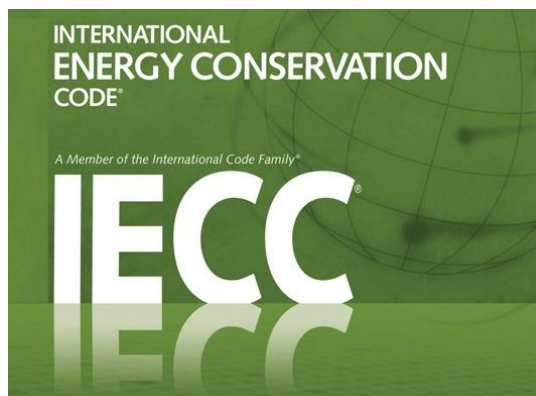
# AIA National Promotes Zero Code



**The American  
Institute  
of Architects**

In coordination with Architecture 2030, AIA National submitted a **Zero Code Renewable Energy Appendix** to become part of the 2021 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC). The Appendix is optional for jurisdictions to adopt, requires buildings to achieve zero-net-carbon operations annually, and is a tool for cities to meet their greenhouse gas emissions reduction commitments. While Washington already has a stronger energy code than what the Appendix provides, the Zero Code language is aimed at jurisdictions that do not have as much experience with energy codes and which could benefit from sample language and policy guidance.

City and state code and government officials who are ICC voting members have an opportunity to vote on the Appendix during online voting Nov. 18 - Dec. 5. AIA is asking its members who are ICC voting members to vote to add the Appendix to the IECC (Proposal CE264-19). AIA members are also asked to contact their state and local government energy, sustainability, and code officials to ask them to vote for approval of the Appendix.



## IECC Voting Members

**Online voting** is open now and ends Thursday, December 5 at 11:59 pm Pacific Standard Time.

The **AIA Voter Card** for IECC members also includes recommendations on sustainability and energy efficiency proposals.

### **AIA Central Washington**

Holiday Party  
Dec. 11 | Richland

### **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

## Upcoming Events





# Reminder: Join us at Capitol Connections 2020!

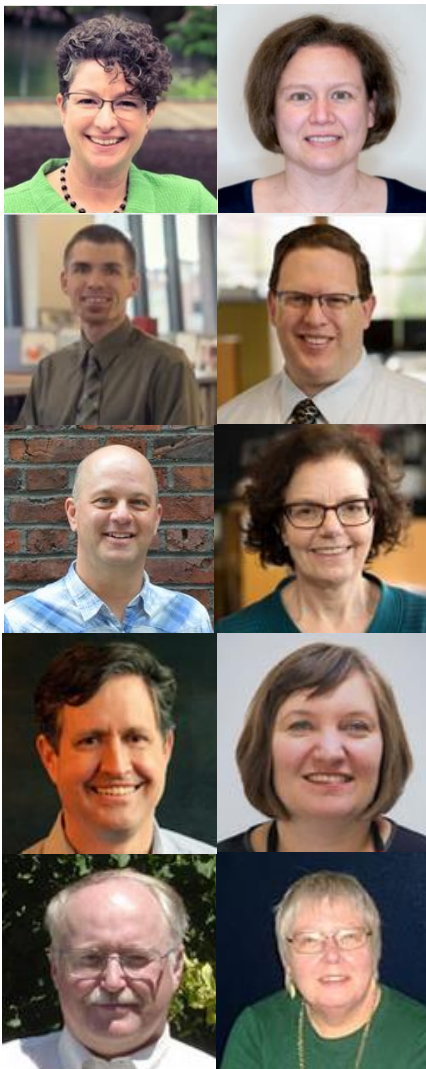
Join your fellow architects from across the state in Olympia for our annual Capitol Connections event on Thursday, January 23, 2020.

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](#).



*AIA Washington Council represents the common interests of AIA members in Washington state on government, legislative and regulatory issues that impact the practice of architecture.*



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