



October 2020 Advocacy Newsletter

Legislative Session Moves Online

The 2021 state legislative session will convene on Monday, January 11 and will run for 105 consecutive days. The 2021 session will be unlike any other, with most legislative business conducted online. Due to the coronavirus, the public will be prohibited from the capital campus. Legislators will be allowed on campus and in legislative chambers, but most will be participating online. Testimony and constituent meetings will all take place online.

As a result, legislators are expected to be limited in the number of bills they can sponsor, and committee hearings will cover fewer individual bills than they have in the past. This means that committees may find big agenda items taking up most of their time and it may be harder for new bills to gain traction.

Take Part in Your State Government

WEBINAR: Navigating the State Legislative Session

Jan. 8, 2021

Join us for this webinar immediately before the legislative session begins. We'll review how the legislative process works and help you learn to navigate the state's legislative website with ease. These skills will allow you to follow the bills and issues you are interested in and better understand how you can maximize contacts to your legislators and best impact the process. More info [here](#).

Last Chance to Vote!

Ballots must be postmarked (USPS recommends dropping ballots off at a post office) by Nov. 3 or dropped in a ballot drop box by 8 pm on Nov. 3.

Information to help you vote is available on the Washington Secretary of State's [website](#). This site includes an interactive map of ballot drop boxes statewide.

Remember that you can track your ballot via your county's elections office (check online) to make sure it was received and your signature was accepted.



Represent Architects in Virtual Olympia at Capitol Connections

Week of Jan. 25-29, 2021

Capitol Connections is AIA|WA's annual lobby day in Olympia, where architects get to discuss issues of importance to the profession with their legislators. The event will be entirely virtual this year, with a kick-off learning webinar and group meetings with your legislators throughout the week. Be part of the political process from your home office or dining room! More info [here](#).

Deepen your AIA involvement

AIA National Committee Nominations

AIA National is **accepting nominations** for 2021 appointments to its national committees. Nominations are due Friday, Nov. 6 at 5 pm Eastern.

HOW TO NOMINATE YOURSELF TO JOIN A COMMITTEE:

1. Review information

- View the **list of AIA national committees accepting nominations** this year.
- Read more about volunteering at AIA at **AIA.org**.

2. Log in to your **AIA.org** member account and visit **this page** to begin your application:

- Read the "Get Involved" page with information about applying, then click the button "Save and Next."
- Fill out the fields on the "Nominee Information" page, then click the button "Save and Next."

NOTE: Membership in AIA is not a requirement to submit a committee nomination. However, if you are an AIA member, please provide your membership number.

NOTE: AIA members will only be selected to serve on one national committee at a time.

3. Upload: on the "2021 Committee information & application upload" page:

- Click the "Choose file" button to upload your nomination materials.
- Required materials for nominations:
 - ◊ Cover letter stating why the nominee is interested in the committee(s) selected (1 page) limit
 - ◊ Resume
 - ◊ Additional documentation relevant to the candidate's suitability for the nomination (letters of reference, other volunteer experience, etc.) is permitted but not required
 - ◊ Please indicate in the nomination materials which committee(s) you are applying to
- Once completed, hit the "Save and Submit" button.



Join us for **Advocacy in Action** Advocacy Training

You can still sign up for one or more sessions of AIA Washington Council's strategic advocacy training series, Advocacy in Action. The first session is Oct. 30. More info **here**.

Advocacy in Action aims to turn participants into architect advocates on issues that are important to you. It is designed for emerging professionals and students (you do not have to be a current AIA member) – but everyone who is interested is welcome. In this 3-part webinar, you will discover how architects can participate in the political process, hear from architect advocates and others involved in policy-making, and learn how you can advocate for the issues you most care about.

Advocacy 101 – Oct. 30 Noon-1 pm

- What is advocacy
- Role of advocacy at AIA
- How to get involved
- Best practices for advocacy

Issues – Nov. 6 Noon-1 pm

- AIA|WA policy issues
- Perspectives from AIA|WA's lobbyist

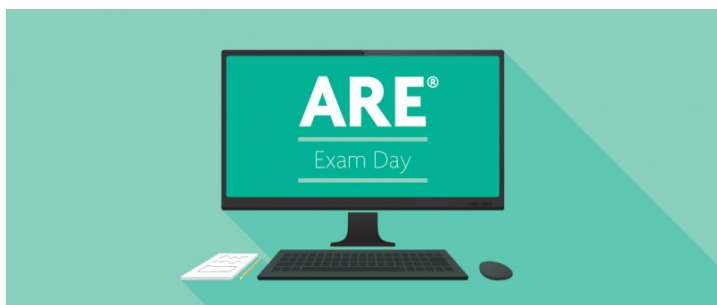
Advocate Town Hall – Nov. 6 11:30 am - 1 pm

- Legislative process overview
- Feedback session for AIA|WA staff & board: you tell us
- What's next?

Appointments will be made (and nominees notified) by January 15.



NCARB to Launch Online ARE Testing



NCARB candidates will be able to schedule online-proctored ARE testing appointments beginning mid-December 2020. As test center closures and limited availability continue to impact candidates' licensure progress, this new option will provide flexibility to take the exam in a location of your choice. More information is available [here](#).

Whether you plan on testing in-person or online, here are several updates all candidates should be aware of:

- Expected Monday, December 14, you can schedule online-proctored appointments through your NCARB Record.
- You can still test in-person at Prometric test centers.
- The ARE's content and division structure will not change.
- Aspects of the exam's delivery are being updated for both in-person and online administrations to increase exam security and provide a more efficient experience.
- These changes will maintain the exam's rigor while providing candidates with greater flexibility and accessibility.
- In summer 2021, NCARB will switch to a new test administration vendor, PSI, for both in-person and online testing.

Congratulations to AIA Southwest Washington's 2020 Scholarship Winners

AIA Southwest Washington Scholarships

- **Madison Merwine**, University of Oregon (Port Orchard resident)
- **Alejandro Felipe**, Washington State University

AIA Vancouver Scholarship

- **Ashley Beard**, WSU



AIAS Membership Scholarships

AIASWW awarded its first annual AIAS Membership Scholarships to three students this year. These scholarships cover the membership fee for a student's AIAS membership. Students involved in AIAS often go on to become actively engaged leaders within their communities and the AIA once they enter in the profession upon graduation. By eliminating the financial barrier to student's membership, AIASWW hopes to contribute to a more diverse, equitable, and inclusive future for our profession while supporting the bright next generation of leaders.

AIAS Membership Scholarships Recipients

- **Esperanza Mendoza Villa**
- **Anissa Chak**
- **Nicole Liu**



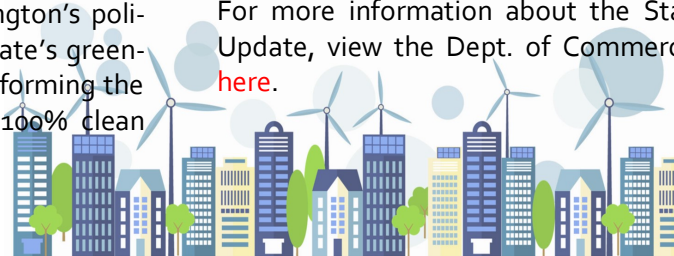
State Energy Strategy Update

Washington is updating its State Energy Strategy to support the state's goals to protect our climate, safeguard consumers, and promote a green economy. The call for an updated energy strategy was a part of 2019 legislation establishing a new clean electricity standard, [SB 5116](#). In that bill, the Legislature instructed the state to review and update the state's energy strategy to align Washington's policies and actions with: 1) meeting the state's greenhouse gas reduction limits; and 2) transforming the electricity sector to meet the state's 100% clean standard.

The updated state energy strategy is likely to inform legislative proposals for the 2021 session of the Legislature.

The draft strategy is expected to be released in early November, followed by public meetings. AIA|WA and individual architects provided feedback to the state's workgroup as it formulated the strategy, and we will continue to do so with the final version.

For more information about the State Energy Strategy Update, view the Dept. of Commerce's project website, [here](#).



EVENTS



AIA Seattle

- **Honor Awards**, announced Nov. 16
- Design After Quarantine: the **Future of Residential Design**, Nov. 5
- **Climate Advocacy Week**, Nov. 30-Dec. 4



AIA Northwest Washington

A Section of AIA Seattle

- Webinar: **2018 International Building Code Overview**, Nov. 19 + 20, open to anyone
- Design Awards winners were **announced** Oct. 15



AIA Spokane

- Design Award winners were announced Oct. 22
Click [here](#) for the winners & event video



AIA Southwest Washington

- The following Firm Forms will be scheduled in November; watch the SWW [website](#) for details (all forums will be submitted for CE approval):
 - ◇ Environment
 - ◇ Historic Preservation
 - ◇ Urban Design and Transportation

AIA Southwest Washington Seeks Applications for Executive Director

AIA Southwest Washington, based in Tacoma, is hiring a new executive director. Details are available on the [SWW website](#). Email aia@aiasww.org for more information and a more detailed position description.

Thank You Departing Board Members!

Thank you to our Board members who are finishing their terms at the end of this year. We appreciate your service to AIA|WA!

Jill Cohn—Southwest Washington

Lois Wardell—Northwest Washington

Look for more info on our new 2021 Board members in our December newsletter.



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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