

NOTICE OF MEETING

Landscape Architects Technical Committee
January 23-24, 2012
Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc.
800 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94710
(510) 845-7549

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) will hold a meeting as noted above. The agenda items may not be addressed in the order noted. The meeting is open to the public and held in a barrier free facility according to the Americans with Disabilities Act. Any person requiring a disability-related modification or accommodation to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Maryann Moya at (916) 575-7230, emailing latc@dca.ca.gov, or sending a written request to LATC, 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California, 95834. Providing your request at least five business days before the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

Agenda
January 23, 2012
10:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

- A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum
Chair's Remarks
Public Comment Session
- B. Approve November 16, 2011 LATC Summary Report
- C. Program Manager's Report
- D. Presentation by Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) Representative Including Information on the Determinants of Success, CLARB's Report on the Definition of Welfare, and Landscape Architect Registration Examination Transition
- E. Discuss and Appoint Review Development Committee and Review Committee for University of California Extension Programs
- F. Annual Enforcement Report

Adjourn

Agenda
January 24, 2012
8:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

- A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum
Chair’s Remarks
Public Comment Session

- B. Strategic and Communications Planning Review Session for Fiscal Year 2012/2013

- C. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future LATC Meeting Dates

Adjourn

Please contact Maryann Moya at (916) 575-7230 for additional information related to the meeting. Notices and agendas for LATC meetings can be found at www.latc.ca.gov.

Agenda Item A

CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL-ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Member Roster

Christine Anderson, Chair

David Allan Taylor, Jr., Vice Chair

Stephanie Landregan

CHAIR'S REMARKS

LATC Chair Christine Anderson will review the scheduled LATC actions and make appropriate announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time. The Committee Chair may allow public participation during other agenda items at her discretion.

Agenda Item B

APPROVE NOVEMBER 16, 2011, LATC SUMMARY REPORT

The LATC is asked to approve the attached November 16, 2011, Landscape architects Technical Committee Summary Report



SUMMARY REPORT

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD **Landscape Architects Technical Committee**

November 16, 2011
Sacramento, California
&
Various Teleconference Locations

LATC Members Present

Christine Anderson, Chair
David Allen Taylor, Jr. Vice Chair (via teleconference)
Stephanie Landregan (via teleconference)

Staff Present

Doug McCauley, Executive Officer, California Architects Board (Board)
Vickie Mayer, Assistant Executive Officer, Board
Norine Marks, Legal Counsel (substituting for Don Chang), Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA)
Trish Rodriguez, Program Manager, Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC)
Terri Villareal, Examination Coordinator, LATC
John Keidel, Enforcement Coordinator, LATC
Maryann Moya, Licensing and Administration Coordinator, LATC

Guests Present

J.C. Miller, Landscape Architecture Program Director, Department of Art and Design, University of California (UC), Berkeley Extension
Laura Morton, Vice President, Association of Professional Landscape Design (APLD) (via teleconference)
Jon Wreschinsky, President, California Council of American Society of Landscape Architects (via teleconference)

A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum **Chair's Remarks** **Public Comment Session**

The LATC Chair Christine Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and called the roll. Three members of the LATC were present, thus a quorum was established.

B. Approve July 19, 2011 LATC Meeting Summary Report

Stephanie Landregan noted a correction needed for the Summary Report for the July 19, 2011, LATC meeting. She noted Agenda Item G, Report on Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), should read exam sections “C and E” will be transferred to a computerized format instead of exam sections “B and D” will be transferred to a computerized format.

Laura Morton suggested a correction in the summary report under the “Guests Present” section to show Pamela Berstler as the Legislative Chair, California Chapter, Association of Professional Landscape Design.

- **David Taylor moved to approve the July 19, 2011, LATC Meeting Summary Report with noted edits.**

Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0.

C. Program Manager’s Report

Trish Rodriguez presented the Program Manager’s Report. She stated the Committee had three staff vacancies from March 2011 to May 2011. She explained the Special Projects Coordinator position is vacant, and recruitment efforts will be focused on filling the position as soon as possible. She stated the Student Assistant position was vacated on September 15, 2011, and the workload of the position has been absorbed by staff. Ms. Rodriguez also noted that two LATC member positions remain vacant, to be appointed by the Governor.

Ms. Rodriguez reminded the Committee of Debbie Balaam’s presentation on the DCA BreZE project at the last LATC meeting. She explained DCA recently executed a contract to implement the BreZE system with Accenture. Ms. Rodriguez advised that DCA’s Office of Information Services has also implemented a freeze on legacy system modifications and workaround database systems due to their potential impact on BreZE.

Ms. Rodriguez provided an update on the Student Outreach Program. She explained landscape architect Jon Wreschinsky gave an outreach presentation for the LATC on October 26, 2011, at MiraCosta Community College. Ms. Rodriguez added that five schools in the regional area were invited to attend and approximately 22 students attended. She provided that a student outreach survey was conducted and a summary of the survey results was included in the meeting packet.

Ms. Rodriguez discussed the regulatory changes for California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections 2615, Form of Examination; and 2620, Education and Training Credits. She stated the rulemaking package was delivered to the DCA Legal Office on November 14, 2011. She also stated CCR section 2620.5, Requirements for Approved Extension Certificate Program would be discussed later in the meeting. Ms. Rodriguez explained that the proposed language to amend CCR section 2620.5 was previously approved by the Board in December 2010 and needs to be noticed with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). She stated that she anticipated the package would be noticed and submitted to DCA’s Legal Office in the next couple of weeks.

Ms. Rodriguez advised that her two top priorities are filling staff vacancies and completing the regulatory package for CCR section 2620.5. She noted that the CCR section 2614 rulemaking package would be presented to the Committee to make a recommendation for Board approval later in the meeting. Ms. Rodriguez commented that the 2011/12 Strategic Plan has been posted to the LATC website as well as the upcoming LARE dates and transition information.

Ms. Rodriguez stated the LATC enforcement caseload statistics have been updated and the number of pending complaints has decreased 46% since September 2010.

Ms. Landregan asked when the regulatory changes to CCR section 2615 would become effective, now that the final rulemaking package is at the legal office. Ms. Rodriguez responded that the regulatory package is not at the OAL because it is still undergoing review and approval. She advised that the package is being expedited through the appropriate channels in order to meet the February 25, 2012 deadline. She noted the regulatory changes could go into effect in May 2012, if approved.

Ms. Landregan asked if an extension should be requested for the schools to provide an annual report. Ms. Anderson advised that we could not mandate an annual review if the regulatory changes have not become effective, and that we could only suggest that an annual review be provided by each extension program.

Ms. Anderson thanked Mr. Wreschinsky for providing the outreach presentation at MiraCosta Community College. She noted the information may have been useful to the participants earlier in their school careers. Doug McCauley suggested the LATC emulate the Board's practice by sending a communiqué to the schools each year in the Fall with a reminder about pathways to licensure. He also suggested sending a follow-up communiqué to the schools in April with another reminder about pathways to licensure.

Ms. Landregan requested that a breakdown of the number of students from each of the schools who attended the outreach program be included in future surveys. Mr. Wreschinsky noted that most of the students in attendance were from MiraCosta Community College. He stated there were three individuals who attended the presentation that may have been landscape designers who had questions regarding license requirements.

D. Update on Sunset Review Report – Senate Bill 543

Mr. McCauley shared that the Sunset Review process is complete. He noted Senate Bill 543 was signed by Governor Brown and becomes law on January 1, 2012. He advised that no issues were presented in the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee's final report for the LATC. Mr. McCauley further explained that one issue the LATC had to explain was regarding exam scores. He stated there were times when California's Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) scores were lower than the rest of the nation; conversely, there were times when the scores were higher than the rest of the nation. Mr. McCauley explained that lower pass rates in California are due to California having greater flexibility in eligibility standards and multiple pathways into the profession than other states, which might result in scores that perform differently than the rest of country. He stated the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee was receptive to this response. Mr. McCauley explained the organizational structure model that the Board and the LATC developed for regulating their two professions is a model that other boards consider, as do other states. He

said it has proven to be a very effective way to structure our licensing systems. He noted that the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors recently took on the Board for Geologists and Geophysicists, and our structure is what they are considering.

E. Report on Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)

Ms. Anderson congratulated Ms. Landregan for being elected as CLARB Vice President. Ms. Anderson noted that she herself was elected as CLARB Region V Director. Ms. Anderson advised that she and Ms. Landregan attended the CLARB Board of Directors meeting during the prior week. She noted the importance of attending these meetings to obtain information on current CLARB issues.

Ms. Landregan noted that she told CLARB she would like to have additional opportunities to participate in the meetings for those that could not be there physically. She explained these issues were addressed by the CLARB Board of Directors, and action was taken to establish a committee to address this issue. She noted this was a direct result of the LATC asking CLARB to respond to the economic situation that is not just present in California but also in other states. Ms. Anderson asked if the committee would be formed between now and the spring meeting. Ms. Landregan responded she believed so, and the President will select the committee. She also stated CLARB's annual meeting will be held in San Francisco next year.

Ms. Anderson stated CLARB recently completed comprehensive research on the definition of "welfare." She explained CLARB is trying to deliver this research information to building officials and local jurisdictions, in addition to clients and others. She stated this would be good information to provide at the LATC strategic planning session for use in its Outreach Program. She explained it strongly enhances the understanding of the LATC's mission/mandate to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.

Ms. Anderson discussed the upcoming LARE transition. She stated CLARB is changing the structure of the LARE from five sections to four sections. She noted CLARB's message to candidates is that the content of the LARE is not changing; the delivery of the LARE is changing. She stated sections C, D, and E will become sections 3 and 4. She noted candidates will have two opportunities to take two of the critical sections of the LARE between now and when the transition takes place in 2012.

Ms. Anderson discussed CLARB's advice to candidates who are already in the process of taking the LARE, to finish the remaining sections. She stated CLARB's advice to candidates who have not started taking the LARE is to take sections A and B in March 2012. She explained this is because sections A and B will transfer directly to sections 1 and 2 when the transition takes place. Ms. Anderson stated candidates should refer to the transition chart after the March 2012 examinations and take the appropriate sections as noted. She reiterated the importance of getting this message to the candidates.

Ms. Rodriguez stated that the LATC has included vital LARE information on the LATC website in an effort to provide this information to candidates. She also stated the last exam results identified pending candidates who still have sections to complete. She noted exam results for pending candidates included a notification of the upcoming LARE change.

Mr. Taylor asked if the graphic section of the new LARE is going to be administered via computer. He stated that his understanding is that the new graphic section will not use Computer-Aided Design software. Ms. Landregan responded that it is a drag-and-drop system with vignette sections. She noted all of elements that would normally be notations on a design will be on the computer. She explained the advantage to this is that more vignettes can be administered because there is no drawing time and a candidate's skill-set can be tested multiple times resulting in a better understanding of their true knowledge. She noted the new LARE graphic section also eliminates the subjective human factor involved in testing. She stated it is clear on the computer if a candidate has met the testing criteria and that scores can be quickly calculated and competencies can be tested more than twice. Ms. Landregan mentioned that the final score will be an average of the scores. She explained averaging the scores is beneficial to the candidates if they make an error(s) because it means candidates will not be as heavily penalized.

Ms. Anderson stated CLARB is launching a pilot of the new exam in June 2012. She noted that CLARB is launching the pilot so they can resolve any issues before they move to the full administration of the exam. Ms. Landregan explained the pilot is open to 18 unlicensed candidates who will be selected from across the country. She noted the scores the candidates receive will not count towards the actual test, but it will allow them to gain familiarization with the new format. She also noted CLARB will pay for the pilot exam for these 18 individuals.

Ms. Anderson stated CLARB is changing their testing vendor from Prometric Inc. to Pearson PLC. She stated the reason is that Pearson provides a better quality environment for the testing centers and it is more focused towards the needs of landscape architecture. She explained Pearson also has three levels of testing centers to administer the exam. She explained they will bring on other levels of testing centers as needed, which could affect candidates in outlying areas with limited access to the main testing centers. Ms. Landregan suggested Pearson should send the LATC a list of testing centers in California.

F. Review and Approve Proposed Amendments to California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2614 Examination Transition Plan and Make Recommendation to the Board

Ms. Rodriguez stated the proposed changes to CCR section 2614 include new language to allow credit to candidates for LARE sections previously passed once the LARE transitions from five sections to four in September 2012. She noted this proposed regulatory amendment will contain an expedited review so that it can be in place in time for the transition in September.

Ms. Landregan asked if an effective date is needed for this change. Vickie Mayer noted that the proposed regulatory language added the new transition plan to the end of CCR section 2614. She explained that this section had prior transition plans going back to LARE credit in 1992.

Ms. Mayer also explained once the language is approved by OAL, the effective date would be 30 days after it is filed with the Secretary of State office, unless we request that it be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State. She strongly encouraged the change be effective upon filing with the Secretary of State to shorten the process. She noted this will decrease the effective date by 30 days and candidates will be given credit for any previous sections they have passed according to the transition chart established by CLARB. She explained this pattern follows the Board's model in its regulations of allowing credit for exam sections that were previously passed.

Ms. Mayer explained once the LATC approves the proposed amendments, the LATC is recommending to the Board that they approve the package to proceed with the regulatory process. She noted the Board is meeting December 7, 2011, and one of their agenda items is to review and consider the LATC's recommendation. Ms. Mayer noted Ms. Rodriguez worked very hard to get this regulatory proposal done quickly.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to approve the proposed amendments to CCR section 2614, Examination Transition Plan and recommend to the Board to proceed with the regulatory proposal with an effective date upon filing with the Secretary of State.**

David Taylor seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0.

Norine Marks suggested a second motion to allow staff to work with legal counsel to make any non-substantive changes to the regulatory package.

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to allow staff to work with legal counsel to make any non-substantive changes to the proposed amendments to CCR section 2614, Examination Transition Plan, if needed.**

David Taylor seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0.

G. University of California (UC) Extension Programs' Certification

Ms. Anderson explained both the UC Berkeley and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) landscape architecture extension program approvals were scheduled to expire in 2010. She stated at the July 28, 2011 LATC meeting, the approvals were extended to expire at a specified date in 2012. She noted both extension programs were sent letters with this information in August 2011. She explained a factor in setting the date in 2012 was the time needed for the extension programs to conduct their own self-evaluation report (SER). She noted after a subcommittee discussion and review of the programs between herself, Ms. Rodriguez, and Carmen Alexander, the former LATC Exam Coordinator, they decided training is required for those who are reviewing the extension programs to understand the needs of the LATC. She presented several issues for the LATC to consider: review of the timetable to ensure 2012 is still a valid time frame, and potentially give the extension programs specific dates to provide the LATC with all needed elements. She mentioned the need for the LATC to appoint another subcommittee and to discuss training items that need to be provided for the review committee that reviews both extension programs. Ms. Landregan asked what action the LATC needs to take if we are proposing to extend the time frame.

Mr. McCauley noted that before the LATC discusses this item further, legal counsel needs to first clarify Ms. Landregan's relationship with UCLA to address any potential conflicts of interest, and the rule of necessity for voting. Ms. Landregan stated she is the Program Director for the UCLA Extension Landscape Architecture Program. She stated her role is to run the Program and to fulfill the requirements that are set forth by the LATC; therefore, she has a vested monetary interest because she is paid by the Program. Ms. Marks noted that generally, with this kind of interest in the matter before the Committee, you would recuse yourself from any discussion and voting. She explained if there is a need to vote in order to take valid action

and you need that person to fulfill a quorum, and then the “rule of necessity” would allow the recused person to vote on that item.

Ms. Anderson invited discussion about the timetable and whether or not we need to consider an extension beyond 2012. Mr. Taylor asked if the SER process had begun in either of the programs. Ms. Landregan responded that the process had not begun for UCLA. J.C. Miller said the process had not begun for UC Berkeley.

Mr. Miller stated he is aware the SER is forthcoming and explained he has never participated in completing an SER so he would need a minimum of six months. He stated he has received additional funds for extra staffing.

Ms. Landregan stated she has also never performed an SER since she has been the Director. She noted the last time an SER was performed, it took approximately one year to complete. She explained this was due to the time involved in coordinating with the instructors and students, gathering the data, and identifying additional funds to be incorporated into the budget. Ms. Landregan mentioned she is prepared to update her budget to include funds for an SER, but it would be helpful to know a time frame to assist in the allocation of funds. Ms. Landregan discussed UCLA’s specific funding and hiring criteria in order to move forward. She noted that the UCLA landscape architecture extension program does not have guidelines from the LATC on how to conduct the SER.

Ms. Anderson noted that the initial background information has been collected which will be used for the upcoming SER, but the SER criteria and corresponding LATC review form have not been developed from this information. Mr. Taylor noted that since the SER criteria and corresponding review form have not been formally developed, the dates cannot be discussed. He asked if the LATC can formally add SER preparation to the agenda for the next LATC meeting. Ms. Rodriguez asked if this is something for the new subcommittee to examine. Ms. Anderson stated the new subcommittee should examine the work that will be done on the SER and place it on the LATC’s agenda for approval.

Ms. Anderson asked if we need to take any additional action or approve any new language for the SER procedures in addition to the language that was already approved for CCR section 2620.5. Ms. Landregan explained that legal counsel, Don Chang, made it clear at the last meeting the regulations state the LATC would prepare procedures and that we did not have to go into detail as to what those were. Ms. Anderson concurred and stated that staff was given the authorization to work with this information to ensure the details were taken care of. Ms. Anderson stated there is a time frame of approximately over a year for the SER to be completed. She noted from the LATC’s point of view, we need at least 30 days to prepare procedures and then a year from that point for the extension programs to respond.

Ms. Landregan stated she would like to discuss the sequence of events needed to start the SER process. She stated another subcommittee needs to be formed, the SER needs to be reviewed and revised for approval by the LATC, and it needs to be made public for comments. She noted after that, it would take a time frame of six months to one year for an SER to be completed. Ms. Landregan stated administrations have changed in both extension programs and that significant SER data has changed as a result. She also suggested the schools provide an annual update to monitor where they are currently in the process. Ms. Anderson stated she is concerned that we would be asking for an update on information that is already six years old.

Ms. Anderson suggested that the LATC request the schools to complete the SER and provide the annual update afterwards.

Ms. Rodriguez explained the LATC requires an annual update following the SER in the proposed regulatory changes to CCR section 2620.5. She questioned how we can impose the requirement on the schools since there is currently no regulatory requirement for the UC extension programs to do so. Ms. Landregan suggested that the LATC could ask the schools for a voluntary update including certain items such as changes to the instructors, curriculum, and administration.

Ms. Anderson asked if there is a time frame when the regulatory package would be approved. Ms. Rodriguez stated the package has not been noticed by OAL and staff is just starting with the regulatory process. She stated it may be a year out until completion and approval.

Mr. Miller stated the UC Berkeley Extension Certificate Program would be happy to give a voluntary report. He asked if the timing of the voluntary report can be considered in the relationship to the due date for the SER. Ms. Anderson suggested a tentative date for the SER in 2013. She stated the LATC should ask for a voluntary update during 2012 so we can keep apprised of their programs, keeping in mind the current baseline for an update is six years prior to the new date.

Ms. Mayer asked how the review criteria would be established. Ms. Anderson stated the LATC will work with staff and the new subcommittee to establish the criteria. Ms. Anderson stated they need to form a subcommittee and identify the metrics for the extension program to use as a guideline for future development.

Ms. Marks stated the regulations do not mention other procedures. She noted it appeared that the LATC is referring to a separate subcommittee to approve procedures and for that same subcommittee to review a SER and its contents. Mr. McCauley suggested that we send our communiqué to the schools requesting certain specified information to be returned to us on a specified date. He noted the subcommittee may do a site visit and lay out all the steps in conducting a review.

Ms. Mayer stated the new subcommittee could review the SER and develop review procedures while the regulation package is pending approval. Ms. Anderson noted she wants to provide the SER to the programs in anticipation of the regulation being approved and what would be implemented once it is approved.

Ms. Marks asked if the annual report is the same as the SER. Ms. Landregan responded the annual report is to keep LATC current on any important changes that may occur in the UC Extension programs. Ms. Marks stated she was unclear where the SER fits into the process since it is not specified in the existing or proposed regulations. Ms. Landregan stated the SER is vaguely mentioned in CCR section 2620 of the Landscape Architects Practice Act.

Ms. Mayer asked if LATC can recommend to the Board to proceed with the regulatory proposal to change the "February 26, 1990" date of the "Accreditation Standards for Programs in Landscape Architecture" shown in section 2620, to reflect the new date and new title of the current curriculum, even though this action is not on the meeting agenda. Ms. Marks responded it is not itemized on the agenda, but if practice has been to delegate staff to work with legal

counsel to make non-substantive changes, then the LATC could do so before the package is noticed. She explained that updating the publication in such a way is not greatly substantive, but the LATC should defer to a decision by Mr. Chang. Ms. Landregan recommended that subsection (b) of CCR section 2620 be changed to reflect the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) standard of February 6, 2010. Ms. Anderson recommended we consult with Mr. Chang to clarify if such changes fall under the prior approval.

Ms. Anderson stated she would like to formulate a review development committee in January 2012 that will include licensed academics from the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), potentially with experience from LAAB. She also noted she would like someone who has prior experience conducting the extension program reviews to be on the review development committee. She stated there were six people on the last review committee and at least one of those members should continue to be involved or participate in the next development and review process. She stated there were three separate people reviewing each of the extension programs in the last review. She explained it is important that the same members review both programs for both of the upcoming reviews. Ms. Landregan concurred, and stated one member should be from Northern California and another from Southern California. Mr. Taylor agreed, and stated there should be someone who has been involved in the LAAB program before. He recommended a review committee composed of five people reviewing both extension programs.

Ms. Rodriguez asked for clarification on what the next steps are to establish the review development committee. Ms. Landregan suggested Ms. Anderson appoint the review committees. Mr. Miller asked for the proposed timeline. Ms. Landregan recommended the extension programs provide an update of any changes in personnel, material buildings, or other critical factors in the credentialing process in 2012. Ms. Landregan recommended a voluntary update to the LATC in 2012 and the SER be completed by December 2013, unless the regulatory package is not approved a year prior. She proposed the SER to be required one year after the date of enactment of the changes in CCR section 2620.5.

- **Christine Anderson moved to ask the Extension Programs to prepare a voluntary update in March 2012 to identify and review substantive changes that are outlined in the criteria specified in CCR section 2620.5 proposed regulations.**

David Taylor seconded the motion.

The motion carried 2-0-1 (Stephanie Landregan abstained).

- **Christine Anderson moved to extend the Extension Programs' expiration date to December 31, 2013 in light of pending regulatory changes to CCR section 2620.5 and provided the changes have been approved by OAL.**

David Taylor seconded the motion.

The motion to carried 2-0-1 (Stephanie Landregan abstained.)

H. Review and Approve Complaint Disclosure Procedures

Ms. Rodriguez stated John Keidel, LATC's Enforcement Coordinator drafted the new LATC Public Information Disclosure Procedures contained in the meeting packet using the Board's approved procedures as a guide. She explained the development of the procedures is an objective in the LATC's 2010/11 Strategic Plan. She noted website disclosure guidelines

previously approved by the LATC were incorporated into the Public Information Disclosure Procedures and were reviewed by DCA's Legal Office.

Mr. Taylor asked how long citations and history are reported on the LATC's website. Ms. Mayer explained the public disclosure criteria for disciplinary actions, citations, and complaints are set by the LATC retention schedule. She stated the LATC previously voted to limit citation disclosure on the website for five years; however, citations are still disclosable according to the retention schedule. Ms. Mayer stated that staff will check if the complaint disclosure guidelines are shown on the LATC website, and that the Board may already have a similar section on their website to use as a model if it is not already on the LATC's site.

Ms. Morton asked if a citation is dismissed if it could include a statement whether it was dismissed with or without merit. Ms. Anderson explained we are allowed to disclose the decision for the citation; however, the decision does not specify if it is with or without merit, so we cannot include that information.

- **David Taylor moved to approve the Public Information Disclosure Procedures as presented in the meeting packet.**

Stephanie Landregan seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0.

I. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future LATC Meeting Dates

Ms. Anderson noted the upcoming Board meeting scheduled for December 7 – 8, 2011 in San Diego and also the LATC Strategic Planning meeting in Berkeley on January 23 – 24, 2012. Mr. Taylor was identified to attend the Board meeting in December.

Ms. Anderson stated a Board meeting will be held in March 2012 with the location and date to be determined. She noted the LATC will discuss future LATC meeting dates at the Strategic Planning meeting in January 2012.

Ms. Landregan requested to add the ASLA annual meeting scheduled for September 28 - October 1, 2012 in Phoenix, AZ to the schedule of meeting dates.

Ms. Anderson shared that the CLARB Spring meeting is scheduled for February 24 – 25, 2012 in Coral Gables, FL and the annual meeting is scheduled September 13- 15, 2012 in San Francisco.

Adjourn

- **Stephanie Landregan moved to adjourn.**

DJ Taylor seconded the motion.

The motion carried 3-0.

The meeting adjourned at 12:51 p.m.

Agenda Item C

PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT

The Program Manager's Report provides a synopsis of current activities and is attached for the LATC's review along with other program updates.

Attachments:

1. Program Manager's Report
2. January 17, 2012, CC/ASLA Bill Tracking List

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Program Manager's Report

January 23-24, 2012

ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT

Personnel

LATC will be fully staffed by the end of January 2012. John Keidel has transitioned his responsibilities to the Special Projects Coordinator position and a new Enforcement Coordinator, Jacqueline French, will start on January 23, 2012. The LATC has conducted interviews for a Student Assistant and looks forward to filling this part-time position by February 2012.

Staff continue to receive training. Courses planned include:

| | |
|------------------|---|
| January 26, 2012 | Labor Relations for Managers and Supervisors (<i>Trish</i>) |
| March 8, 2012 | Welcome to DCA (<i>Jacqueline</i>) |
| March 15, 2012 | Sexual Harassment Prevention Webinar (<i>Jacqueline</i>) |

Committee Members

There are currently two vacancies on the LATC to be appointed by the Governor.

BreEZe Project

The BreEZe Project is the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) program that provides the DCA organizations an enterprise system that supports all applicant tracking, licensing, renewal, enforcement, monitoring, cashiering, and management capabilities. BreEZe will support the DCA's highest priority initiatives of Job Creation and Consumer Protection by replacing the DCA's aging legacy business systems with an integrated software solution that utilizes current technologies to facilitate increased efficiencies in the DCA boards' and bureaus' licensing and enforcement programs.

BreEZe will provide all DCA organizations with an enterprise system that supports all applicant tracking, licensing, renewal, enforcement, monitoring, cashiering, and data management capabilities. BreEZe will be web-enabled to allow application, renewal, and payment processing via the Internet for applicants and licensees. Furthermore, BreEZe will allow the public to file complaints and look up licensee information and complaint status through the Internet. As part of the BreEZe implementation, interfaces to electronically share data with internal and external systems will be established; existing data will be converted and migrated into BreEZe; user training will be conducted; and system documentation will be created.

The Department recently signed the contract to implement the BreEZe system with the solution vendor, Accenture. In order to keep DCA and Accenture aligned, the Office of Information

Services has implemented a formal change process which includes a soft freeze on legacy system modifications and workaround database systems due to their potential impact on BreEZe.

The BreEZe project release schedule will be in three phases and will begin in late summer 2012. The second release is planned for Spring 2013, and the LATC will be part of phase three, in Fall 2013.

Outreach

Stephanie Landregan will deliver a landscape architecture outreach presentation on January 30, 2012, at California Polytechnic University Pomona.

The LATC is in the process of scheduling other outreach presentations to community colleges and universities which offer the landscape architecture program, for the current semester. Outreach presentations will be provided by volunteer landscape architects.

Publications

The DCA Publication, Design, and Editing Office has finished the first draft of the candidate guide and the general consumer guide and LATC staff is currently reviewing and editing these two publications. The other three consumer guides (residential, private, and public guides), will be consolidated into the general consumer guide.

Due to staff vacancies, competing priorities and the Sunset Review Report, this task is on hold until additional resources are available.

Regulatory Changes

California Code of Regulations (CCR) sections 2615 - Form of Examinations, and 2620 Education and Training Credits – Operative on January 1997– The LATC formed an Education Subcommittee in 2004 in response to the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee’s recommendation to further evaluate California’s eligibility requirements and access to landscape architecture licensure in California. The intent of the evaluation was to ensure that applicants have appropriate educational and training/work experience prior to taking the required examination. Specifically, the Subcommittee was to determine appropriate levels of landscape architecture education and training preparation necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare in California and successfully preparing applicants for the examination. The final Education Subcommittee Report identifies and substantiates recommended changes to CCR sections 2615 and 2620. The rulemaking process can take up to one year from the date the Notice is published by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Following is a chronology to date, of the processing of the LATC’s regulatory proposal for CCR 2615 and 2620:

| | |
|-------------------|--|
| January 20, 2010 | LATC review and recommendation for Board approval |
| March 18, 2010 | Final approval by the Board |
| February 25, 2011 | Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations published by OAL |

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| April 11, 2011 | Public hearing, two comments received. No opposition or recommendations received. |
| November 15, 2011 | Final rulemaking file to DCA Legal Office |
| December 1, 2011 | Regulation package to DCA Division of Legislative and Policy Review |
| January 9, 2012 | Regulation package to DCA Legal Affairs Division, Deputy Director |

The work on the Sunset Review Report took precedence and this item was delayed. The final rulemaking file is expected to be delivered to the Secretary of State by the February 25, 2012, deadline.

CCR section 2620.5, Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program - The LATC reviews landscape architecture extension certificate programs in California approximately every five years in order to determine the programs' adherence to the requirements under CCR section 2620.5. Examination candidates may receive educational credit for landscape architecture certificates from extension programs approved by the LATC. Currently, there are two landscape architecture extension certificate programs in the state of California; University of California (UC) Los Angeles and UC Berkeley.

On October 22, 2009, the LATC recommended that the current extension certificate requirements be revised, if necessary, to ensure that the proposed updates made by Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) pertaining to public health, safety, and welfare are also reflected in the extension certificate program requirements.

Since the UC Los Angeles and UC Berkeley Landscape Architecture Extension Certificate Programs' approval were set to expire in 2010, at its July 28, 2010, meeting, the LATC extended these programs' expiration dates until 2012 in order to allow sufficient time to re-evaluate the current requirements and proceed with the rulemaking process, if needed.

LATC staff, along with Vice Chair Christine Anderson and Legal Counsel Don Chang, worked together in reviewing the current California standards contained in the regulations as well as the recently updated LAAB standards. Since the LAAB standards are broad, not state specific, and mostly apply to four-year baccalaureate institutions, the workgroup decided not to rely on the LAAB standards for the update but rather to revise the standards based on California needs. Some of the key changes recommended by the workgroup involved an annual report from each landscape architecture extension certificate program to update the LATC on changes between review cycles, currently not defined in section 2620.5. As the public agency responsible for the protection of the consumer, the workgroup identified the need to incorporate health, safety and welfare on all program curriculum areas. Both California extension certificate programs provided feedback on the proposed regulatory changes identified by the workgroup.

At the November 22, 2010, LATC meeting, Committee members reviewed and approved, with minor changes, the proposed language to amend CCR section 2620.5. A few of the significant revisions in this regulatory proposal include: the addition of a "public policy and regulation" criterion; requiring nine specified areas of study to cover public health, safety, and welfare; allowing the program's instructional personnel to hold a certificate from an approved extension certificate program in landscape architecture; and establishing an annual review process that gives the Board the option to further evaluate each program, if desired.

At its December 15-16, 2010, meeting, the Board approved the proposed regulation to amend CCR section 2620.5 and delegated authority to the Executive Officer to adopt the regulation provided no adverse comments are received during the public comment period and to make minor technical changes to the language, if needed.

The work on the Sunset Review Report took precedence and staff vacancies delayed this task. The next step is to notice the publication with OAL. The rulemaking process can take up to one year from the date the notice is published by OAL.

CCR section 2614 Examination Transition Plan - This proposal would amend section 2614 by adding subsections (f)(1) – (4), thus establishing a transition plan for those candidates who passed sections of previously administered landscape architect licensing examinations into the current Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). The existing regulation sets forth the transition plan for previous divisions of the licensing examination to the divisions of the LARE through June 2012. Following is a chronology to date, of the processing of the LATC’s regulatory proposal for CCR 2615 and 2620:

- November 16, 2011 LATC review and recommendation for Board approval
- December 7, 2011 Final approval by the Board
- January 17, 2012 Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations filed with OAL
- January 27, 2012 Notice of Proposed Changes in Regulations will be published by OAL

LATC Website

Landscape Architect Registration Examination – The March and June 2012 exam administration dates were posted on the website.

Web License Lookup – The LATC currently receives a monthly report of licensees from DCA’s Office of Information Services (OIS). The LATC is currently working with OIS on adding a licensee search option on the LATC website that will allow anyone to search for licensed landscape architects by a variety of search criteria. The web license lookup provides public information on a licensed landscape architect, such as the status of the license and the licensee’s address of record. Licensee searches will also display all accusation documents, as required by DCA.

Due to staff vacancies, and competing priorities and the Sunset Review Report, this task is on hold until additional resources are available.

Customer Satisfaction Survey - In response to the LATC’s Strategic Plan – Regulation and Enforcement – Action Plan number 5, in June 2009 LATC staff began the development of a Customer Satisfaction Survey. The survey was developed through the website SurveyMonkey and was posted on the LATC website on August 24, 2009. Links to the survey were added to the main Web page and the main Consumer, Candidate and Licensee pages. A link to the survey was sent out to all email list subscribers on July 15, 2010, in order to increase the number of responses.

Due to staff vacancies, and competing priorities and the Sunset Review Report, this task is on hold until additional resources are available.

LATC EXAMINATION PROGRAM

Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) – Upcoming Changes

Currently, the LARE consists of five sections. Sections A, B and D are multiple-choice, and C and E are graphic performance sections. They are each administered at testing centers on contract with the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) twice per year. CLARB will begin utilizing Pearson VUE testing facilities in California in March 2012.

The LARE will be changing beginning with the first administration of the new exam in September 2012. The exam will change from the current five-sections (A – E) to four-sections (1 – 4). The CLARB notified candidates of the upcoming changes in July 2011. The LATC added information regarding these changes to its website and has been working closely with CLARB to ensure a smooth transition for all candidates.

Over the next few months CLARB will begin a more targeted communications campaign to current candidates based on where they are in the examination process. In May 2012, CLARB will begin Phase II of their candidate communications campaign that will focus on the benefits of the new exam.

An insert was included with the September 2011 exam results notifying those candidates who had sections remaining to complete, of the upcoming exam change. Staff will continue to mail updates to candidates regarding the upcoming exam changes.

A list of the new testing sites is shown below:

Pearson VUE California Testing Facilities for LARE

| | City | Address | | Zip Code |
|----|-------------|----------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------|
| 1 | Anaheim | Anaheim Corporate Plaza | 2190 Towne Centre Place | 92806 |
| 2 | Daly City | 2001 Junipero Serra Blvd. | Suite 530 | 94014 |
| 3 | Fairfield | 4820 Business Center Drive | Suite 150 | 94534 |
| 4 | Fresno | 7555 N. Palm Avenue | Suite 205 | 93711 |
| 5 | Gardena | 1515 West 190th Street | South Bay Centre | 90248 |
| 6 | Lake Forest | 23792 Rockfield Blvd. | Suite 200 | 92630 |
| 7 | Milpitas | 1551 McCarthy Blvd | Suite 108 | 95035 |
| 8 | Oakland | 1000 Broadway | Transpacific Center | 94607 |
| 9 | Ontario | 3401 Centrelake Drive | Centrelake Plaza | 91761 |
| 10 | Pasadena | Union Bank Building | 70 S. Lake Avenue | 91101 |
| 11 | Redding | 2190 Larkspur Lane | Suite 400 | 96002 |
| 12 | Redlands | 1690 Barton Road | Suite 102 | 92373 |
| 13 | Roseville | 3010 Lava Ridge Court | Suite #170 | 95661 |
| 14 | Sacramento | 8950 Cal Center Drive | Suite 215 | 95826 |
| 15 | San Diego | 9619 Chesapeake Drive | Suite 208 | 92123 |
| 16 | San Diego | 11770 Bernardo Plaza Court | Suite 463 | 92128 |

| | | | | |
|----|------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|------------|
| 17 | San Dimas | 140 East Via Verde | Suite 110 | 91773 |
| 18 | San Francisco | 201 Filbert Street | Suite 200 | 94133-3238 |
| 19 | San Marcos | 570 Rancheros Drive | Suite 110 | 92069 |
| 20 | Santa Maria | 1010 South Broadway | Gill Office Building | 93454 |
| 21 | Visalia | 5300 West Tulare Avenue | Suite 108 | 93277 |
| 22 | WestLake Village | 875 South Westlake Blvd. | Westlake Corporate Centre | 91361 |

California Supplemental Examination (CSE)

The Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) completed development of the new exam and it was launched in August 2011. An exam and item analysis will be provided by OPES within approximately eight months when a sufficient sample of candidates is obtained. LATC will request ongoing statistical analysis of the new exam by the OPES.

ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM

Complaint Statistics

| (2 nd Quarter 2011 & 2010) | 2011 | | | 2010 | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|---------|----------|----------|
| | October | November | December | October | November | December |
| Complaints Opened | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| Complaints to Expert | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 |
| Complaints to DOI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Complaints Pending DOI | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Complaints Pending AG | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Complaints Pending DA | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Complaints Pending | 32 | 34 | 31 | 66 | 61 | 60 |
| Complaints Closed | 8 | 0 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 1 |
| Settlement Cases (§5678.5) | | | | | | |
| Opened | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Settlement Cases (§5678.5) | | | | | | |
| Pending | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |
| Settlement Cases (§5678.5) | | | | | | |
| Closed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Citations Final | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |

Rodriguez, Trish@DCA

From: Shirley Emery <semery@thomadv.com>
Sent: Tuesday, January 17, 2012 12:47 PM
To: Rodriguez, Trish@DCA
Subject: Emailing: 357tai1.xsl

CC/ASLA

AB 275 (Solorio [D]) Rainwater Capture Act of 2011. (V-10/09/2011 [html pdf])

Status: 10/09/2011-Vetoed by the Governor
Current Location: 10/10/2011-A VETOED

Summary: Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board (state board) and the California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of stormwater in accordance with the national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Existing law authorizes a city, county, or special district to develop, jointly or individually, stormwater resource plans that meet certain standards. This bill would enact the Rainwater Capture Act of 2011, which would authorize residential, commercial, and governmental landowners to install, maintain, and operate rain barrel systems, as defined, and rainwater capture systems, as defined, for specified purposes, provided that the systems comply with specified requirements. The bill would require a local agency to provide notification to the operator of a public water system, as defined, if the local agency chooses to adopt a permitting program for rainwater capture systems and approves a permit for a rainwater capture system connected to the public water system. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Organization Position
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 2/11/2011 1-02/07/2011 to: WATCH

AB 456 (Wagner [R]) Mechanics liens. (C-10/09/2011 [html pdf])

Status: 10/09/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 673, Statutes of 2011
Current Location: 10/09/2011-A CHAPTERED

Summary: The California Constitution gives workers the right to a mechanics lien for the value of labor and materials provided for the improvement of real property, and authorizes the Legislature to provide for the speedy and efficient enforcement of these liens. Existing law requires a claim of mechanics lien to be served on the owner or reputed owner of the property in order to be valid, and requires a proof of service affidavit to show the name of the person upon whom the mechanics lien was served. This bill would clarify that the affidavit is required to show the name of the owner or reputed owner of the property, and the title or capacity in which the person or entity was served.

Organization Position
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 3/21/2011 A-03/17/2011 to: WATCH

AB 465 (Berryhill, Bill [R]) Gardening or landscape maintenance services: regulation. (A-03/17/2011 [html pdf])

Status: 05/10/2011-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was B., P. & C.P. on 3/21/2011)
Current Location: 05/10/2011-A 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law provides for the regulation of the operation of various businesses. This bill would, on and after July 1, 2012, provide for the regulation of gardening or landscape maintenance services, as defined. The bill would require a local jurisdiction to obtain from an applicant for issuance or renewal of a business license who provides gardening or landscape maintenance services, (1) documentation that he or she has workers' compensation coverage or is exempt from those coverage requirements and proof of current licensure as a contractor issued by the Contractors' State License Board, or (2) a signed acknowledgment of the consequences of performing the duties of a contractor without a license. The bill would impose a civil penalty, as specified, on an applicant who provides false information with respect to an application, and would

authorize certain persons to obtain an injunction under specified circumstances. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 2/16/2011 I-02/15/2011 to: WATCH

AB 530

(Smyth [R]) Regulations: economic and technical information. (A-03/31/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 05/28/2011-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 5/27/2011)
Current Location: 05/28/2011-A 2 YEAR

Summary: The Administrative Procedure Act governs the procedure for the adoption, amendment, or repeal of regulations by state agencies and for the review of those regulatory actions by the Office of Administrative Law. The act requires an agency, as part of the regulatory adoption process, to assess the potential for adverse economic impact on California business enterprises and individuals, as specified. The act requires an agency that seeks to adopt, amend, or repeal a regulation to release a notice of proposed action with prescribed information, including specified information regarding adverse economic impacts. The act requires an agency to file with the office, when it files the notice of proposed action, an initial statement of reasons that includes, among other things, a description of reasonable alternatives to the proposed regulation and the agency's reason for rejecting the alternatives, as specified. This bill would require the initial statement of reasons to also identify each document, including, but not limited to, technical, theoretical, and empirical studies, reports, or similar documents, upon which the agency relied in rejecting each reasonable alternative. The bill would prohibit an agency from rejecting a reasonable alternative unless the statement of reasons includes at least one of these documents. The bill would also repeal a provision that authorizes the agency to avoid having to artificially construct alternatives, describe unreasonable alternatives, or justify why it did not describe alternatives. This bill contains other related provisions.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 6/3/2011 A-03/31/2011 to: WATCH

AB 587

(Gordon [D]) Public works: volunteers. (C-09/06/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 09/06/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 219, Statutes of 2011
Current Location: 09/06/2011-A CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law defines "public works," for purposes of regulating public works contracts, as, among other things, construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work that is performed under contract and paid for in whole or in part out of public funds. Pursuant to existing law, all workers employed on public works projects are required to be paid not less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for work, except as specified. This bill would extend that repeal date to January 1, 2017, and make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that provision. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA SUPPORT
Notes: 4/13/2011 I-02/16/2011 to: SUPPORT
3/9/2011 I-02/17/2011 to: WATCH
4/28/11-Support ltr.
6/3/11-Support ltr.

AB 685

(Eng [D]) State water policy. (A-01/13/2012 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 01/13/2012-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Current Location: 01/13/2012-S APPR.

Summary: Existing law establishes various state water policies, including the policy that the use of water for domestic purposes is the highest use of water. This bill would declare that it is the policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. The bill would require, on and after January 1, 2013, all relevant state agencies, including the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board, the California regional water quality control boards, and the State Department of Public Health, to advance the implementation of this state policy upon revising existing, and upon adopting or establishing new, policies,

regulations, and funding criteria when those policies, regulations, and grant criteria are pertinent to the uses of water described above.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 6/3/2011 A-03/31/2011 to: WATCH

AB 745

(Valadao [R]) California Water Plan. (1-02/17/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 05/13/2011-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/17/2011)
Current Location: 05/13/2011-A 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of Water Resources to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state, which is known as the California Water Plan. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that requirement.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 6/3/2011 A-03/31/2011 to: WATCH

AB 819

(Wieckowski [D]) Bikeways. (A-01/11/2012 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 01/12/2012-Re-referred to Com. on APPR.
Current Location: 01/12/2012-A APPR.
Calendar Events: 01/19/12 Upon adjournment of Session - State Capitol, Room 4202 ASM APPROPRIATIONS

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of Transportation, in cooperation with county and city governments, to establish minimum safety design criteria for the planning and construction of bikeways, and authorizes cities, counties, and local agencies to establish bikeways. Existing law requires all city, county, regional, and other local agencies responsible for the development or operation of bikeways or roadways where bicycle travel is permitted to utilize all minimum safety design criteria and uniform specifications and symbols for signs, markers, and traffic control devices established pursuant to specified provisions of existing law. This bill would require the department to establish procedures for cities, counties, and local agencies to request approval to use nonstandard planning, design, and construction features in the construction of bikeways and roadways where bicycle travel is permitted, and nonstandard signs, markers, and traffic control devices, in each case, for purposes of research, experimentation, and verification .

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 3/9/2011 1-02/17/2011 to: WATCH

AB 849

(Gatto [D]) Water: use efficiency: graywater building standards. (C-10/08/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: A 10/08/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 577, Statutes of 2011
Current Location: A 10/08/2011-A CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law authorizes a city, county, or other local agency to adopt, after a public hearing and enactment of an ordinance or resolution, building standards that prohibit entirely the use of graywater, or building standards that are more restrictive than the graywater building standards adopted by the Department of Housing and Community Development and published in the California Building Standards Code. This bill would repeal the authority of a city, county, or other local agency to adopt building standards that prohibit entirely the use of graywater and instead authorize the adoption, under specified requirements, of standards that are more restrictive than that adopted pursuant to state requirements. The bill would require that an ordinance enacted pursuant to this authority include the local climatic, geological, topographical, or public health conditions requiring different building standards. The bill would also require a city, county, or other local agency to seek consultation with the local public health department prior to commencing the issuance of permits for indoor graywater systems, as specified.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 2/18/2011 1-02/17/2011 to: WATCH

property or performs or furnishes the design, specifications, surveying, planning, supervision, testing, or observation of construction or construction of an improvement to real property more than 10 years after the substantial completion of the development or improvement, as specified. This bill would provide that this limitation does not apply to any action for damages for personal injury or wrongful death, or for personal injury or property damages caused or contributed to by exposure to any hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant released into the environment. The bill would provide that the limitations period for these actions shall be as otherwise specified by law.

Organization **Position**
 CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 2/22/2011 I-02/18/2011 to: WATCH

AB 1210 (Garrick [R]) Water quality: stormwater discharge: civil engineering activities. (V-10/09/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))

Status: 10/09/2011-Vetoed by the Governor
Current Location: 10/10/2011-A VETOED

Summary: Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of stormwater by municipalities and industries in accordance with the federal national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program. This bill would exempt a civil engineer from any requirement of additional experience, training, or certification requirements in order to perform activities in the preparation of a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan pursuant to a specified general permit for stormwater discharges. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. **Urgency**

Organization **Position**
 CC/ASLA CONCERNS/WATCH
Notes: 11/9/2011 V-10/09/2011 to: CONCERNS/WATCH
 5/11/2011 A-05/09/2011 to: CONCERNS/REVIEW

AB 1273 (Grove [R]) Boards and commissions. (I-02/18/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 05/13/2011-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/18/2011)
Current Location: 05/13/2011-A 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law establishes various boards and commissions to carry out particular tasks, investigations, or other activities. This bill would state that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would codify Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger's "Governor's Reorganization Plan 1: Reforming California's Boards and Commissions" from 2004.

Organization **Position**
 CC/ASLA OPPOSE
Notes: 2/22/2011 I-02/18/2011 to: OPPOSE

SB 67 (Price [D]) Public contracts: small business participation. (I-01/10/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 08/26/2011-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/17/2011)
Current Location: 08/26/2011-A 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law, the Small Business Procurement and Contract Act, requires the Director of General Services and the heads of other state agencies that enter into contracts for the provision of goods, services, and information technology and for the construction of state facilities to establish goals for the participation of small businesses in these contracts, to provide for small business preference in the award of these contracts, to give special consideration and special assistance to small businesses, and, whenever possible, to make awards to small businesses, as specified. This bill would, on and after July 1, 2012, authorize the Department of General Services to direct all state agencies, departments, boards, and commissions to establish the goal to achieve 25% small business participation in state procurements and contracts each fiscal year, to ensure that the state's procurement and contract processes are administered in order to meet or exceed the goal, and to report to the Director of General Services statistics regarding small business participation in the agency's procurements and contracts. This bill contains other related provisions.

Organization **Position**

CC/ASLA WATCH
Notes: 1/13/2011 I-01/10/2011 to: WATCH

^
^
SB 190
^
^
^
^

(Lowenthal [D]) Mechanics liens. (C-07/05/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 07/05/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 44, Statutes of 2011
Current Location: 07/05/2011-S CHAPTERED

Summary: The California Constitution provides that laborers of every class who have worked upon or have furnished material for a property have a lien upon that property for the value of the labor done and material furnished. The California Constitution requires the Legislature to provide, by law, for the speedy and efficient enforcement of those liens. Existing law, operative July 1, 2012, recodified and revised the law for enforcing mechanics liens. Existing law provides that certain erroneous information contained in a claim of lien does not invalidate the claim of lien, except as specified. This bill, operative July 1, 2012, would make various technical, conforming changes related to the recodification of the law for enforcing mechanics liens. The bill would also require that a person forfeit his or her lien if the person willfully includes labor or materials in a lien claim that were not furnished to the property in the claim.

^
^
^
^

| Organization | Position |
|--------------|----------|
| CC/ASLA | SUPPORT |

Notes: 3/23/2011 A-03/16/2011 to: SUPPORT
2/11/2011 I-02/08/2011 to: WATCH
SUPPORT ltr. 3/23/11
SUPPORT ltr. 6/2/11
Req. for Signature to Gov. 6/22/11

^
SB 227
^
^
^
^

(Wyland [R]) Business and professions: licensure. (I-02/09/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 05/13/2011-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was RLS. on 2/17/2011)
Current Location: 05/13/2011-S 2 YEAR

Summary: Existing law, under the Business and Professions Code, provides for the regulation and licensure of various professionals. Existing law provides that the term "licentiate," as used in the Business and Professions Code, refers to any person authorized by a license, certificate, registration, or other means to engage in a business or profession regulated by that code and as specified. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to that provision.

^
^
^

| Organization | Position |
|--------------|----------|
| CC/ASLA | WATCH |

Notes: 2/11/2011 I-02/09/2011 to: WATCH

^
SB 264
^
^
^
^

(Correa [D]) Recreational activities: skateboard parks. (C-09/06/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 09/06/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 232, Statutes of 2011
Current Location: 09/06/2011-S CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law prohibits an operator of a skateboard park from permitting any person to ride a skateboard in the park unless that person is wearing a helmet, elbow pads, and knee pads. Existing law further describes how those requirements may be satisfied with respect to a recreational skateboard facility owned and operated by a local public agency, as specified. Existing law, until January 1, 2012, further provides that skateboarding at a public skateboard park is a hazardous recreational activity, if all of specified conditions are met, including if the person skateboarding is 12 years of age or older. This bill would continue indefinitely the latter provision deeming skateboarding at a public skateboard park a hazardous recreational activity. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

^
^
^

| Organization | Position |
|--------------|----------|
| CC/ASLA | SUPPORT |

Notes: 4/13/2011 I-02/10/2011 to: SUPPORT
3/9/2011 I-02/17/2011 to: WATCH
4/26/11-SUPPORT LTR.

^
SB 424
^
^

(Rubio [D]) Mechanics liens: design professionals. (C-07/26/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))
Status: 07/26/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 127, Statutes of 2011
Current Location: 07/26/2011-S CHAPTERED

Summary: The California Constitution provides that mechanics, persons furnishing materials, artisans, and laborers of every class have a lien upon the property upon which they have bestowed labor or furnished material for the value of the labor done and material furnished. The California Constitution also requires the Legislature to provide, by law, for the speedy and efficient enforcement of those liens. This bill would authorize a design professional to convert a recorded design professional lien to a mechanics lien if certain requirements are met. The bill would make these provisions operative on July 1, 2012. This bill contains other existing laws.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH

Notes: 2/17/2011 1-02/16/2011 to: WATCH

SB 543

(Steinberg [D]) Business and professions: regulatory boards. (C-10/03/2011 [html](#) [pdf](#))

Status: 10/03/2011-Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 448, Statutes of 2011

Current Location: 10/03/2011-S CHAPTERED

Summary: Existing law authorizes a board to suspend or revoke a license on various grounds, including, but not limited to, conviction of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued. Existing law requires applicants to certain boards to provide a full set of fingerprints for the purpose of conducting criminal history record checks. This bill would make the fingerprinting requirement applicable to the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists. The bill would also make technical, nonsubstantive changes to those provisions to correct references to the names of various boards and would correct references to the name of a specified fund. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA SUPPORT

Notes: 5/10/2011 A-04/14/2011 to: SUPPORT

3/4/2011 1-02/17/2011 to: WATCH

SUPPORT LTR. 5/9/11

SUPPORT LTR. 6/10/11

SB 544

(Price [D]) Professions and vocations: regulatory boards. (A-01/04/2012 [html](#) [pdf](#))

Status: 01/09/2012-Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Current Location: 01/04/2012-S B., P. & E.D.

Summary: Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of profession and vocation licensees by various boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Within the department, there are healing arts boards and nonhealing arts boards. The department is under the control of the Director of Consumer Affairs. This bill would require the Department of Justice to serve or submit to a healing arts board for service accusations and default decisions within a specified timeframe and would also require the Department of Justice to set a hearing within a specified timeframe upon receiving a notice of defense, except as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Organization **Position**
CC/ASLA WATCH

Notes: 1/13/2012 A-01/04/2012 to: WATCH

SB 654

(Steinberg [D]) Redevelopment. (A-01/11/2012 [html](#) [pdf](#))

Status: 01/13/2012-Set for hearing January 17.

Current Location: 01/11/2012-S APPR.

Calendar Events: 01/17/12 12 m. "John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SEN APPROPRIATIONS

Summary: Existing law suspends various activities of redevelopment agencies and prohibits the agencies from incurring indebtedness for a specified period. Existing law also dissolves redevelopment agencies and community development agencies, as of October 1, 2011, and designates successor agencies, as defined. Existing law requires successor agencies to wind down the affairs of the dissolved redevelopment agencies and to, among other things, repay enforceable obligations, as defined, and to remit unencumbered balances of redevelopment agency funds, including housing funds, to the county auditor-controller for distribution to taxing entities. This bill would revise the definition of the term "enforceable obligation" and modify provisions

Agenda Item D

PRESENTATION BY COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS (CLARB) REPRESENTATIVE INCLUDING INFORMATION ON THE DETERMINANTS OF SUCCESS, CLARB'S REPORT ON THE DEFINITION OF WELFARE, AND THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT REGISTRATION EXAMINATION (LARE) TRANSITION

Joel Albizo, CLARB Executive Director, will provide background and key findings on CLARB's 2010 Landscape Architecture and Public Welfare report, present Determinants of Success research results, discuss upcoming changes to the LARE, and review the LARE transition plan.

Attachments:

1. CLARB slide presentation
2. CLARB Report on Landscape Architecture and Public Welfare (2010)



Update to the California Landscape Architecture Technical Committee

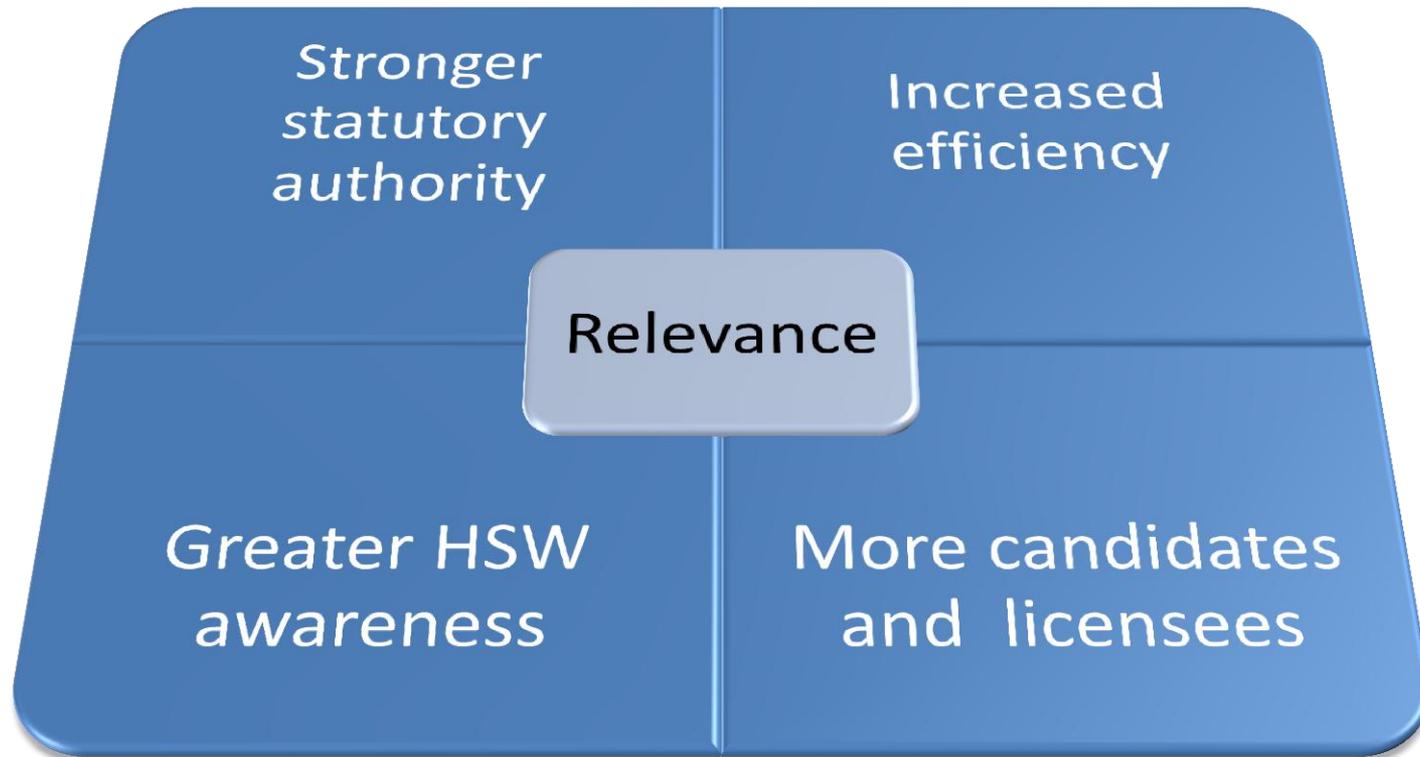


January 23, 2011
Berkeley, California

Board relevance strategy

Regulation and enforcement

Organizational effectiveness



Public and professional awareness

Professional qualifications

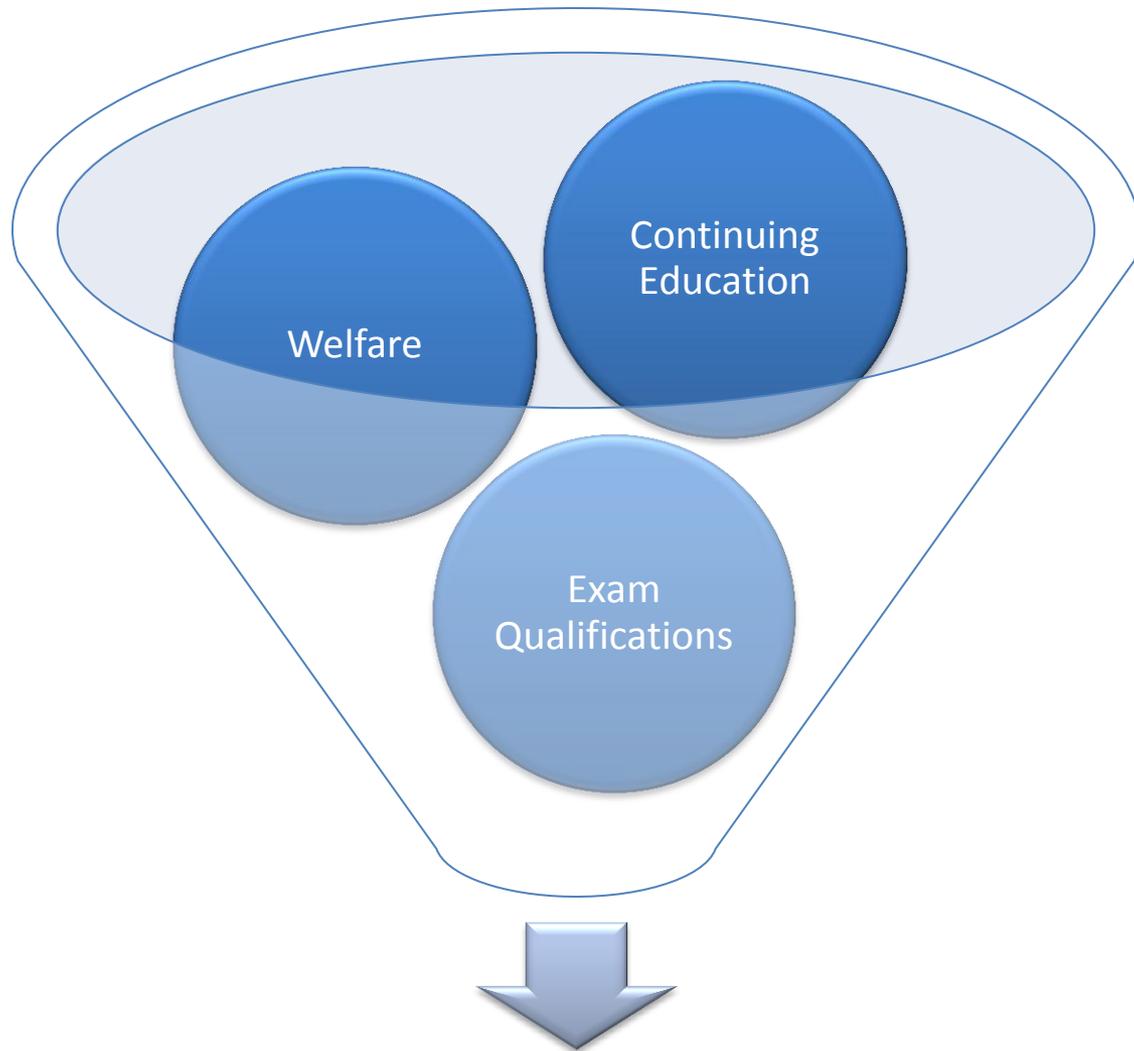
**Stronger
statutory
authority**

**Increased
efficiency**

Relevance

**Greater HSW
awareness**

**More candidates
and licensees**



Updated Model Law/Regulations

*Stronger
statutory
authority*

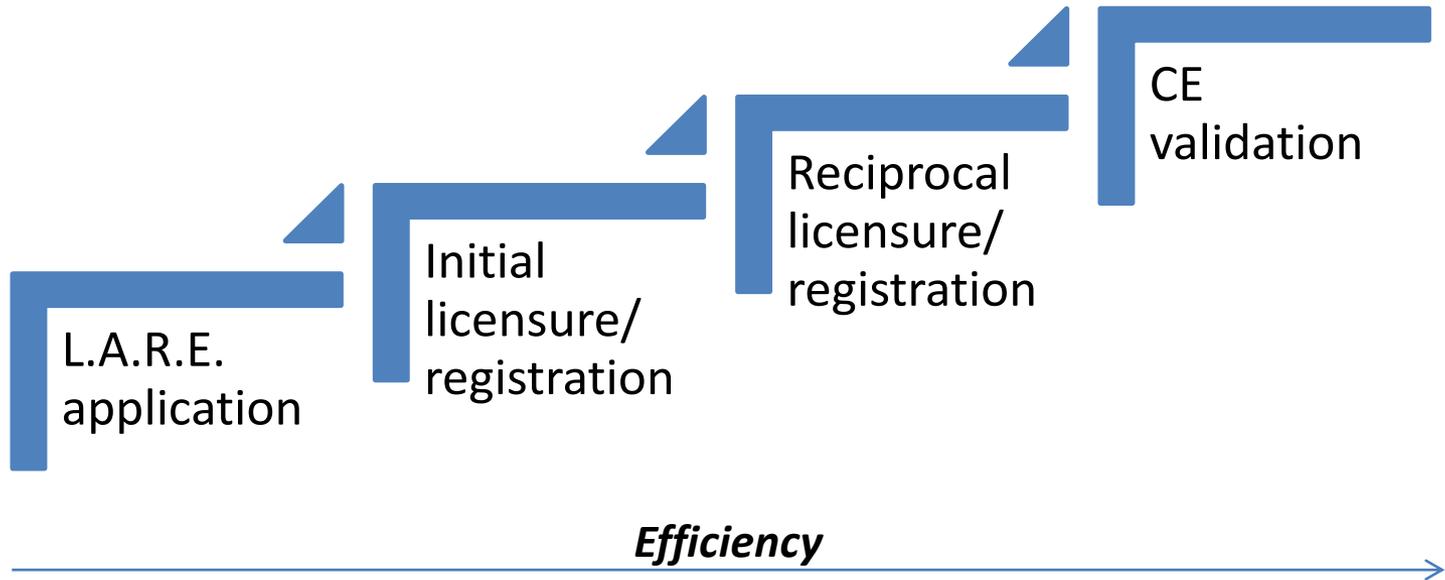
**Increased
efficiency**

Relevance

*Greater HSW
awareness*

More candidates
and licensees

CLARB Council Record





CLARB CERTIFIED
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

Basic Standard

- LAAB Accredited Degree
- Successful completion of L.A.R.E.
- Three years of diversified experience under a licensed LA



QUESTIONS?

Stronger
statutory
authority

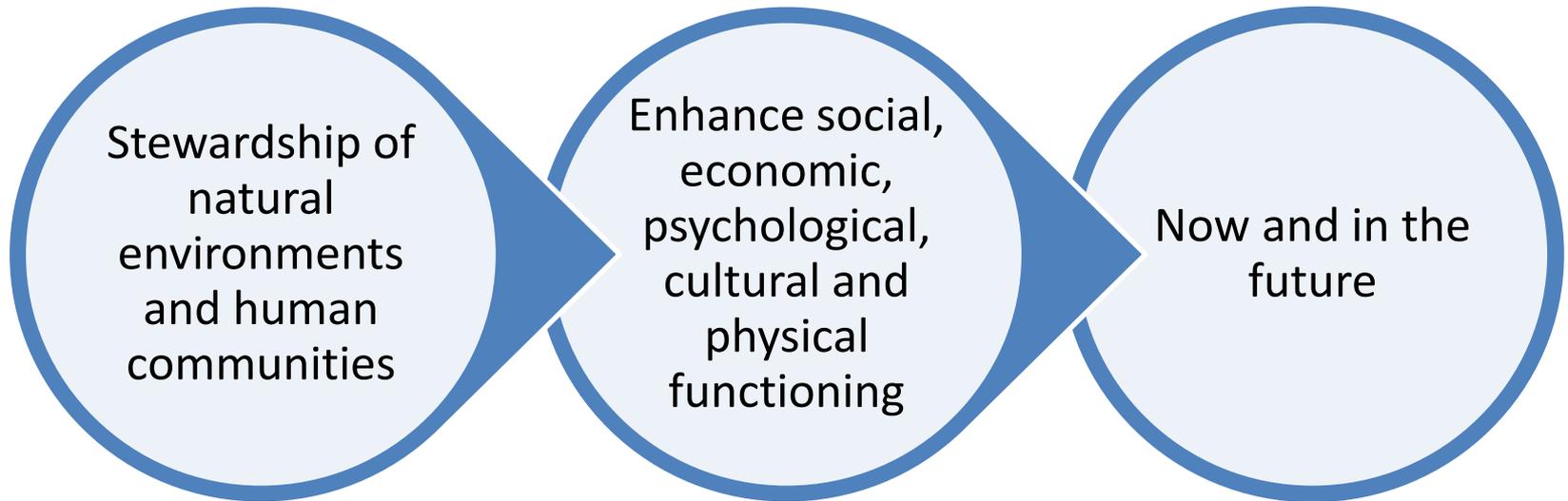
Increased
efficiency

Relevance

**Greater HSW
awareness**

**More candidates
and licensees**

What is public welfare?



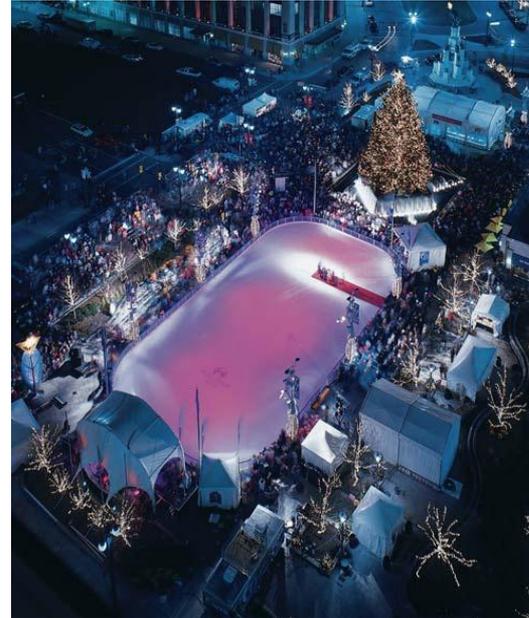


SEVEN IMPACTS

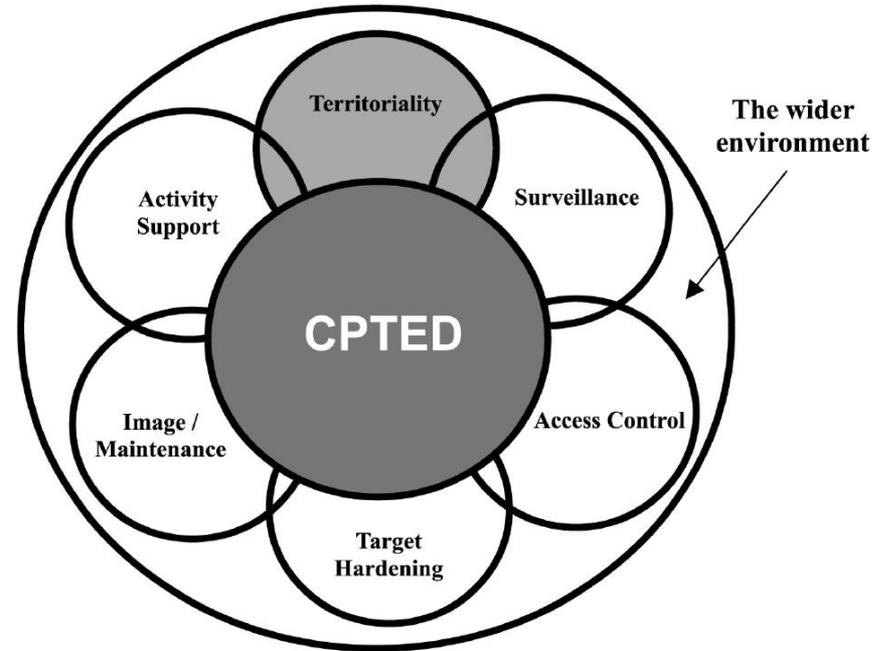
Environmental sustainability



Economic sustainability



Public health, well being



Source: Adapted from Moffat (1983, p. 23)

Community building



Awareness, stewardship



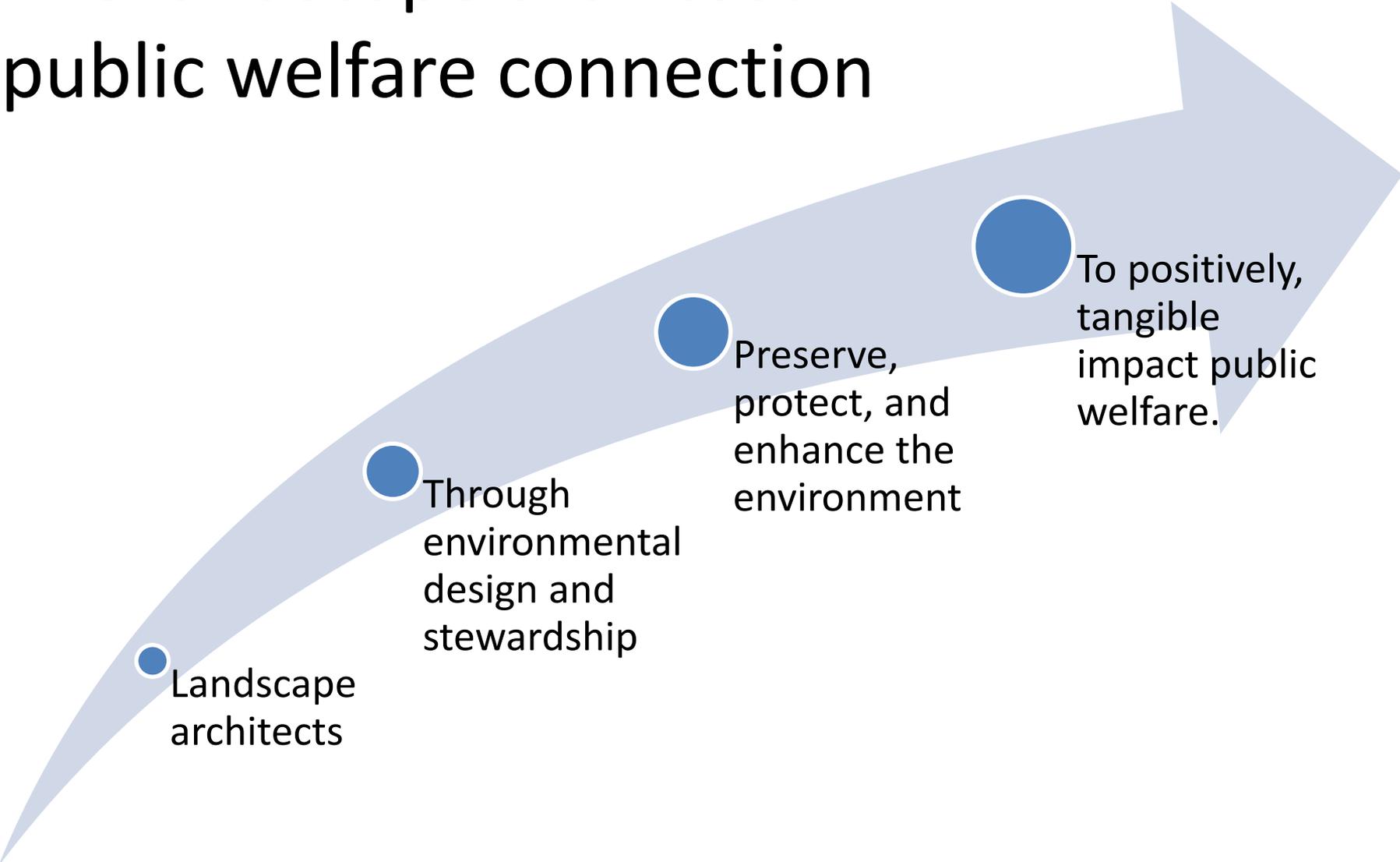
Aesthetic, creative experiences



More effective communities



The landscape architect- public welfare connection



Landscape
architects

Through
environmental
design and
stewardship

Preserve,
protect, and
enhance the
environment

To positively,
tangible
impact public
welfare.

Where are we headed with this?

Well defined,
understood,
respected
scope



Replicable
models

Smart
experiments,
learning,
refinement



New
insights,
ideas



*Stronger
statutory
authority*

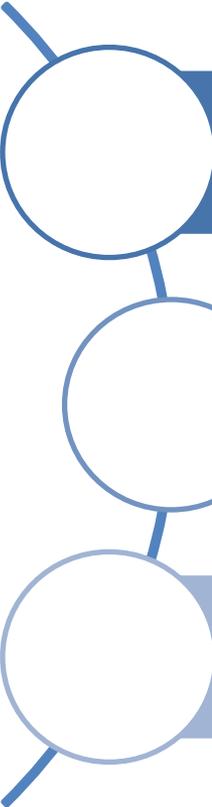
**Increased
efficiency**

Relevance

*Greater HSW
awareness*

**More candidates
and licensees**

Why change the L.A.R.E.?



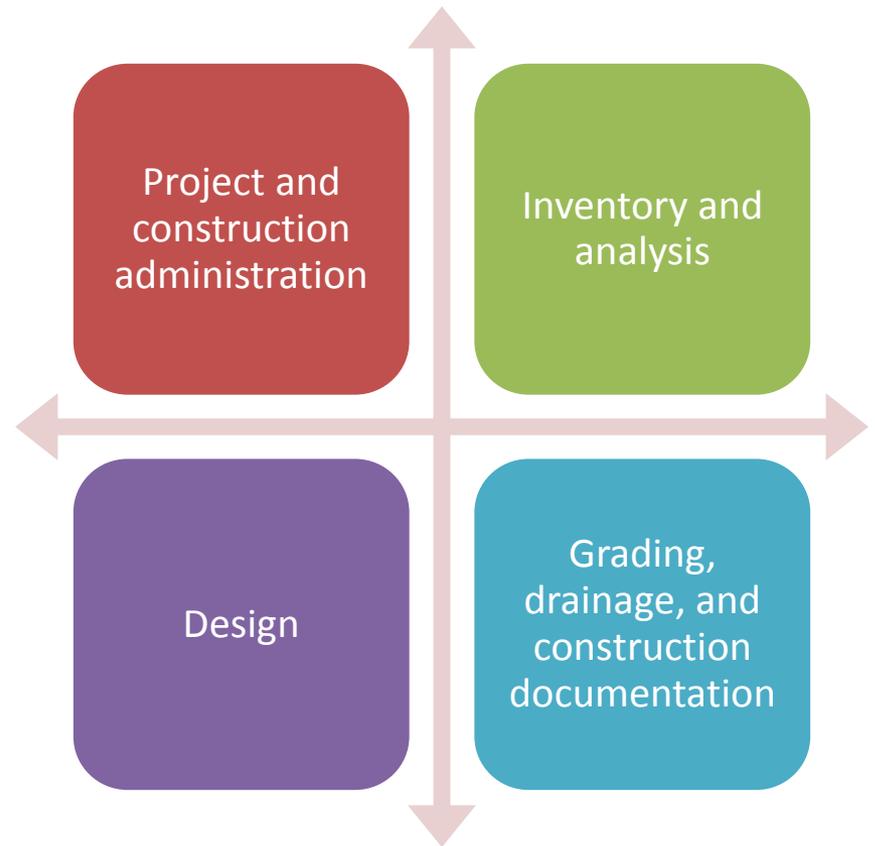
Stay current with today's practice

Respond to stakeholder needs

Maintain relevance in testing

Content and structure

- Content
 - No fundamental changes
- Structure
 - 5 to 4 sections to align with contemporary practice



Administration

- Computerized delivery
- Advanced item types



ADVANCED ITEM TYPE EXAMPLE

Calculate the spot elevations for the parking lot shown below and use your mouse to select and move the appropriate spot elevation to the boxes provided. The architect and soil engineer have provided information to determine the appropriate grades. Click on

Exhibit

40.30

40.35

41.00

41.25

41.50

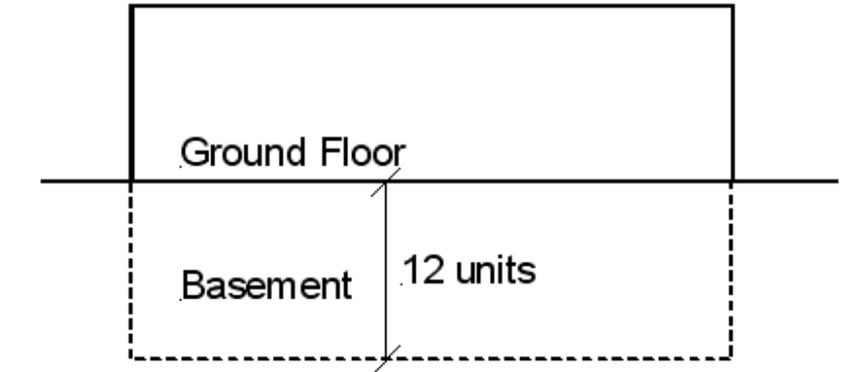
41.75

42.00

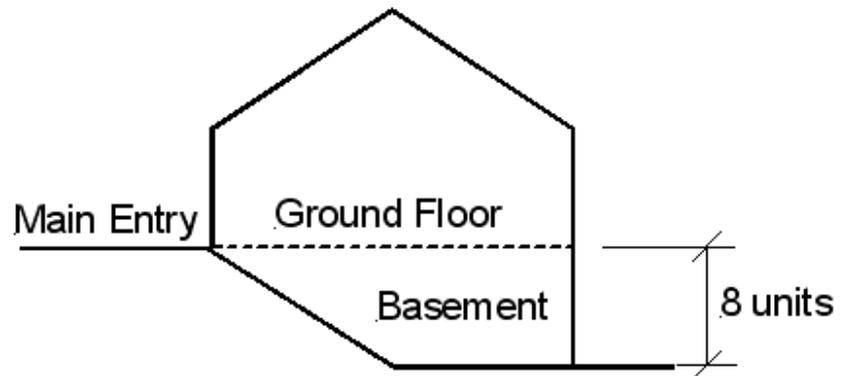
42.30

Office
Build

FFE 43



Cross-Section of Office/Exhibit Building



Section of Caretaker Residence

70 units

60 units

80 units

42

38

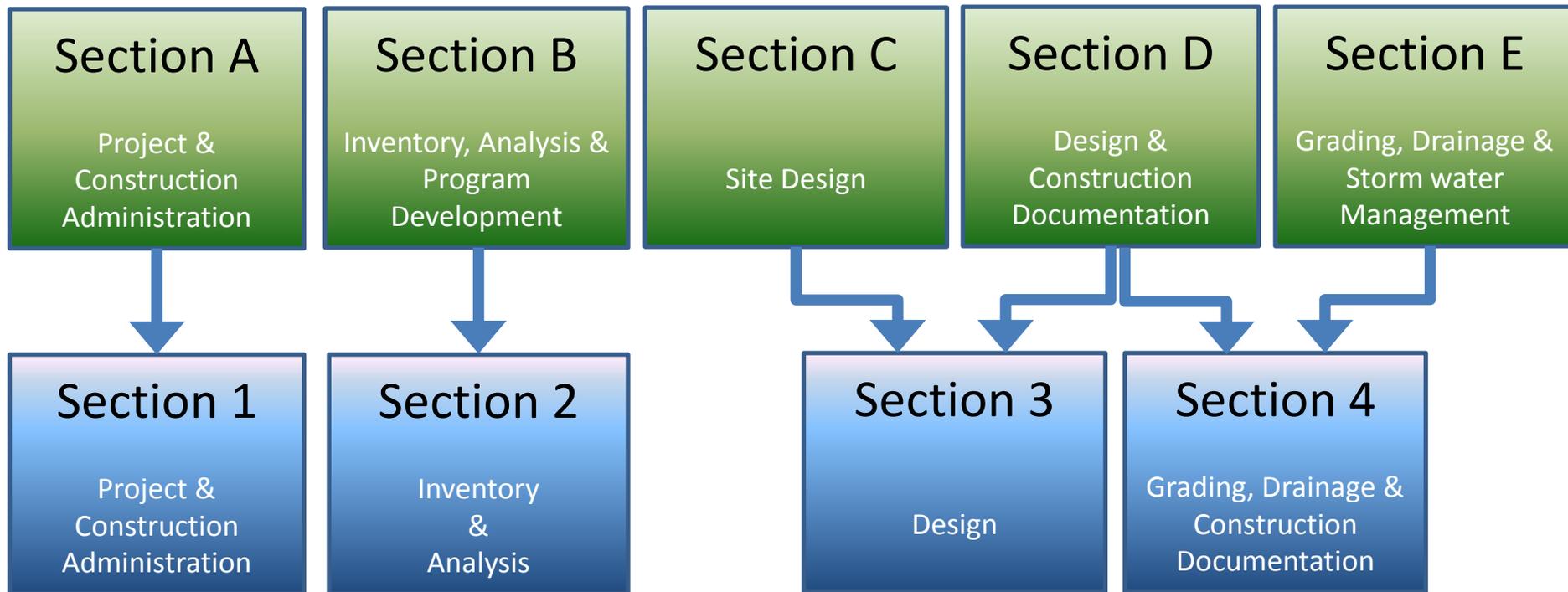
Benefits to candidates and Boards



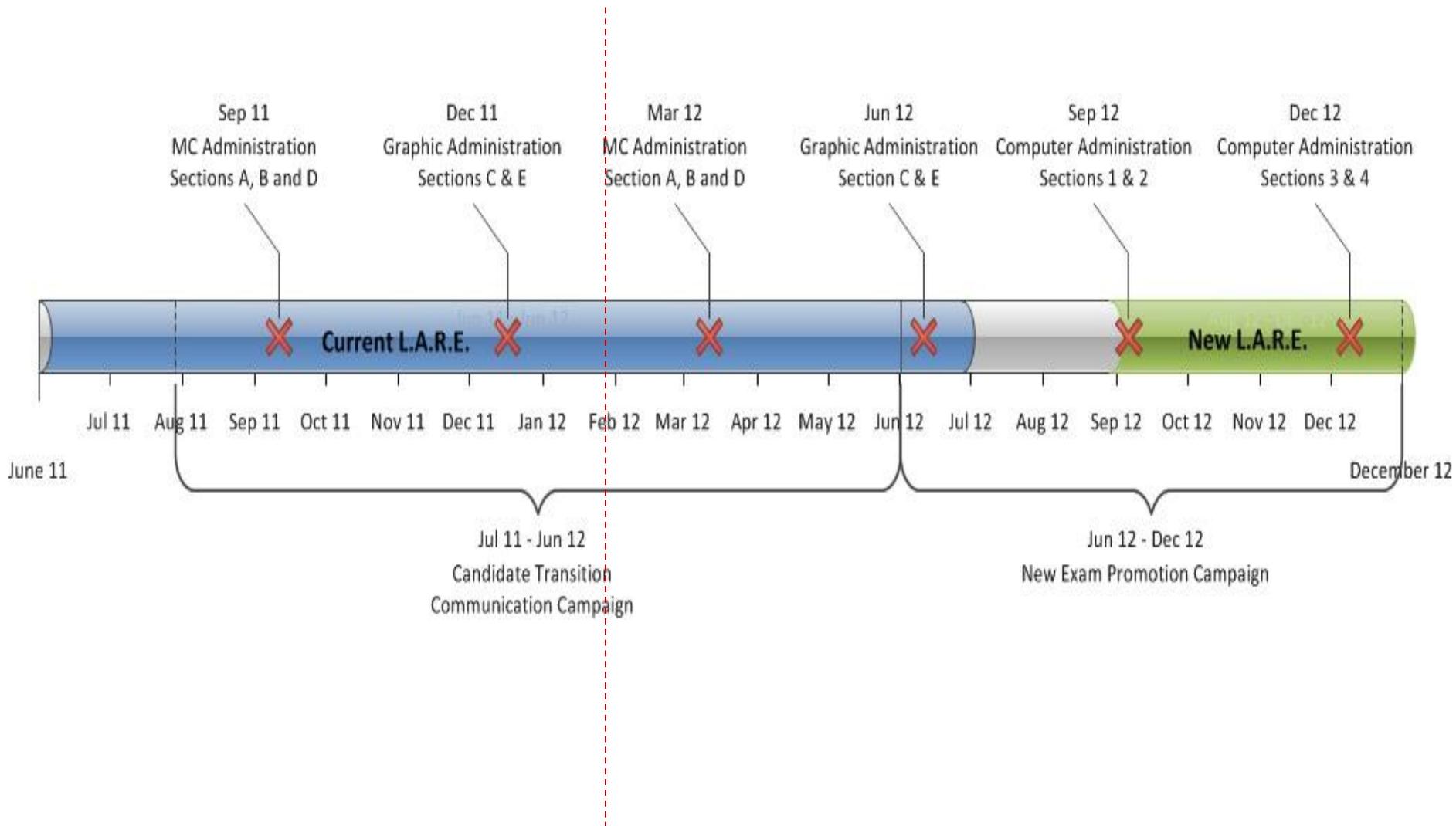
- Uniformity
- Reliability
- Relevance
- Accessibility

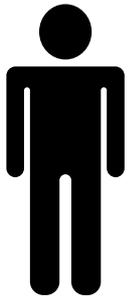
Transition to new exam

Current L.A.R.E.

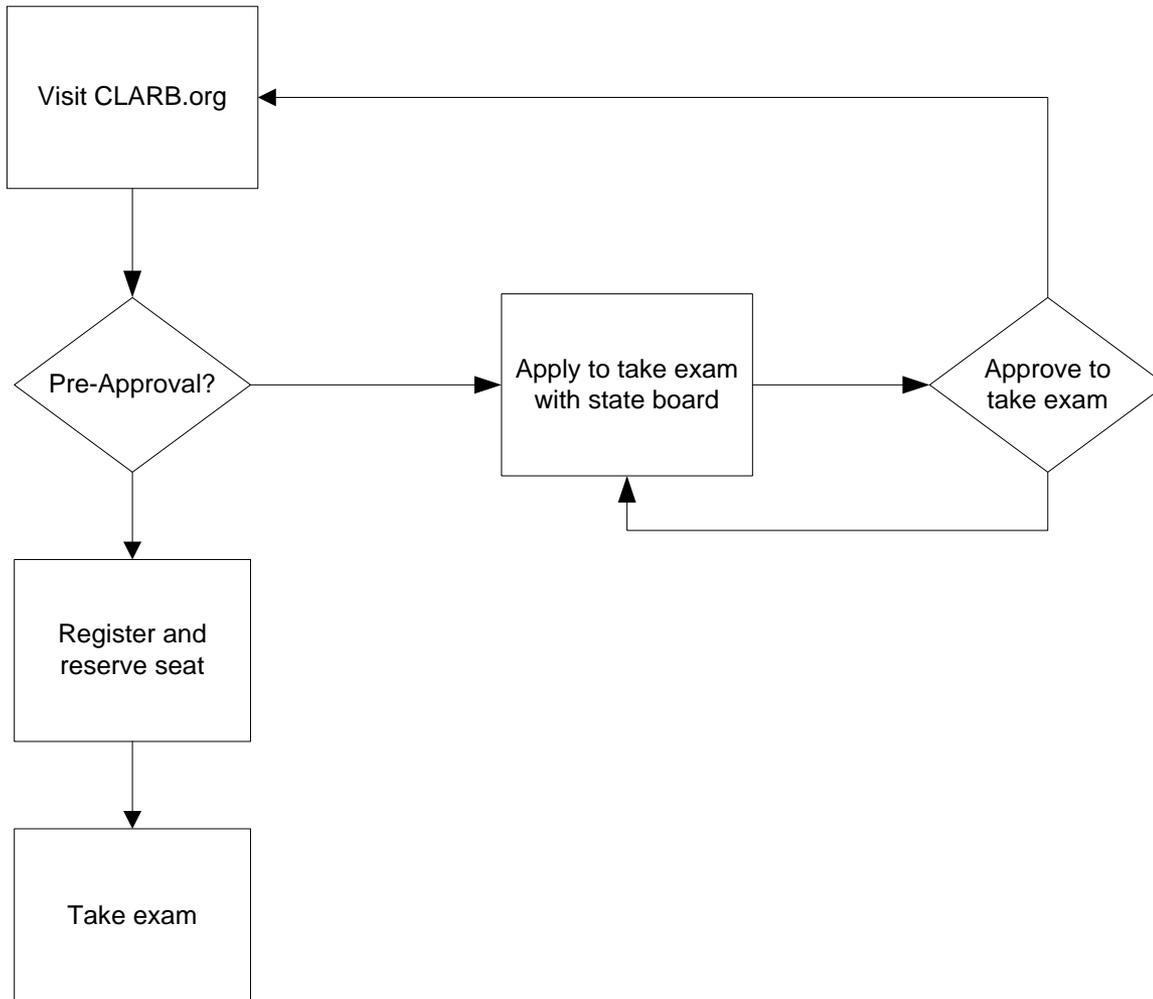


Transition schedule





Registration Enhancement



Determinants of Success Research



- Respond to member needs to better understand connection between education, experience and exam performance
- Provide better guidance to employers and candidates on exam readiness

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Section A
&
Section B

- Experience is not a factor
- Recentness to education

Section C

Section D

Section E

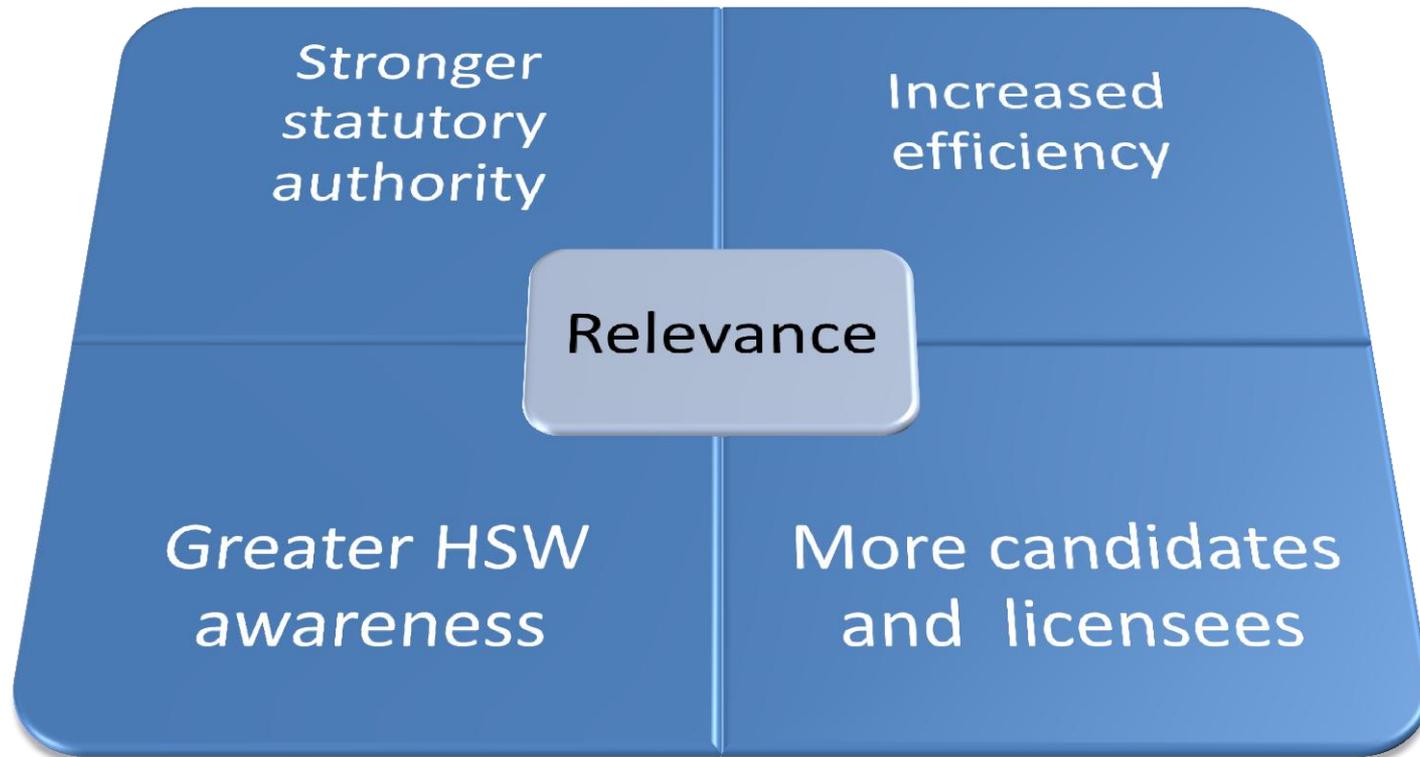
Considerations for the LATC

- Input to Model Law and Regulations
- Gain efficiency through the Council Record
- Leverage the Public Welfare findings
- Increase efficiencies through the new exam processes

Board relevance strategy

Regulation and enforcement

Organizational effectiveness



Public and professional awareness

Professional qualifications



QUESTIONS?



Update to the California Landscape Architecture Technical Committee



January 23, 2011
Berkeley, California



LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE and PUBLIC WELFARE

**FOUNDATION PAPER BY ERIN RESEARCH INC.
FOR CLARB
2010**

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE AND PUBLIC WELFARE, 2010

Foundation Report Prepared by:

George Spears Ph.D.

Kasia Seydegart MSW

Emily Hansen BLA

Pat Zulinov CMRP

ERIN Research Inc.

www.erinresearch.com

© Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, 2010

Cover: High Line, New York City: <http://www.thehighline.org/galleries/images/high-line-park-photos>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|-----------|
| PART A: DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC WELFARE | 2 |
| 1 Introduction | 3 |
| 2 Legal definitions | 4 |
| 3 Public Welfare fuses two fundamental concepts | 7 |
| | |
| PART B: IMPACTS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ON PUBLIC WELFARE | 14 |
| 4 Overview of the seven major impacts | 15 |
| 5 Landscape architecture enhances environmental sustainability | 17 |
| 6 Landscape architecture contributes to economic sustainability and benefits | 26 |
| 7 Landscape architecture promotes public health and well-being | 35 |
| 8 Landscape architecture builds community | 45 |
| 9 Landscape architecture encourages landscape awareness/stewardship | 50 |
| 10 Landscape architecture offers aesthetic and creative experiences | 54 |
| 11 Enables people & communities to function more effectively | 61 |
| | |
| PART C: PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS AND MEASURING IMPACT | 69 |
| 12 Planning & design considerations for public welfare | 70 |
| 13 Measuring public welfare | 74 |
| Glossary of terms | 77 |
| Appendix: Interviews | 79 |



PART A: DIMENSIONS OF PUBLIC WELFARE

Central Park was designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, considered the founding father of American Landscape Architecture.

**Conservatory Garden, Central Park, New York: Photo by Liz Armstrong
liz@ican.net**

1 Introduction

PURPOSE OF PAPER

This foundation paper is intended for use by a diverse audience, including legislators, practitioners, CLARB exam writers, students, academics, allied professionals and interested members of the general public.

The ERIN Research Inc. paper is termed a “foundation” paper as it provides a platform on which to build the concept of public welfare in Landscape Architecture. It is not intended to be exhaustive, but is a framework for discussion and a route to application.

The paper is a springboard that will assist the profession to build awareness and understanding of its role in enhancing public welfare among its diverse clients and constituents.

BACKGROUND TO THE CLARB INITIATIVE

The Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) is dedicated to ensuring that all individuals who affect the natural and built environment through the practice of landscape architecture are sufficiently qualified. To this end, CLARB develops and administers the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E.).

The L.A.R.E. is designed to assess the knowledge, skills and abilities that enable landscape architects to enhance the health, safety and welfare of the public. While the concept of health and safety (particularly the latter) are well established, there is a lack of evidence that defines what “public welfare” is and how landscape architects positively affect it.

THE CHALLENGE

To clarify what public welfare entails in the context of Landscape Architecture, CLARB has commissioned ERIN Research Inc. to:

- Expand our knowledge of the components of public welfare; and
- Establish the impact or benefits of landscape architecture on public welfare .

By further defining our understanding of public welfare, CLARB will be in a better position to refine those portions of the L.A.R.E. that deal with “public welfare”.

In sum, the challenge is to develop a definition of a concept that is recognized as pivotal but that lacks structure. Like truth or beauty, we intuitively recognize public welfare as a desirable quality, yet have some difficulty pinning it down.

2 Legal definitions

To begin the exploration, two examples of the legal definition of welfare are presented: the first is drawn from legislation and the second is cited from a widely-used legal dictionary.

These two provide a quick thumbnail description of the art of legally defining public welfare. One quickly realizes there is much more to be explored.

STATUTORY DEFINITION – A FEW ILLUSTRATIONS

In many North American jurisdictions, the practice of landscape architecture is governed by legislation.

One example, the Revised Code of the State of Washington, states:

*In order to safeguard human health and property, and to **promote the public welfare**, any person in either public or private capacity practicing or offering to practice landscape architecture for hire, shall be required to submit evidence that he is qualified so to practice and shall be registered under the provisions of this chapter. RCW 18.96.010*

A second example, the 2009 Florida Statute, states:

*The Legislature finds that the regulation of landscape architecture is necessary to assure competent landscape planning and design of public and private environments, prevention of contamination of water supplies, barrier-free public and private spaces, conservation of natural resources through proper land and water management practices, prevention of erosion, energy conservation, functional and aesthetically pleasing environmental contributions to **humanity's psychological and sociological well-being, and an enhancement of the quality of life** in a safe and healthy environment and to assure the highest possible quality of the practice of landscape architecture in this state. 481.301*

A third example, the 1996 Architects (Landscape) Act of British Columbia, states:

The objects of the society [The British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects] are the following:

*(a) to **uphold public health, safety and welfare as it relates to the professional practice of landscape architecture in British Columbia;***

(b) to nurture and further the professional application of landscape architectural knowledge and technique as it relates to the planning, design, development, preservation, protection, restoration, reclamation, rehabilitation, enhancement and management of the environment;

(c) to advance landscape architectural knowledge and technique; and

(d) to further and maintain proper standards of professional landscape architectural practice in British Columbia.

A final example is from the State of Georgia, USA:

Landscape architecture is governed by Georgia Code Ann. 43-23-2 to 19. Landscape architecture is defined as: the performance of professional services including, but not limited to, consultation, investigation, planning, design, preparation of drawings and specifications, and responsible supervision, all in connection with the preservation and determination of proper land uses, natural land features, esthetics, planting plans, the shaping of land to produce the best functional and esthetic effect, and grading plans with determination of drainage. The term shall also include the consideration of environmental problems involving land areas, as such problems relate to the public health, safety and welfare. Ga. Code Ann. 43-23-1(3)

“Public welfare” is not defined in this statute or in other statutes that use the term. The purpose of this paper is to develop a working definition of the term that will clarify the meaning and extent of public welfare as it applies to Landscape Architecture.

LEGAL DICTIONARY DEFINITION – AN ILLUSTRATION

Because Landscape Architects are governed by legislation, the legal description of public welfare is relevant. Black’s Law Dictionary defines the term as follows:

The prosperity, well-being, or convenience of the public at large, or of a whole community, as distinguished from the advantage of an individual or limited class. It embraces the primary social interests of safety, order, morals, economic interest, and non-material and political interests. In the development of our civic life, the definition of ‘public welfare’ has also developed until it has been held to bring within its purview regulations for the promotion of economic welfare and public convenience.

The Black's Law definition expands the meaning of public welfare by listing six components. Each of these resonates with the goals and practice of Landscape Architecture:

1 Safety: *Landscape Architecture has a strong focus on safety. It is grounded in legislation that governs the profession.*

2 Order: *Landscape Architecture explicitly contributes to social order, through the design of functional communities, open spaces, and circulation systems.*

3 Morals: *While Landscape Architecture is not principally concerned with morality, per se, certain initiatives are related to this, for example, designs to discourage undesirable or criminal activity.*

4 Economic interest: *Landscape Architecture considers economic interests either directly or indirectly in several ways:*

- Landscape Architects must work within established budgets set by clients to achieve desired objectives.
- Landscape Architecture considers life cycle costs in making choices for site materials.
- The present and future economic activities that take place in a community are an essential design consideration.
- The economic costs of poorly planned (or simply un-planned) communities are becoming increasingly apparent. Lack of physical activity and street crime are two examples.
- Landscape Architecture seeks to preserve historical flora and fauna, monuments and geographical features.

5 Non-material interests: *Landscape Architecture places a strong value on non-material interests including social interaction, recreation, aesthetics, and enjoyment of the outdoor environment.*

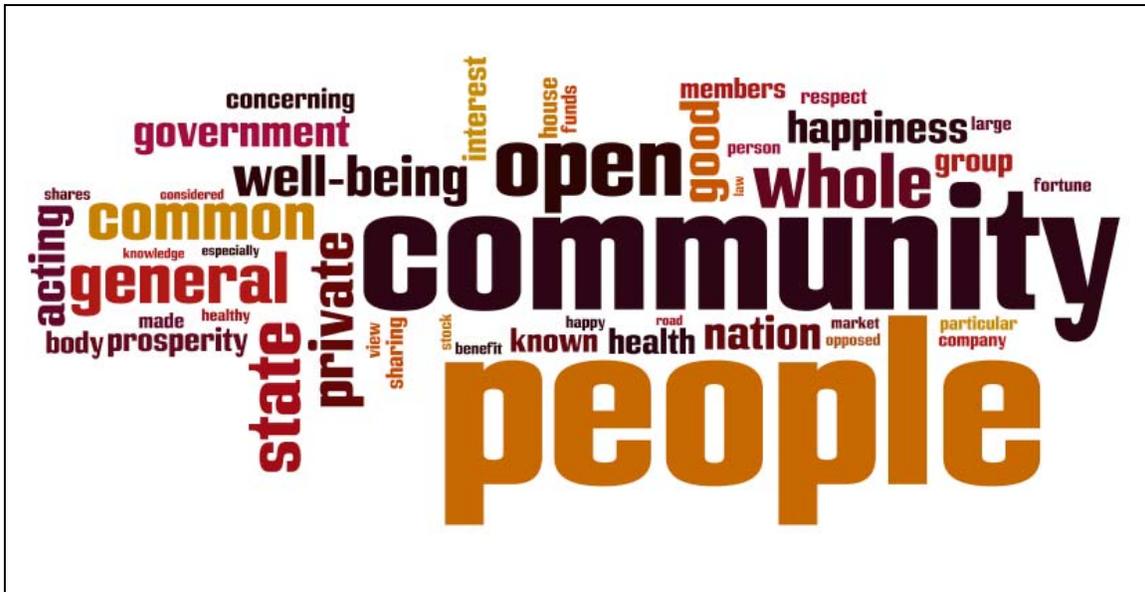
6 Political interests: *Landscape Architectural endeavours often exist within a political context, which may impinge on or shape the planning and design process. In some cases Landscape Architecture can be effective in overcoming social or political problems.*

ASLA has a focus on advocacy and political interests¹. Advocacy focuses of ASLA are:

- Economic Recovery
- Transportation
- Sustainable Design
- Livable Communities
- Water & Stormwater
- Historic Landscapes.

¹ <http://www.asla.org/GovernmentAffairs.aspx>

3 Public Welfare fuses two fundamental concepts



The Wordle shows the relative frequency of the 45 most common words that appear in forty dictionary definitions of public and welfare (omitting welfare in the sense of social assistance). www.wordle.net

The concept of public welfare blends two fundamental ideas: that of *the public realm* and that of *welfare* or *well-being*. Understanding the roots of each of these ideas is essential to unraveling the meaning of the term. Each idea is explored separately in this section.

ROOTS OF THE PUBLIC REALM

A five-year interdisciplinary project at McGill University in Montreal, “Making Publics”, has traced the historical roots of the modern concept of the public realm².

Before about 1600, the concept of a public realm had not developed, and terms such as “the public” or “public opinion” did not exist. The twin poles defining society were Church and State, the latter extending to “men of authority”, largely the nobility.

² <http://makingpublics.mcgill.ca/>. The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation radio program, Ideas, has a 14-part series on this project, <http://www.cbc.ca/ideas/episodes/features/2010/04/26/the-origins-of-the-modern-public/>

This duality was gradually eroded by developments in religion, technology and economics, with the result that a new force emerged: **the public realm**.

One of the early stimuli was the Reformation. The schism forced clergy, both Protestant and Catholic, to justify their positions to parishioners. By so doing, they opened the door to public debate of important ideas, enabling the idea of “public opinion”. While this term did not come into usage for some years, it took hold and is now a cornerstone of democracy and modern value systems.

Likewise, the growth of democratic institutions, such as legislatures and parliaments, gave greater voice to the people, at the expense of the state as defined by nobility.

In the sphere of technology, the printing press enabled the rise of mass literacy and the mass dissemination of ideas.

Finally, economic conditions in Europe began a gradual but bumpy incline following the end of almost constant wars (the 100 years war, the 30 years war), the establishment of trade with Africa, the Americas and the East, and the advent of industrial technologies. Guilds and the emergence of a “middle class” gave expression to this new economic force.

With growing political power, money and knowledge, “the public” became a social force that actively challenged Church and State, and grew in influence over the centuries.

One public or many?

The political, economic and technological forces that shaped the idea of the modern public have continued through to today. The single “public”, which emerged in specific contexts, has limited use today, as different overlapping publics are defined.

A **single universal “public”** may be invoked when all people are affected equally, for example during the recent H1N1 epidemic. But, more often we see fragmented and overlapping publics:

- The driving public competes with the cycling public for consideration on city streets;
- The voting public contrasts with those who are disenfranchised by apathy or by legal and social obstacles;
- Publics can be defined through use of technology: Facebook is a virtual public world.

We propose that “a public” has two defining features:

- It is recognized, formally or informally, as an interest group of consequence;
- It has a voice and can make itself heard.

Black's Law Dictionary seems to support **multiple publics**. It contrasts: “the public at large, or of a whole community” with “the advantage of an individual or limited class”.

This sets out a hierarchy of interests: the public at large, a whole community, limited classes, and individuals. It is consistent with the idea of multiple publics. Moreover, it implies that the interests of a larger community may often trump those of a smaller one.

Without saying so explicitly, Black's Dictionary appears to adopt a Utilitarian view of public welfare: the greatest good for the greatest number.

This said, we must beware of any simple utilitarian hierarchy that equates greater numbers with greater good. The modern view sees no inherent ascendancy of majority over minority interests. Minorities defined by race, religion, and other characteristics are deemed to be essential to the greater good. The tension between majority and minority interests has been central to the definition of public welfare since the end of WWII.

I should like to help everyone, if possible, Jew, gentile, black man, white. We all want to help one another. Human beings are like that. We want to live by each other's happiness — not by each other's misery. Charlie Chaplin in *The Great Dictator*.

Landscape Architecture is solidly rooted in this concept of a public realm inhabited by multiple public constituencies. Further, Landscape Architecture follows the principle that the public should be involved in any process that affects public space. This attitude is expressed, for example, in the “Community design” process, where the Landscape Architect takes on a facilitation role as opposed to dominating the design process.

ROOTS OF “WELFARE”

The word “welfare” has evolved since it first appeared in the fourteenth century.

It was a combination of *well*, in the sense that it is used in common parlance, with *fare*. The latter was originally a verb, meaning “to travel”: the modern German verb *fahren* is a close relative. The phrase “fare well” was a wish on parting: Have a safe journey.

Later it became *farewell*. In *Julius Caesar*, Shakespeare uses both forms in one sentence: “Farewell my dearest sister, fare thee well”.

Originally “welfare” meant the state or condition of how well a person was doing, of one’s happiness, good fortune or prosperity. In *Henry VI*, Shakespeare writes, “Take heed, my lord; the welfare of us all / Hangs on the cutting short that fraudulent man”.

As the idea of the public realm expanded, the concept of a collective public welfare grew with it. In the 20th century, the role of the state in maintaining public welfare became an important focus, and the term took on a much narrower focus. “Welfare programs”, or just “welfare”, describes programs to assist disadvantaged groups, just one of the many publics in society.

The association of welfare with social assistance has led some to prefer the term “public well-being” in the context of Landscape Architecture.

One welfare or many?

The various publics may have different and sometimes competing interests: welfare or well-being may differ from one public to another.

BEYOND HISTORICAL DEFINITIONS

The modern practice of Landscape Architecture demands that we consider three extensions to the common idea of public welfare.

1 The future public: Landscape Architecture often makes long-lasting or permanent changes to the landscape. The publics that are considered in any Landscape Architecture project must therefore include those future publics that will be affected.

2 Public and private interests: In common definitions, public welfare is contrasted with private interests: the two realms often stand in opposition. In Landscape Architecture, this distinction blurs.

- a) From a practical perspective, the transformation of a private space often has repercussions for the public lands that surround it. Visual impacts are obvious. Environmental impacts may also occur as runoff, groundwater, and wildlife do not respect property boundaries.
- b) Privately owned spaces often function as part of the public realm. Spaces around commercial buildings that are open to the public are one example.
- c) Privately owned spaces may be developed explicitly for public use. Golf courses, theme parks, and private camp grounds are examples.
- d) Legislation dealing with handicapped accessibility (e.g., the Americans with Disabilities Act) extends to private properties that are used by members of the public.

As a result, the discussion of public welfare in Landscape Architecture must encompass work done for private clients.

3 Environmental priorities: Human welfare is inseparable from the welfare of the ecosystems that we inhabit. Landscape Architecture either:

- Transforms the natural world or, more often,
- Re-creates developed spaces that become part of a new order which seeks to maintain harmony with nature.

Public welfare/well-being rests on the well-being of the natural world. Public welfare in the context of Landscape Architecture must explicitly include environmental well-being.

TOWARD A DEFINITION OF PUBLIC WELFARE FOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

The various Publics and their needs for well-being differ. Public welfare must therefore be defined differently in each new context, and its impact will be assessed using many different measures.

This is a liberating conclusion. **Public welfare is open-ended and developmental.** It is an opportunity that could, and perhaps should, be explored in every Landscape Architecture project.

Components of a definition

1 Domain

Public welfare, in the context of Landscape Architecture, extends to:

- All affected publics, both present and future;
- The well-being of the environment (flora and fauna) in addition to that of the human population;
- The impact of private Landscape Architecture projects on surrounding public spaces;
- The impact of public Landscape Architecture projects on private properties;
- The preservation/conservation/restoration of historic monuments/grounds, wildlife habitats, significant ecosystems, etc.

2 Impacts

The central dimensions of impact include the following. Any given project may emphasize one or more of these key impacts. Landscape Architecture:

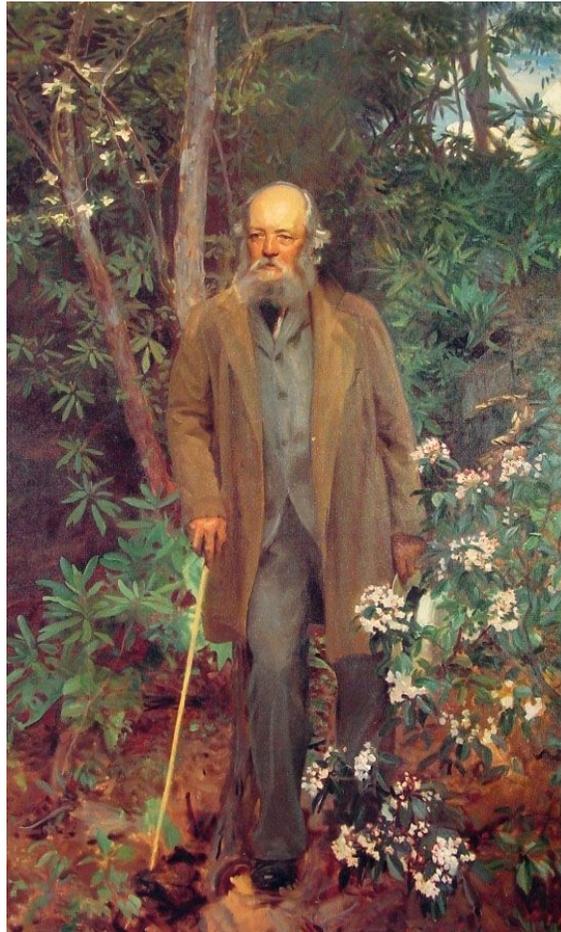
1. Enhances environmental sustainability,
2. Contributes to economic sustainability and benefits,
3. Promotes public health and well-being,
4. Builds communities,
5. Encourages landscape awareness/stewardship,
6. Offers aesthetic and creative experiences, and
7. Enables people and communities to function more effectively.

These impacts are explored in Chapters 4 through 10.

HISTORICAL NOTE

Frederick Law Olmsted (1822-1903) is widely recognized as the founder of American Landscape Architecture and the nation's foremost park maker. His first, his most loved, and, in many ways, his best known work was his design of Central Park in New York City (1858-1876) with his partner Calvert Vaux (1824-1895). He was one of the first to advocate the principles of the City Beautiful Movement in America. He was also one of the first to introduce the idea of suburban development to the American landscape.

"The enjoyment of scenery employs the mind without fatigue and yet exercises it, tranquilizes it and yet enlivens it; and thus, through the influence of the mind over the body, gives the effect of refreshing rest and reinvigoration of the whole system." -- Frederick Law Olmsted (A Clearing In the Distance, 258p.)



Frederick Law Olmsted
by American painter John Singer Sargent, 1895

A WORKING HOLISTIC DEFINITION

Public welfare in the context of Landscape Architecture means the stewardship of natural environments and of human communities in order to enhance social, economic, psychological, cultural and physical functioning, now and in the future.

LOANTAKA BROOK RESERVATION RESTORATION MORRIS COUNTY, NEW JERSEY

Andropogon Associates



One illustration of Landscape Architecture's 'stewardship for public welfare' is Andropogon³ Loantaka Reservation project (New Jersey). Andropogon worked closely with Loantaka park and pipeline personnel to design a revised alignment of a natural gas pipeline, a reduced construction zone and innovative techniques for forest and streambank restoration.

³ <http://www.andropogon.com/>



PART B: IMPACTS OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ON PUBLIC WELFARE

**Lerner Garden of the Five Senses, Coastal Maine Botanical Gardens, USA.
www.mainegardens.org/discover/explore-the-gardens/lerner-garden-of-the-five-senses**

4 Overview of the seven major impacts

SEVEN MAJOR IMPACTS

We have identified seven major impacts that Landscape Architecture projects have on public welfare. The following chapters provide examples and source material for each.

1 ENHANCES ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

Landscape Architecture contributes to environmental sustainability by responding to development challenges with solutions that involve sensitivity towards natural systems. Landscape Architects at the site design level integrate sustainability measures into all designs. Landscape Architecture protects natural systems ensuring that all members of communities have access to common resources and are involved in active conservation of those resources.

2 CONTRIBUTES TO ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND BENEFITS

Landscape Architecture contributes significantly to economic sustainability. Through its services, landscape architects assist policy makers and others to improve the marketability and long-term value of residential and commercial housing/property. Economic benefits include reduction of crime, smart development and growth, improved air and water quality, efficient energy use, enhanced quality of life and health, and access to culture and recreation.

3 PROMOTES PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Landscape Architecture is increasingly grounded in the growing body of research in public health. This research makes connections between human health and well-being and the conditions of the outdoor environment. Landscape architecture projects can directly affect the mental and physical health of individuals and communities and provide immediate and lasting therapeutic benefits.

4 BUILDS COMMUNITY

Landscape architects work to help build communities: their work significantly affects quality of life. By creating attractive, functional places, Landscape Architecture encourages people to engage in their surroundings, strengthening social cohesion, which in turn results in healthier, more dynamic, more resilient communities at the local, national and global levels.

5 ENCOURAGES LANDSCAPE AWARENESS/STEWARDSHIP

Landscape Architecture stimulates our awareness of the landscape, and increases our understanding of the role that humans play in it. Landscape Architecture encourages citizens to appreciate landscape and to participate in the processes that shape it. Cultivating a symbiotic and iterative relationship between people and their environment Landscape Architecture encourages protection, stewardship and understanding of the landscape. Landscape Architecture deepens the memory, meaning, sense of identity and culture inherent in the environment.

6 OFFERS AESTHETIC AND CREATIVE EXPERIENCES

Landscape Architecture offers people that which artists offer: the opportunity to experience enjoyment, contentment, stimulation or pleasure by participating in the aesthetic experience of landscape. An important part of this dimension is the preservation and protection of significant historic properties, buildings, structures, districts, cultural landscapes, artistic objects and archeological elements.

7 ENABLES PEOPLE AND COMMUNITIES TO FUNCTION MORE EFFECTIVELY

Landscape Architecture enables people to function more effectively in their environments. On a practical, day-to-day level, landscape architecture facilitates many human activities and functions such as efficient traffic flow, parking, waste collection/recycling, water use/drainage, air quality, optimal use of space.

5 Landscape architecture enhances environmental sustainability

Landscape Architecture contributes to environmental sustainability by responding to development challenges with solutions that involve sensitivity towards natural systems. Landscape Architects at the site design level integrate sustainability measures into all designs. Landscape Architecture protects natural systems ensuring that all members of communities have access to common resources and are involved in active conservation of those resources.

Illustrative projects

MORRIS ARBORETUM, PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

Andropogon Associates



In the mid-1970s the 166-acre Morris Arboretum⁴ was faced with a backlog of deferred maintenance, deteriorated infrastructure, inadequate facilities for visitors, and major circulation problems. Responding to these issues, Andropogon's Master Plan created a vision to preserve and restore historic resources while accommodating the demands of contemporary use.

Landscape architecture is a profession that deals explicitly with the promotion of public welfare through design of the physical environment. The impacts of that design move beyond the physical realm to address social, cultural, environmental and economic factors through the process of design and implementation.

Andropogon Associates is one contemporary Landscape Architecture practice recognized for its expertise in sustainable design. As ecological Landscape Architects, this firm has worked since 1975 to develop sustainable communities that integrate historical, cultural, economic, and environmental concerns.

⁴ <http://www.andropogon.com/>

LURIE GARDENS, MILLENNIUM PARK, CHICAGO IL

Pete Oudolf (planting design), Kathryn Gustafson (landscape architecture)



Lurie Garden⁵ is part of the Millennium Park complex in Chicago, Illinois and one of the largest green roof gardens in the world. In addition to providing green space in the city, Lurie Gardens acts as a sustainable solution to urban development. The planting design by Pete Oudolf speaks to the identity of the space and its host city, featuring two distinctive “plates” with planting styles that reflect the city’s past and its transformation into a more positive and sustainable future.

⁵ http://www.gnlt.com/projects_detail.php?id=22

FRESH KILLS PARK, STATEN ISLAND

James Corner Field Operations [proposed plan]



The design for Fresh Kills Park, a former landfill site⁶ in Staten Island, is the result of an international competition and the work of James Corner and his Field Operations team. Measuring more than 2,000 acres, the scope of the project is unprecedented and has the potential to make a significant impact on the city of New York, the field of landscape architecture and the concept of public space.

The concept behind Lifescape, the Field Operations design, is ground breaking both in design, technology and process. It may be the process that will continue to have the greatest connection to improving public welfare and ensuring the long term success of the project. The landscape will evolve and continue to develop as a function of natural, cultural and social processes resulting in a landscape that is legible as an integral part of the surrounding community.

⁶ <http://www.fieldoperations.net/>

WASHINGTON MUTUAL CENTER GREEN ROOF, SEATTLE, WA

Phillips Farevaag Smallerberg



The 17th floor Washington Mutual Bank roof garden⁷ is a green roof that is a vital social space and the civic heart of the bank's downtown campus. Rather than meet the City of Seattle's minimum open space requirements, the garden's usable area was enlarged threefold to provide decks and pathways that showcase views across Elliott Bay, while integrating elements that tell a story about the bank, its local origins, and the community it serves.

Environmental benefits include the following: captures water, cleans water, conserves water, cools air temperature, creates habitat for wildlife, prevents soil erosion and reduces urban heat.

⁷ <http://www.asla.org/sustainablelandscapes/greenroof.html>

CURITIBA, URBAN PARKS



The city of Curitiba in Brazil⁸ is an excellent example of how design innovation can improve the lives of inhabitants and transform the city into a vibrant and attractive place to live. The city has been praised for its hyper-efficient and inexpensive transit systems, but it is the creation of an extensive urban park system that has succeeded in improving the health and well-being of citizens, while also solving major public health and environmental problems.

The low lying areas of Curitiba had over time developed into slum settlements where landless people set up temporary settlements. These unregulated settlements introduced public health problems for the people living there and put the sensitive ecosystems of the low lying wetlands at risk.

Urban planners in Curitiba recognized the problems and proposed a solution that would solve the environmental problems and improve public welfare of all Curitiba's citizens.

The slum communities were cleared and inhabitants relocated to many of the successful low income housing developments in the city. The low lying areas were then transformed into an extensive park network which provided recreation opportunities and a low maintenance water management system.

⁸ http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/a/ac/Curitiba_From_Barigui_Park.jpg/800px-Curitiba_From_Barigui_Park.jpg

http://www.loe.org/images/080418/curitiba_jardim.jpg

Sources: environmental sustainability

ASLA POLICY STATEMENT ON ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY⁹

The American Society of Landscape Architects believes that both human civilizations and the natural ecosystems represent integral parts of our environment and, therefore, must be protected, restored and perpetuated.

In order to provide a healthy, productive, and socially enriching life for all, the Society urges public and private decision makers to employ sustainable design policies and practices, minimize environmental degradation, avoid excessive consumption and respect the needs of future generations.

Rationale

Sustainability is the capability of natural and cultural systems to maintain themselves over time. It is impacted by: (a) individual and collective actions; (b) the amount and the rate of consumption; and (c) the intrinsic properties and carrying capacity of each system. Ideally, sustainable development should incorporate three diverse viewpoints:

- Ecology: preserving the integrity of ecological subsystems, respecting the global interdependence and pursuing environmental stewardship.
- Economics: maximization of human welfare within the constraints of existing capital stock, budget realities, cost-saving considerations, fiscal requirements and available technologies.
- Sociology: key actors are humans whose patterns of social organization are crucial for devising viable solutions for a better future on local, regional, national and global levels. Their concerns include: cohesion of community, equity, social justice, cultural identity, diversity, solidarity, civility, tolerance, pluralism, law and discipline.

Sustainability should be a guiding principle of the landscape planning, design, and management processes as well as decision making. The goals associated with creating a sustainable environment include:

- Reducing pollution and avoiding waste;
- Avoiding, minimizing and/or mitigating human impacts on the environment;
- Protecting and conserving all natural ecosystems;
- Improving production and consumption cycles, including replacement/reduction of non-renewable resources;

⁹http://www.asla.org/uploadedFiles/CMS/Government_Affairs/Public_Policies/Environmental_Sustainability.pdf

- Improving waste collection, recycling and recovery; promoting more efficient energy use and production; and preserving visual and cultural resources for present and future generations.

Communities should accept responsibility for the consequences of planning, design and operational decisions upon human well being, the viability of natural systems and their right to co-exist. Designs should consider long-term value. All products and processes should be evaluated and optimized for the full life cycle to determine the undistorted cost-benefit account of waste and consumption.

Landscape architects, as planners, designers and managers, should share knowledge and encourage communication between colleagues, professionals from other disciplines and fields, public officials and community leaders, clients, developers, contractors, manufacturers and suppliers in order to:

- Enhance the understanding of and strengthen the integral relationship between natural processes and human activity and how the concept of sustainable design fits into everyday life.
- Examine policies, regulations and standards in industry and government to identify barriers to the implementation of the principles of sustainable development.
- Improve policies, practices, processes, procedures, products, and services that link long-term sustainable considerations and development.
- Encourage community and business leaders to bring the existing built and natural environments up to sustainable development standards and to reflect the philosophy of sustainability in the design, planning, and management of their communities.

Other sources

The Sustainable Sites Initiative: Guidelines and Performance Benchmarks 2009.
American Society of Landscape Architects
Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, University of Texas at Austin
United States Botanic Garden

The Sustainable Sites Initiative™ was developed by the American Society of Landscape Architects, the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center at the University of Texas, Austin, and the U.S. Botanic Garden. It is a way to set and evaluate environmental sustainability of site design within the realm of landscape architecture. The voluntary guidelines and rating system are modeled after the LEED building certification program. Sites™ is a credit system based on the designed landscape's ability to achieve sustainable outcomes.

Environmental and Community Health: A Reciprocal Relationship
Jeffery Sugarman
New York City Department of City Planning
p.138-153

The design for the remediation of Fresh Kills landfill site was the result of an international competition and the work of James Corner and his Field Operations team. Over 2,000 acres the project is unprecedented and has the potential to make a significant impact of the city of New York, the field of landscape architecture and the concept of public space. The concept behind Lifescape, the Field Operations design, is ground breaking both in design, technology and process. It may be the process that is and will continue to have the greatest connection to improving public welfare and ensuring the long term success of the project. The landscape will evolve and continue to develop as a function of natural, cultural and social processes resulting in a landscape that is legible as an integral part of the surrounding community.

A Convenient Truth: Urban Solutions from Curitiba Brazil [film]
Maria Vaz Photography & Del Bello Pictures
2007

The city of Curitiba, Brazil is an excellent example of how design innovation has been used to improve the lives of inhabitants and transform the city into a vibrant and attractive place to live. Most notably the city has been praised for its hyper-efficient and inexpensive transit systems. However, it is the creation of an extensive urban park system that has also succeeded in improving the health and well-being of citizens and solved a major public health and environmental problem.

6 Landscape architecture contributes to economic sustainability and benefits

Landscape Architecture contributes significantly to economic sustainability. Landscape architects assist policy makers and others to improve the marketability and long-term value of residential and commercial housing and property. Economic benefits include reduction of crime, smart development and growth, improved air and water quality, efficient energy use, enhanced quality of life and health, and access to culture and recreation.

Illustrative projects

LURIE GARDEN IN MILLENNIUM PARK, CHICAGO, IL

Gustafson Guthrie Nichol, Seattle, WA



This 5-acre garden pays homage to the City's motto, "Urbs in Horto" (City in a Garden), which refers to Chicago's transformation from its flat and marshy origins. Highlights of the garden include the dramatically lit, 15-foot-high "shoulder" hedge. This physical representation of Carl Sandburg's famous description of the "City of Big Shoulders" encloses the garden on two sides and protects the delicate perennial garden. A graceful hardwood footbridge over shallow water divides the garden diagonally between "light" and "dark" plates.

Goodman Williams Group found direct and induced economic impacts from visits to Millennium Park (including hotel, restaurant, shopping and entertainment sources).

OTTERBEIN, BALTIMORE

Land Design Research



In the summer of 1975, 104 badly deteriorated houses in varying degrees of disrepair located between Barre Street to the north, Hughes street to the south, Hanover Street to the east and Sharp Street to the west, were raffled off by the City for \$1.00 as urban homesteads. It took 10 years to create Otterbein, from the day of the first awards to the completion of the last property. All homesteaders were involved in planning Otterbein, from the Exterior Design Standards to the brick and lampposts for the sidewalks. Homesteading involved demolition, planning, house construction and renovation and site development. Subsequently, Otterbein has become a highly desirable residential community in the heart of Baltimore and the property prices have multiplied significantly.

REGENT PARK, TORONTO, ON

NAK Design group/GH3



Regent Park is Canada's largest and oldest public housing project. Located on 70 acres east of the downtown core, it replaced one of Toronto's worst slums with a "garden city" development that, despite the best of intentions, isolated and stigmatized the community. Over time Regent Park suffered from deteriorating infrastructure, escalating violence, poverty, and other social and economic challenges.

Faced with these problems, Toronto Community Housing Corporation and the City approved a 15-year rehabilitation and redevelopment plan in 2003. Dense urban development presents challenges in maintaining or enhancing site ecology. Nonetheless, the project incorporates a containerized roof planting system that covers more than half the roof area, and a stormwater cistern sized to meet all landscape irrigation requirements. Physical connection to the community is reinforced by the extension of pedestrian routes into the site through a network of green walkways, ramps and vertical circulation spaces. These link the major interior and exterior public areas to each other, and render the entire block fully accessible to all residents.

The outcome is that the area is becoming attractive to people from a range of socio-economic backgrounds who treasure the experience of living in the vibrant core. As a result the community of Regent Park is beginning to reap incremental economic benefits.

SUN PEAKS RESORT

Ecosign Mountain Resort Planners Ltd., Whistler, BC



Sun Peaks Resort is located on what was formerly known as the Mount Tod Ski Area in the McGillivray Creek Valley, approximately 360 km north of Vancouver, British Columbia. In April 1992, Tod Mountain was purchased by Nippon Cable Co. Ltd., of Tokyo, Japan which began transforming the ski area (renamed Sun Peaks Resort) into a modern, four-season mountain community.

Ecosign Mountain Resort Planners Ltd.,¹⁰ was involved in the project. Sun Peaks constructed new lifts and landscaped the terrain on three local mountains, in addition to building a new recreation centre, a daylodge, a golf course and over 1,600 new dwelling units distributed amongst eight hotels, fifteen townhouse developments and 250 single family homes.

The mountain resort continues to expand and now boasts a seasonal population of 500 residents and over 6,000 tourist beds. Skier visits at Sun Peaks have increased from 69,000 in 1992/93 to 345,000 in 2007/08.

Ecosign Mountain Resort Planners Ltd., of Whistler, British Columbia, a world renowned planner of ski resorts has also contributed to the designs for the facilities of the Olympic Games in Calgary 1988 (CDN), Salt Lake City 2002 (USA) Whistler (CDN) and Sochi (RUS).

¹⁰ <http://www.ecosign.com/>

HIGH POINT, SEATTLE, WA

Mithun



High Point¹¹ combines ecological and social goals to transform a 34-block, isolated and distressed site into a vibrant, sustainable neighborhood.

Responding to the community's request to re-knit the neighborhood with the surrounding urban context, High Point maintains the varied economic, ethnic, and social backgrounds of its residents while increasing density, reducing neighborhood energy consumption, and drawing the greater neighborhood to its walkable streets and green spaces.

The community includes extensive and accessible parks and civic places of all scales - trails, pocket parks, a regional park, a community center, library, market, garden, and art installations.

Mithun¹², a Seattle-based landscape architecture firm was one of the firms responsible for the design of High Point. Mithun is guided by a set of principles that form its integrated approach to sustainable design, says Susan Olmsted. One principle is “do the math”; another is “create beauty / spirit.” Olmsted said metrics and aesthetics were interdependent — it’s the mix that creates a “sense of purpose.”

Olmsted pointed to Mithun’s well-known High Point affordable community project in Seattle. High Point features a range of sustainable landscape elements, including some 15,000 feet of bioswales.

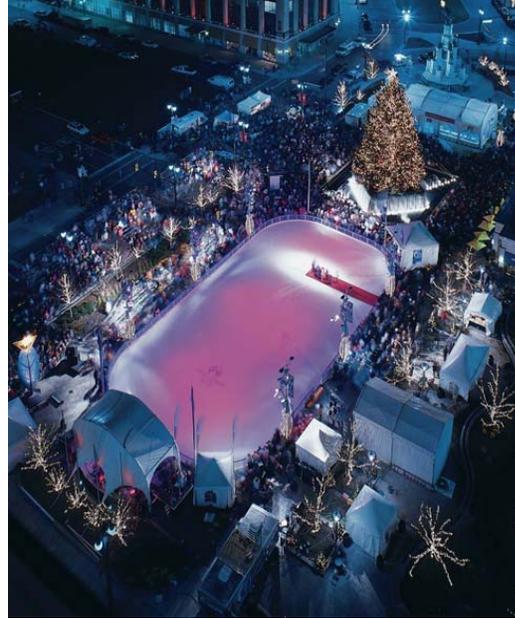
Olmsted focused on the economic benefits. The overall “green” aspect of the project cost just three percent of the total, but yielded 20% of the annual utility savings for the residents, many of which have low-incomes. Additionally, the decentralized green infrastructure system used throughout the housing community enabled the designers to use a smaller detention pond, which freed up land that could be sold, expanding economic gains. In five years, the Seattle Housing Authority “broke even.” Through their work, there had also been a 433 percent increase in density in the community and a 300 percent increase in trees.

¹¹ <http://www.sustainablesites.org/cases/show.php?id=11>

¹² <http://mithun.com/projects/>

CAMPUS MARTIUS PARK, DETROIT, MI

Rundell Ernstberger Associates



Campus Martius Park,¹³ designed by Rundell Ernstberger Associates LLC, is known as “Detroit’s official gathering place.” The 2.5-acre space is a “vibrant central square, created from a desolate downtown parcel, [and] has become the heart of the city’s downtown redevelopment initiative” writes Urban Land Institute (ULI).¹⁴

The park, which draws upwards of two million visitors per year, features extensive landscaping, movable seating, and an ice-skating rink. ULI says the park has catalyzed \$700 million in local real estate development, including new cafes, shops, and the new Compuware world headquarters.

In an interview with Urban Land, Burden said “Campus Martius Park is an exemplary model of a creative transformation of a central city-space. It serves both as a gathering place for resident and visitors, and as a much needed catalyst to the city. This vibrant 2.5-acre green space project optimism and civic pride — quite the opposite of the dire stories and images that often characterized this city.”

¹³<http://www.reasite.com/>

¹⁴<http://dirt.asla.org/2010/06/17/james-corner-field-operations-wins-cooper-hewitts-2010-national-design-award>

Sources: economic sustainability

The effect of open space on single-family, residential home property values.

Soren Anderson

Macalester Journal of Economics, 2000

In this paper, the author determines the effect of open space on residential property values by fitting a standard hedonic pricing model to a sample of homes from within the Minneapolis suburban area. Based on empirical results, he estimates that the externalities generated by adjacency to open space increase residential home property value by approximately \$40,000 (or 20% for a mean-valued home of \$188,000).

The Effect of Landscape Plants on Perceived Home Value

Alex X. Niemiera

Virginia Cooperative Extension, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

Publication 426-087, 2007

Survey results showed that relatively large landscape expenditures significantly increase perceived home value and will result in a higher selling price than homes with a minimal landscape. Design sophistication and plant size were the landscape factors that most affected value. The resulting increase in “curb appeal” of the property may also help differentiate a home in a subdivision where house styles are similar and thereby attract potential buyers into a home. This advantage is especially important in a competitive housing market.

Landscaping and House Values: An Empirical Investigation.

François Des Rosiers, Marius Theriault, Yan Kestens, and Paul Villeneuve

The Journal of Real Estate Research. 23(1/2): pp. 139-161, 2002

This article is the winner of the Real Estate Valuation manuscript prize (sponsored by The Appraisal Institute) presented at the 2001 American Real Estate Society Annual Meeting. This hedonic study investigates the effect of landscaping on house values, based on a detailed field survey of 760 single-family homes sold between 1993 and 2000 on the territory of the Quebec Urban Community. Environmental information includes thirty-one landscaping attributes of both houses and their immediate environment. By and large, a positive tree cover differential between the property and its immediate neighborhood, provided it is not excessive, translates into a higher house value. Findings also suggest that the positive price impact of a good tree cover in the visible surroundings is all the more enhanced in areas with a high proportion of retired persons. Finally, a high percentage of lawn cover as well as features such as flower arrangements, rock plants, the presence of a hedge, etc. all command a substantial market premium.

The Influence of Trees and Landscaping on Rental Rates at Office Buildings

Robert J. Laverne, and Kimberly Winson-Geideman

Journal of Arboriculture. 29(5): pp. 281-290. 2003

This study investigates the effect of trees and landscaping on office rental rates, based on a comparison of 85 office buildings that comprise 270 individual and unique leases in the Cleveland, Ohio, U.S., metropolitan area. Data that describe the quantity, functionality, and

quality of landscaping were gathered from each of the buildings including landscape maturity, the percentage of ground cover (trees, turf, pavement, etc.), and functional attributes (building shade, noise buffer, space definition, recreation, visual screen, and aesthetics). Multiple regression analysis in the form of a hedonic equation was conducted to isolate the economic effects of landscaping. The individual analysis of the variables showed a strong positive effect for those buildings with good landscaping aesthetics and building shade provided by trees.

Urban Open Space: An Investment That Pays. New York: The Neighborhood Open Space Coalition.

Tom Fox. 1990.

Fox differentiates between community and traditional open spaces. Community open spaces are usually low cost, small scale, locally controlled, and user-oriented, in contrast to traditional open spaces, which tend to be high cost, large scale, publicly controlled, and maintained by professionals or corporations. Though both types of open spaces have a role in cities. Fox states that gardens and parks provide relief from stress, reduce perceptions of crowding, lower temperatures, and improve air quality in neighbourhoods. Further, he states his research supports the assumptions of the psychological, social and economic benefits of open-space projects.

Millennium Park Economic Impact Study

Goodman Williams Group / URS Corporation for the City of Chicago

2005

Goodman Williams Group interviewed developers and operators of selected real estate developments in the Study Area to obtain first-hand feedback on real estate performance, and supplemented this information with trend data from secondary research sources. The authors estimate significant direct and induced economic impacts from visits to Millennium Park (including hotel, restaurant, shopping and entertainment sources).

Canada's Ski Resort Designer to the World

David Ebner, Globe and Mail

October 13, 2010

This article describes some of the ski resort projects of Ecosign Mountain Resort Planners Ltd. which works out of Whistler, BC. Ecosign, lead by Paul Mathews, has designed more than 300 resorts in more than three dozen countries around the world including the plan for the home mountain of the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia. This article focuses on Ecosign securing the deal to redesign the ski-lift network at Courchevel, France – for the first time cracking design work for the top tier of French resorts.

7 Landscape architecture promotes public health and well-being

Landscape Architecture is increasingly grounded in the growing body of research in public health. This research makes connections between human health and well-being and the conditions of the outdoor environment. Landscape Architecture projects can directly affect the mental and physical health of individuals and communities.

Illustrative projects

CENTRAL PARK, NEW YORK NY

Frederick Law Olmsted



Frederick Law Olmsted was the designer of Central Park in New York City¹⁵ and the father of modern Landscape Architecture. He recognized the significance and impact of restorative space within the framework of urban life. He designed Central Park to be an escape from the hectic New York lifestyle and provide residents with an escape from the city, in the city. Central Park is one of the most recognized urban parks in the world and was designed based on the philosophy that urban dwellers should have access to green space as a restorative escape from the stresses of the city.

¹⁵ <http://www.nycvp.com/nycvp/CentralPark.jpg>
<http://www.bookingadvisor.com/blog/wp-content/uploads/2010/02/New-York-Central-Park.jpg>

HIGH LINE PARK NEW YORK CITY, NY

Field Operations



High Line, New York City,¹⁶ created places for people that are interesting and memorable. These spaces are integrated into the urban fabric. High Line has that unique quality that defines it as a destination. High Line focuses on the experiential qualities of the landscape. Furthermore, the public space encourages social interactions, thereby strengthening community and improving well being.

¹⁶ <http://www.thehighline.org/galleries/images/high-line-park-photos?page=5>

A little background on High Line Park...

“Initially, trains around here ran on the street level. People called the streets ‘Death Avenue’ due to the fatalities. So they built a raised line for trains to run on to service the local factories and meatpacking plants. But rail traffic gradually declined. It was too expensive to tear it down so it basically rotted away.”

Former mayor Rudy Giuliani wanted to tear it down. David and Robert Hammond, co-founder of the Save the High Line group, saw merit in turning it into an urban park.

Things changed when Michael Bloomberg became mayor, and the High Line Park opened on June 9 of this year [2009].

...Thousands of New Yorkers and tourists gather every day and night to stroll the half-mile section that's been opened, stretching from Gansevoort and Washington in the oh-so-trendy meatpacking district to 20th St. in Chelsea.

It's a public park, but, like Central Park, most of the operating cash comes from private sources. One of the main benefactors of the High Line, which cost some \$169 million, was Diane Von Furstenberg and her husband, Barry Diller, who both own land and offices in the surrounding neighbourhoods.

David talks about how the concrete in the park “reflects the linearity of the tracks.” Other, less poetic types might simply say it's a lovely, well-thought-out park in an area where greenspaces are few and far between.

The High Line, in just a few months, has become a de rigueur spot in Manhattan; a no-cost ribbon of nature during the day and a place where New Yorkers do the equivalent of an Italian or Spanish paseo at night (Jim Byers, Toronto Star, September 3, 2009).

PORTLAND MEMORY GARDEN, PORTLAND, OR



Portland Memory Garden is a garden for people living with Alzheimer's disease and their caregivers. This garden was part of ASLA's 100 parks for 100 cities during the Centennial Celebration in 1999.¹⁷

This garden was designed as a therapeutic place for contemplation, reflection, peace and delight. It creates new memories as well as evokes memories from the past. It is particularly oriented for those with Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia for instance plantings evoked childhood memories: many plant varieties common in older gardens are featured so as to spark pleasant memories.

¹⁷<http://www.centerofdesign.org/pages/memorygarden.htm>

HALIFAX PUBLIC GARDEN HALIFAX, NS, CANADA



The Halifax gardens¹⁸ were created in 1872 by Richard Power, who had gained experience at Central Park in New York. The gazebo was added in 1887. The meandering pathway design and green lawns invite people not just to pass through but be come in and enjoy the environment as an escape from a busy city life. Like Central Park this historic Halifax landmark secures valuable green space in the urban core that would otherwise be developed.

¹⁸ <http://www.halifaxpublicgardens.ca/>

THE RESTORATIVE COMMONS INITIATIVE

Program of Meristem.org¹⁹ was developed to explore and define the concept through research and multidisciplinary collaboration the concept of *restorative commons*. The goal of this initiative is to develop and maintain health promoting urban landscapes.

*For open space to function as a commons, it should be publicly accessible, nonexcludable and managed through shared governance. We consider sites restorative if they contribute to the health and well-being of individuals, communities and the landscape. Individual health includes physical, mental, emotional and social health; community health is considered in terms of rights, empowerment, and neighbourhood efficiency; and landscape health is measured by ecosystem function and resilience-all of which act together in a complex web of relationships.*²⁰

¹⁹ <http://www.restorativecommons.org/Site/Home.html>

²⁰ **Restorative Commons: Creating Health and Well-being through Urban Landscapes**
Edited by: Lindsay Campbell and Anne Wiesen, January 2009, p 11

STANLEY PARK, VANCOUVER, BC, CANADA



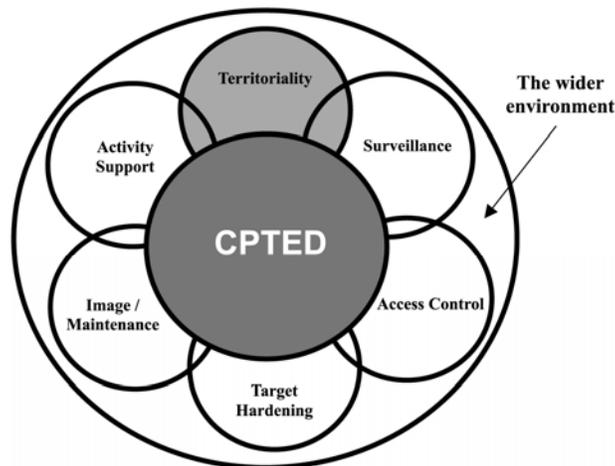
Stanley Park, Vancouver BC

Stanley Park²¹ is a 1,000 acre urban park on the outskirts of the City of Vancouver. Featuring trails, open space and large established trees this park gives urban residents a nearby escape from the city. The park provides the opportunity to lose sight of the city and feel even farther removed from the stresses of everyday life. Yearly visits to Stanley Park, North America's third largest urban core park, are estimated at eight million people. Originally home to Burrard, Musqueam and Squamish First Nations people, Stanley Park today is a place for its citizens to recreate themselves through active sport or passive repose.

²¹ <http://rmmla.wsu.edu/conferences/conf01-Vancouver/conf01.html>

CPTED – PRINCIPLES FOR CRIME PREVENTION THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN

One example of the impact of landscape architecture on crime is CPTED (Crime Prevention through Environmental Design)²². Recognized internationally, CPTED demonstrates a concept for safer more livable communities through responsible design. Success of these concepts can be evaluated by gauging rates of crime, undesirable activity and visitors' perceptions before and after design changes are made. In some cases, however, contradictions exist between creating safe environments and creating beautiful, inviting and relatable environments.



Source: Adapted from Moffat (1983, p. 23)

²² <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/fig/1130230502001.png>
<http://www.cpted.net/>
<http://www.cptedontario.ca/>
<http://www.designcentreforcpted.org/Pages/Principles.html>

Sources: health and well-being

Planning a Barrier-free City of Toronto: A Statement of Planning Principles Prepared for: The Toronto Joint Citizen's Committee for People with Disabilities

Shane Holten

May 2003

SPH Planning and Consulting

This document calls for changes to urban design principles for the City of Toronto with respect to new standards for barrier-free public environments. This change process involves technical and non-technical solutions, most notably the changing of existing barrier free design "guidelines" to enforceable development policy that would appear in municipal official planning documents. This example also provides an example of institutionalization of design for public welfare and recognizing greater social, cultural and economic implications.

Health Environment and Quality of Life: an epidemiological perspective on urban development

Augustinus E.M Hollander, Brigit A.M Staatsen

Landscape and Urban Planning 65 (2003) 53-62

This article examines public health as it has evolved with urban development including the spread of disease, access to healthy environments and living or neighbourhood conditions. The investigation also includes suggestions about expanding the concept of public health to a more comprehensive discipline focused on prevention, improved quality of life and well-being.

Public Health and the Built Environment: Historical, Empirical and Theoretical Foundations for an Expanded Role

Wendy C. Purdue, Lawrence O. Gostin and Lesley A. Stone

Journal of Law, Medicine and Ethics 31 (2003) 557-566

This article assesses the significance of the relationship between public health and the built environment in a contemporary context. This examination suggests the potential role of government in the regulation of built environment standards for the protection of public health and for public health officials in the generation of new solutions to contemporary public health issues.

The Relationship of Urban Design to Human Health and condition

Laura E. Jackson

Landscape and Urban Planning 64 (2003) 191-200

This article reflects the strength in the argument that design of the urban environment is a universal public health concern. Moving further with the concept, Jackson suggests some potential solutions related to policy, process and design.

Restorative Commons: Creating Health and Well-being through Urban Landscapes

Edited by: Lindsay Campbell and Anne Wiesen

USDA Forest Services

January 2009

Cultivating Resilience: Urban Stewardship as a Means to Improving Health and Well-being

Erika Svendsen

p. 58-90

Urban parks and open space are looked at here as a public good that can positively or negatively affect the collective health and well-being of a community population. It is not however merely the existence of public open space but the quality and level of public engagement that determines the degree of effectiveness. Stewardship, as the active participation in the creation and maintenance of public space, is very important to not only the quality of public space but also to social cohesion that determines the resilience and adaptability of community groups.

The Simple Act of Walking to School: a historic overview of contemporary issues effecting childhood obesity, school placement and active transport

JM Westphal and S Patil

Obesity in Childhood and Adolescence (2007) p. 133-157

Research is focused on children who are a group significantly affected by poor planning and design as they often have little say in how their environments function. By examining the effects on this particular group it becomes clear that land use planning decisions can significantly impact public health, quality of life and well being.

Urban Sprawl and Public Health

Howard Frumkin

May-June 2002

CDC Public Health Reports, Volume 117

Frumkin discusses the various public health consequences of current planning protocol including automobile dependence, urban heat islands, air pollution. Many social issues can also be affiliated with sprawl including mental health issues, social isolation and disconnected communities. Guidelines for urban design are then proposed as possible solutions to widespread problems that are consequences of urban land use planning decisions.

View Through a Window May Influence Recovery from Surgery

Roger. S. Ulirch (1984)

Science, 224, Issue 4647, 420-421

Records on recovery after cholecystectomy of patients in a suburban Pennsylvania hospital between 1972 and 1981 were examined to determine whether assignment to a room with a window view of a natural setting might have restorative influences. Twenty-three surgical patients assigned to rooms with windows looking out on a natural scene had shorter postoperative hospital stays, received fewer negative evaluative comments in nurses' notes, and took fewer potent analgesics than 23 matched patients in similar rooms with windows facing a brick building wall.

8 Landscape architecture builds community

Landscape architects work to help build communities: their work significantly affects quality of life. By creating attractive, functional places, Landscape Architecture encourages people to engage in their surroundings, strengthening social cohesion, which in turn results in healthier, more dynamic, more resilient communities at the local, national and global levels.

Illustrative projects

SOUTH CHICAGO REDEVELOPMENT, LEED ND PILOT PROJECT, FARR ASSOCIATES



The South Chicago project²³ is an example of a large scale development approached from the perspective of the LEED-ND rating system. The existing neighborhood was evaluated and the master plan then created based on the principles for sustainable building, walkable communities, mixed use development, urban restoration, brown field remediation and community identity. This approach represents one that considers the concept of public welfare in a holistic way.

²³ <http://www.farrside.com/RoomToRegion.aspx?cat=4&id=20>

PEARL DISTRICT PORTLAND, OR

Portland Planning Bureau



The Pearl district²⁴ is a former industrial area in Portland transformed into a popular and functioning mixed use neighbourhood. This development model is now being utilized in the city in an effort to integrate more mixed use development with traditional land use development types.

GRANVILLE ISLAND, VANCOUVER BC, CANADA



Granville Island²⁵ is an illustration of mixed use development. It provides opportunities for life, work and recreation within communities designed for livability and connected by sustainable transit and pedestrian corridors.

Promoting the integration of land use types (residential, commercial, institutional and recreational) allows people better access to healthier lifestyles. Integrating higher end residences and lower income or social housing also creates vibrant and diverse communities that are often safer and more resilient.

²⁴ <http://www.portlandonline.com/bps/index.cfm?c=51136>

²⁵ <http://www.sharpdiamond.com/projects/granville.html>

BIDDY MASON PARK, LOS ANGELES, CA

Burton & Spitz, Landscape Architects



Biddy Mason Park is named after Biddy Mason (1818 – 1891) who obtained her freedom from slavery in 1856. Biddy Mason was the first black American female landowner in Los Angeles and founded childcare and midwife services that were affordable to hundreds of people.

The park was built on what was previously a narrow parking lot and a web of raw alleys. The park, designed by landscape architects Burton & Spitz, now offers willow camphor and jacaranda trees that shade courtyards and walkways and ultimately focus on a sculptural of water-spouting pipes.

Biddy Mason Park was created ... to link a new parking garage to both the Broadway and Spring Street historic districts. It has given identity and privilege where there was disrepair, and it has tempted all who use it to notice the historic districts, learn about an important aspect of cultural history and sense the possibilities for further development in the area. The best Spanish-language bookstore is now adjacent, one of the state's largest banks has been tempted to return to an underserved district and a new deli has recently opened.²⁶

²⁶ Places of Privilege, Richard S. Harris, <http://www.escholarship.org/uc/item/1774m3jb>

Sources: Building Community

Community Design Today: From the Inside Out

Randolph T. Hester Jr.

Landscape Journal

1986

Although not a recent example this article examines the practice of community design which was recognized by its practitioners to be rooted in social work, design and environmental psychology.

Where Does Community Grow? The Social Context Created by Nature in Urban Public Housing

Rebekah Levine Coley, William C. Sullivan and Frances E. Kuo

Environment and Behaviour 1997: 29: 468

This study documents the impact that natural elements (mainly trees) have on social interactions and community identity in three inner city housing developments in Chicago. Findings legitimize the concept that the presence of nature improves the social atmosphere. It also recognizes that further studies into the effects of specific elements and environmental characteristics are necessary.

Measuring the Unmeasurable: Urban Design Qualities Related to Walkability

Ried Ewing and Susa Handy

Journal of Urban Design Vol.14 No. 1 65-84

February 2009

Analyzing the quality of urban design is an important part of creating guidelines and principles that shape how development in the built environment is carried out. By establishing a set of principles and attempting to operationalize the concepts, guidelines begin to develop that govern the creation of ideal public environments.

Rethinking Environmental Racism: White privilege and urban development in Southern California

Laura Pulido

Department of Geography, University of Southern California

Annals of Association of American Geographers, 90(1), 2000, p.12-40

Examines how marginalized populations (in Los Angeles, for example) are subjected to poorer environments in terms of health, aesthetics and quality through the emerging concept of environmental racism.

A Seat at the Table: Including the Poor in Decisions for Development and Environment

Joseph Foti and Lallanath de Silva

World Resource Institute

2010

This in depth report brings up the question of access in terms of environmental decision making and development specifically related to poor or marginalized communities. Recommendations are made to increase and enhance access as the welfare component could have potential applications for addressing public concern through design.

Places of Privilege
Richard S. Harris
Design Observer: Places
www.escholarship.org/uc/item/1774m3jb
Summer 1994 (9)2 p.20-23

This article speaks to the philosophy of design for public welfare and the role Landscape Architecture can play in improving livelihoods through the creation of quality public spaces. The design philosophy described here involves striving for equity through the creation of “places of privilege” which can be described as environments that are identifiable, distinctive and supportive to everyday life.

9 Landscape architecture encourages landscape awareness/stewardship

Landscape Architecture stimulates our awareness of the landscape, and increases our understanding of the role that humans play in it. Landscape Architecture encourages citizens to appreciate landscape and to participate in the processes that shape it. Cultivating a symbiotic and iterative relationship between people and their environment encourages protection, stewardship and understanding of the landscape. Landscape Architecture deepens the memory, meaning, sense of identity and culture inherent in the environment.

Illustrative projects

EVERGREEN BRICKWORKS, TORONTO, ONTARIO

Claude Cormier Landscape Architects



Evergreen Brickworks²⁷ is located on a former brickyard in Toronto's Don Valley. The site is currently undergoing a development process and upon completion will include classrooms, community gardens, a park and wetland as well as other community resources related to environmental and social sustainability. As a restored landscape the Brickworks site will exemplify the need for environmental protection and responsible development by providing education to people who have become disconnected from the landscape as a result of urban life.

²⁷ <http://ebw.evergreen.ca/>

FOOTE'S POND WOOD, MORRISTOWN, NJ

Foote's Pond Wood²⁸ is a new 14-acre public park in Morristown New Jersey. The park reconnects the community with a historically rich, but neglected, plot of land consisting of an 80 year-old wood lot and four-acre pond and wetland, and provides a link to an adjacent elementary school, synagogue and Jesuit retreat. The program is to rehabilitate the site for education and contemplative uses without disturbing the essence of the place. The first phase of construction concluded in Autumn 2006. Foote's Pond Wood won a Design Exchange Gold Award for Landscape Architecture and a Torsanlorenzo International Landscape Award Second Prize.



Foot's Field: The Classroom
Dock from the Field

²⁸ <http://www.branchplant.com/landscape/footes.html>

Sources: landscape awareness

Restoring Mill Creek: Landscape Literacy, Environmental Justice and City Planning and Design

Ann Whiston Spirn

Landscape Research Vol. 30 No.3 395 413

July 2005

Whiston Spirn displays through Mill Creek neighbourhood in Philadelphia the potential for implementing a design process that involves understanding landscapes and the processes that shape them. This is referred to as landscape literacy which is a concept that is based in environmental sustainability and building communities that improve the human condition and collective well-being.

2010-11 Landscape and Aesthetics Community Match Program and Procedures Manual Guidelines, Applications, Instructions and Forms for the Community Matching Funds and Transportation Art Programs

Nevada Department of Transportation Roadway Design

Landscape and Aesthetics Procedures Manual

This report expresses the guidelines and principles to be applied to highway design and construction in the state of Nevada. Adopted by the Nevada State Transportation board the 2002 *Landscape and Aesthetics Master Plan for the Nevada State Highway System* is an example of the integration of landscape and aesthetic considerations into the highway development projects. The goal of this policy-based project is to improve quality of life in the state and celebrate the quality and uniqueness of natural landscapes. The document was developed to be a public ally and to provide an accessible community resource.

Pattern and Palette of Place

A Landscape and Aesthetic Master Plan for the Nevada State Highway System

July 2002

Nevada Department of Transportation

Landscape Architecture Section Design Division

This Master Plan outlines a process for ensuring that landscape and aesthetic issues are considered in all phases of highway planning, design and construction by the Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT). The master planning process created a vision for Nevada's state highway system that advances landscape and aesthetic policies, guidelines, practices, procedures, and standards.

Public Welfare and the Economics of Landscape Aesthetics

Steven C. Bourassa

Landscape and Urban Planning: 22 (1992) 31-39

This article discusses the potential of landscape aesthetics to effect and enhance public welfare interests. Recognizing an evolution towards the regulation of aesthetics in the built environment has legitimized this as a significant concern worthy of public action.

Public perceptions as support for scenic quality regulation in a nationally treasured landscape

Anne R. Kearney, Gordon A. Bradley, Carl H. Petrich, Rachel Kaplan, Stephen Kaplan, Diane Simpson-Colebank

Landscape and Urban Planning 87 (2008) 117-128

This study provides an example of the collection and measurement of landscape perceptions for a specific natural site. Opinions were collected from a variety of different groups and it was determined that despite different backgrounds and points of view visual perception analysis was similar for most participants.

10 Landscape architecture offers aesthetic and creative experiences

Landscape Architecture offers people that which artists offer: the opportunity to experience enjoyment, contentment, stimulation or pleasure by participating in the aesthetic experience of landscape. An important part of this dimension is the preservation and protection of significant historic properties, buildings, structures, districts, cultural landscapes, artistic objects and archeological elements.

Incorporating public art enhances people's enjoyment of public spaces allowing them to see landscapes as a creative expression of place and community that can be playful and engaging. Both temporary and permanent art installations help people to identify with places, reflect on and enjoy the landscapes that support them.

Illustrative projects

PHOENIX CIVIC SPACE PARK, PHOENIX, AZ

AECOM Landscape Architecture



Phoenix Civic Space park²⁹ was designed to reflect the unique climatic characteristics of Arizona. The overhead LED canopy represents lightening touching down during a monsoon rain giving context to the park's creative elements. The park also features a water filtration and recharge system and solar panels that provide power to surrounding residential and commercial communities. These functional elements do not have the same aesthetic impact as the park's public art but are equally important to its presence in the landscape and contribute to the longevity of the design.

²⁹http://www.aecom.com/What+We+Do/Design+and+Planning/Landscape+Architecture+and+Urban+Design/_projectsList/Civic+Space+Park

WANUSKEWIN HERITAGE PARK, NEAR SASKATOON, SK

Crosby, Hanna & Associates



Landscape architects played a key role in planning a site that recognizes the cultural legacy of the northern Plains Indians³⁰. The development of this nationally significant heritage site allows people through the experience of landscape to gain an understanding of important parts of Canada's First Nations history.

³⁰ http://www.crosbyhanna.ca/pdf/wanuskewin_heritage_park.pdf

THE 'VERDANT WALK', 2008 - 2010, CLEVELAND, OH

NorthDesignOffice

The 'Verdant Walk' for Mall B in Cleveland, Ohio³¹ evolved from observations on the city's industrial heritage and new direction toward a sustainable city. Responding to these two forces – Cleveland's industrial heritage and its new green agenda – fabricated steel forms recall the steel industry, while representing new technologies, material uses, and possibilities. They gather, like a herd of futurist beasts, leading the way to a new and prosperous environment. Alluding to moving water, grasses celebrate Cleveland's waterfront location on Lake Erie. Together, the forms and grasses transform the lawn to be enjoyed individually or by group celebration. Gathered in a herd and glowing with excitement, the forms of 'Verdant Walk' invite visitors to join them.



³¹ http://www.northdesignoffice.ca/project_CPA_05.html

FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DE L'ART DES JARDINS CONTEMPORAINS AT METIS, QUEBEC, CANADA

The Festival International de L'art des Jardins Contemporains³² at Métis, Québec began in 2000 to showcase cutting edge creativity in design, Landscape Architecture and environmental art. This annual presentation allows visitors to explore artistic expression of garden design within the broader context of the festival landscape. The garden installations are temporary in nature; building within a permanent garden landscape means each design must respond to the concept of time.



1. Le Jardin du Repos, by PLANT Lisa Rapoport, Christopher Pommer, Mary Tremain featured oversized garden furniture which literally and referentially embodied a particular characteristic of the local St. Lawrence River landscape sat within an enormous bed of artemisia. Found objects, materials and forms like mussel shells, intricately fissured beach stones, firewood, hay, gabion walls, corn cribs – ubiquitous in the surrounding area of beach, cottage, farm and historical Victorian garden – were assembled, stacked and stuffed to make the furniture.
2. Core Sample, by North Design Office, featured a collection of textured material from the local landscape. The sample tubes were placed in a landscape that reflected the landforms of the region, including the hills to the south and rocky coast to the north.
3. Dymaxian Sleep, by Jane Hutton & Adrian Blackwell, features a net structure suspended over a bed of aromatic flowers. Inspiration came from Buckminster Fuller's dymaxian projection and the pattern of sleep called Dymaxian Sleep he developed to maximize personal efficiency. In contrast, this installation focuses on creating an environment for play and enjoyment.

³²<http://www.refordgardens.com/english/festival/presentation.php>

EXPO '67, MONTREAL, QUEBEC, CANADA



View of the EXPO '67 site, Montreal, Quebec, Canada (photo by Michael McMordie)³³. “EXPO 67 in Montréal was perhaps the key project of the decade in Canada. Project Planning Associates Limited did the master planning for the entire site, and landscape architects from various firms provided much of the design, technical support, and coordination for Expo as well as the designs for pavilion settings. The involvement of so many offices gave the profession new scope and energy” (The Canadian Encyclopedia, 2010 Historica-Dominion).

³³ <http://www.thecanadianencyclopedia.com/index.cfm?PgNm=TCE&Params=A1ARTA0004505>

Sources: aesthetic and creative experiences

The Shared Landscape: what does aesthetics have to do with ecology?

Paul H. Grobster, Joan I. Nassauer, Terry C. Daniel and Gary Fry

August 2007

Landscape Ecology Vol.22 No.7

Introducing the idea of “ecological aesthetic” as an alternative way of understanding and appreciating the landscape this article examines the relationship between aesthetics and ecology as they are affected by planning and design. Developing an understanding of how people perceive landscapes that are affected to different degrees by human influence has helped the researchers to make connections between stewardship, attachment and identity, and aesthetic experience in the landscape.

Public Art and Urban Regeneration: advocacy claims and critical debate

Tim Hall and Iain Robertson

January 2001

Landscape Research Vol. 26 No.1

This article provides background research for the claims that public art can be used as a centre piece in urban regeneration and community building, both physically and socially. By reviewing these claims in a critical way it is possible to better understand the role that public art can play in urban renewal projects to enhance community identity and sense of place.

Landscape and the philosophy of aesthetics: is landscape quality inherent in the landscape or in the eye of the beholder?

Andrew Lothain

September 1999

Vol.44 No.4 p. 177-198

This article suggests that the quality of landscape can be approached from two contrasting view points. One is the objective view that landscape quality is inherent in the landscape itself and the other is the subjectivist view that landscape quality is based on the assessment and experience of the individual.

Abstract and specific physical attributes and the experience of landscape

A.T. Purcell

March 1992

Landscape and Environmental Management Vol.34 No.3 p. 159-177

How people perceive that landscape can have connections to what they perceive to be landscape and is generally related to the familiar or landscape of “home”. Another experiment would suggest that landscape experience and perception is based on abstractions of landscape including trees, meadows, mountains and rivers regardless of their familiarity.

11 Enables people & communities to function more effectively

Landscape Architecture enables people to function more effectively in their environments. On a practical, day-to-day level, Landscape Architecture facilitates many human activities and functions such as efficient traffic flow, parking, waste collection/recycling, water use/drainage, air quality, optimal use of space.

Illustrative projects

CEDAR LAKE PARK AND TRAIL, MINNEAPOLIS, MN

Jones and Jones Architecture and Landscape Architecture

Cedar Lake Park³⁴ and trail in Minneapolis illustrates the use of land to facilitate recreational activities such as cycling, walking and running: ways that people living in urban areas can incorporate physical activities into their daily lives.

This park incorporates the principle of accessibility. It provides connective pathways as public space for accessible recreation and exercise and connects dense urban areas, in particular residential and mixed use developments.

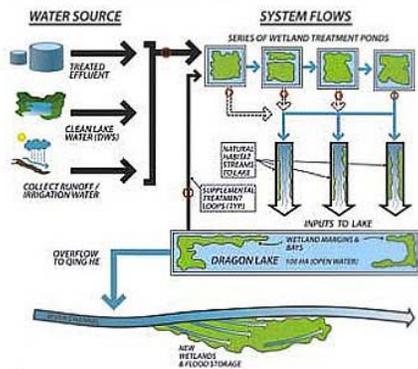
The greenways and connective corridors also facilitate active transport as people make use of them for daily travel.



³⁴ http://www.jonesandjones.com/work/natural.html - p7GPc1_7

2008 BEIJING OLYMPICS

Andropogon Associates



Andropogon's master plan for the Forest Park and the Central Zone of the 2008 Summer Olympic³⁵ included more than eleven square kilometers of programmed open space, natural areas and a 250-acre "Dragon Lake". As one of the finalists of the international design competition to realize the previously approved plan, Andropogon and their Chinese partners employed strategies for urban renewal, transportation, restoration, flood control, recreation, and habitat re-creation; bringing nature back into the city at an unprecedented scale. Because Beijing receives less than 32 inches of rainfall annually, the creation of a healthy and functioning lake required developing strategies for using recycled water. Methods proposed included extensive garden wetlands designed to further cleanse discharge from the sewage plants, capture of runoff, circulation of lake water to maintain lake health, and treatment of black water by "living machine" technology to provide additional sources of water.

³⁵ <http://www.andropogon.com/>

RESIDENTIAL PARKING, BOSWELL AVENUE, TORONTO ONTARIO,

NorthDesignOffice



Using two contrasting stone textures and patterns for a Boswell Avenue residence in downtown Toronto³⁶, a walkway to the front door, distinguishes itself from a paved area that can also accommodate the occasional parked car. This multi-functional use of limited space is also employed in the back, where a small paved area serves as a walkway to the back lane, a place to store bikes and as a dining patio. NorthDesignOffice, Toronto ON 2007.

³⁶ http://www.northdesignoffice.ca/project_BoswellE_03.html

STREETSCAPES

Brief introduction

The street has been recognized as an important space for public life and as an interface between public life and private life, pedestrians and vehicles as well as active space and static space. Streetscape design involves knowledge and balance of all of these factors in the creation of space for the public.

Design of complete streets integrates different modes of transportation with the idea that the street is a vital part of the public domain and should function as public space. Social interactions as well as the cooperation between pedestrians, drivers, cyclists and public transit all characterize a complete street.

Streets are designed at the human scale for both safety and enjoyment of people travelling at driving and walking speeds. Considerations of street and sidewalk widths as well as planting, furniture, building interface and public art contribute to designing at the human scale for the public's welfare. Two examples follow.

SOUTH PARK STREETSCAPE, LOS ANGELES, CA

AHBE Landscape Architects



South Park Streetscape³⁷ project in Los Angeles, California is an example of integrating sustainable technologies into a design that works **for** people too. Ample parking pedestrian friendly corridors and attractive store fronts encourage people to use the space while plantings disguise a water collection and filtration system to deal with the inevitable issue of surface water runoff and contamination.

³⁷http://www.ahbe.com/portfolio/southpark_streetscape/index.php?menu=portfolio&menuset=streetscapes

LAS RAMBLAS, BARCELONA, SPAIN

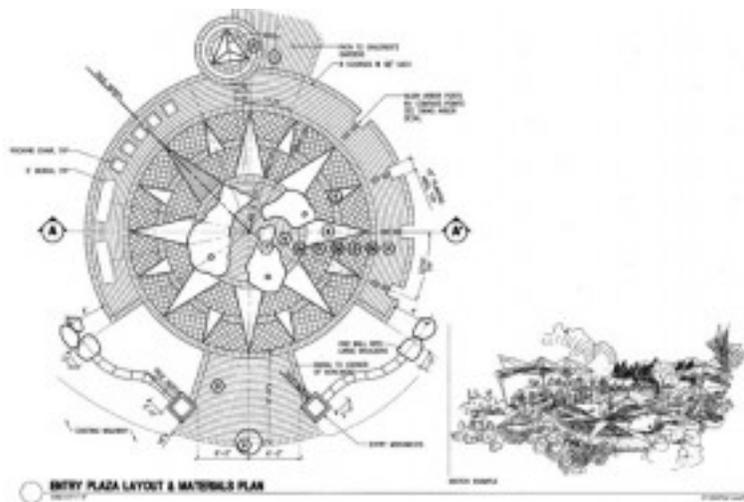


Las Ramblas³⁸ is a central pedestrian boulevard in Barcelona made up of several connected streets making up one of the most important public spaces in the city.

This tree lined street is framed by five to seven storey buildings giving it a manageable human scale that allows people to feel comfortable and welcome in the space. A variety of shops, restaurants, residences and cultural landmarks make this place a popular attraction for locals and tourists.

³⁸ http://www.pps.org/great_public_spaces/one?public_place_id=59

LERNER GARDEN OF THE FIVE SENSES HERB SCHAAL, FASLA, EDAW INC



As any space where an invitation is extended to all publics, the design of public space should be designed so as not to limit access based on disabilities. The Lerner Garden of the Five Senses³⁹ is one example. It balances design integrity and the creation of beautiful and functional spaces while incorporating elements that allow equal access.

Herb Schaal's design of concentric circles⁴⁰ consisting of different paving blocks are overlain with the points of a stylized Mariner's Compass oriented to true north. Carved whales sit in the center of the roughly 32 foot diameter plaza circle with swing benches and elaborate plantings ringing its perimeter.

³⁹ <http://www.maine gardens.org/discover/explore-the-gardens/lerner-garden-of-the-five-senses>

⁴⁰ <http://www.maine gardens.org/childrens-garden/clear-skies-ahead-111709>

Sources: effective functioning

Landscape Design: Designing for local action in complex worlds

Daniel A. Levinthal and Massimo Warglien

May-June 1999

Organization Science Vol.10 No.3

This article emphasizes the importance of local action for functional landscapes. The tradition of design often neglects the needs of local populations in favour of a designer's expert opinion. Successful developments are most often achieved when local people have the opportunity to participate in design decisions and develop landscapes that align with the short and long term needs of the community.

Community Activism vs. Community Design

October 15 2008

Design Observer: Research and Debate

www.designobserver.com

John N. Roberts

In this article Roberts speaks from direct involvement in the redevelopment of Berkley's downtown district. He compares the effectiveness, both in process and outcome, of community design vs. community activism making the case that community activism alone cannot succeed in creating successful physical environments. This hypothesis is backed up by two examples in which activism and design were played out at different degrees and with different results.

Landscape Dynamics and the Management of Change

Robert Wood and John Handley

January 2001

Landscape Research Vol. 26 No.1 p. 45-5

Development in the landscape is driven by factors of change suggested in this article to be obsolescence and dysfunction. Regardless of the reasons for change it is the response from planners, politicians and community members that determines the successfulness of solutions to issues that arise. This article looks at planning structures in the U.K. and the balance between these drivers of change and the management of the development process particularly in the development of community forests in urban areas.



PART C: PLANNING & DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS AND MEASURING IMPACT

**One North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois, designed by Peter Walker and
Partners Landscape Architecture**

www.pwpla.com/index.php

12 Planning & Design Considerations for Public Welfare

Landscape Architecture projects undoubtedly impact the layout and character of the physical environment and, depending on the techniques and principles, have a positive or negative effect on public welfare. This happens at different levels which must be coordinated to achieve and sustain public welfare.

Projects vary in both scale and type which impacts the private and public spheres and affects well being and quality of life in both instances.

Landscape Architects, as design professionals, conduct projects with these factors in mind. Through the principles of planning and design Landscape Architects work to positively impact public welfare and create more beautiful, functional and sustainable outdoor spaces.

The following serves as an overview of the considerations that occur at two key phases of Landscape Architecture process:

- 1 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS**
- 2 DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS**

1 PLANNING CONSIDERATIONS

At the planning level, basic decisions are made that guide land use patterns and community layout. Planning considerations have the potential to act upon the quality of human communities and natural ecosystems, and in some cases they determine the balance between the two.

These considerations can also be seen as principles which have been adopted by Landscape Architects and other design professionals to use as indicators of the impact, success and opportunities of many projects.

- Smart location
 - The positioning of a building or new development in a logical location that takes advantage of public transportation or minimizes driving
- Environmental impact
 - The planning of a development to minimize negative impacts on wildlife habitats, air quality, watersheds, runoff patterns and environmentally sensitive areas
- Mixed use development
 - The integrated planning that allows residential, commercial, industrial and institutional spaces to be located in close proximity
 - The decrease in the necessity to travel to fulfill everyday needs
- Access to green space
 - The incorporation of open space into the urban fabric and ensuring that it is easily accessible to the general public
 - The provision of available green space in proportion to the requirements of the public that surround it
- Storm water management
 - The due consideration of the planning scale to ensure that communities have a comprehensive system for the treatment of stormwater surface runoff
- Transportation network
 - The establishment of transportation networks that take into consideration the routes used by pedestrians, cyclists, public transit users and cars
 - The maximization of efficiency of sustainable transit
 - The enabling of walkability as a major focus when designing communities and designating land use

2 DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Once planning level decisions have determined *where* to develop, the question then becomes *how* to develop and Landscape Architects take a leadership role in employing design considerations that encourage sustainable communities and healthy lifestyles.

These design considerations often become part of municipal or public space guidelines for design developed to ensure that places meet a standard of aesthetic and functional quality.

- Streetscape design
 - Design to encourage people to walk to everyday destinations vs. drive
 - The character and appearance of the route affects transportation choice
 - Creation of streets as places for social interaction and local economic activity
 - The principles of “complete streets” design along with changing legislation and planning regulation moving towards more liveable, safer and healthier streets
- Place making
 - The appropriate design responses to geographic/cultural surroundings
 - Respect for historical context
- Universal accessibility
 - The design of space and elements that encourage use by all people regardless of ability or socioeconomic status
- Local food production (urban agriculture)
 - The access to healthy food is an important public health and welfare concern
 - The incorporation of these local food production elements into site design, particularly in residential community programming
- Water recharge and collection
 - The incorporation of design elements into site design for collection and recirculation of rain water and run off
- Urban forestry (heat island reduction)
 - The importance of urban green space and canopy cover to urban cooling, shade availability, and air quality
- Public art
 - Public art is important for community beautification and identity allowing residents to take pride and claim ownership of their places

- Way finding
 - Way finding, incorporated into the landscape, goes beyond signage and becomes an intuitive way for people to navigate their communities
- Human comfort
 - The understanding of how to meet the physical and psychological needs of humans in the design and furnishing of public spaces
 - The incorporation of a diversity of principles: e.g., defensible space, ergonomics, scale
- Native species and diversity
 - The creative use of native and resilient plants can not only improve urban aesthetics but reduce maintenance inputs and costs

13 Measuring public welfare

This report deals with the *impact* on public welfare. To recognize an impact one must be able to describe it, and more formally, to measure it.

This final chapter proposes four approaches to measuring the impact of landscape architecture on public welfare. Each has its merits and applications. None is inherently better than the others – they are valuable to the extent that they are applied, analyzed and interpreted appropriately and that the results of each method are understood within the context of their limitations.

1 MEASUREMENT BY EXAMPLE

Measurement by example is a rudimentary form of quantifying a concept. We can propose examples of projects that enhance public welfare in some domain (or counter-examples that detract from the public welfare).

When a consensus is reached that a set of examples does, in fact, illustrate the domain in a comprehensive manner, we have then staked out that territory. Landscape Architects and others can study the examples and say, “Yes, I understand the extent of that domain”.

The examples in this report form one such “definition by extension”. Such a set is always open to further refinement. A reader might say, “Yes, these are all examples of the positive impact of Landscape Architecture on public welfare, but some other examples are also needed to make the definition complete.”

2 PRINCIPLES, GUIDELINES AND STANDARDS

Principles, guidelines and standards are closely related and complementary concepts, however they differ in terms of measurement:

Principles are generally abstract ideas that are not directly measurable.

Guidelines are a step less abstract. They refer to the application of principles, and may be quantifiable, though not necessarily so.

Standards are necessarily formulated in objective terms. They are unambiguous measures that can be applied in the same manner in any situation. Design standards do not measure public welfare directly, but specify the components of a landscape that may contribute to public welfare.

LEED-ND specifies design elements using all three, for example:

Principle: Reduced Automobile Dependence

Guideline (labeled “Intent”): Encourage development in locations that exhibit superior performance in providing transportation choices or otherwise reducing motor vehicle use.

Standard: Various measures are given, including the total number of rides available on public transit per weekday, and the percentage of vehicle miles traveled that are in single-occupancy vehicles.

3 PERCEPTUAL MEASURES

Perceptual measures flow from one's awareness of the world around. If the landscape is changed, a person can register this change, and describe it as, for example, better or worse than before.

Methods of systematically measuring the perception of landscape have been developed over several decades by Ervin Zube, J.F. Palmer and others. They draw on methods and statistical techniques that are used in the social sciences generally, but adapting these techniques to landscape architecture is no easy task. The dimensions that need to be measured – visual impact, spaciousness, pattern, texture and so on – have intuitive meaning but are not easily quantified. It has been necessary to develop new methods to quantify relevant dimensions of landscape.

Perceptual research in Landscape Architecture uses the perceptions of both experts and of citizens at large to assess impacts on public welfare. Assessing the visual impact of a structure is one example of perceptual measurements.⁴¹ Often, photographs of different features of the landscape are used to present research subjects with a large number of stimuli in a short period of time.

Paul Gobster et al. summarize the four major perceptual research paradigms that Zube identified as follows:

...the expert paradigm, a professionally based evaluation of landscape quality often built on design or ecological principles; the psychophysical paradigm, a public-preference approach that links people's landscape quality judgments with external landscape properties; the cognitive paradigm, a person-focused approach aimed at uncovering the meaning and values that landscapes have for people; and the experiential paradigm, a largely qualitative approach aimed at understanding the experiences and outcomes of human-landscape interactions. (Gobster, Paul, James Palmer and Joseph Crystal, ERVIN H. ZUBE (1931-2002) The Significance and Impact of His Contributions to Environment-Behavior Studies. *Environment and Behavior*, Vol. 35 No, 2, March 2003)

Measuring impact implies measuring change. This often implies a pre-post design where perceptions are measured both before and after a project. Evaluation is a component of many publicly funded projects. Perceptual research can provide compelling evidence of the impacts of Landscape Architecture on public welfare.

⁴¹ See, for example, the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency Design review Guidelines, Appendix H: Visual Assessment Tool for the Review of Projects Located in the Shoreland.
http://www.trpa.org/documents/currentapps/DRG_Appendix_H.pdf

4 PROXY MEASURES

The impact of Landscape Architecture on public welfare may be seen through measures of social and economic functioning that are not specific to Landscape Architecture. The relevant measures will be determined by the goals of the project, and so will vary from one project to another. They may include:

- Economic activity e.g., dollars generated in an area by different types of business
- Health measures, e.g., amount and type of physical activity, obesity rates, air quality
- Travel time
- Tourism activities, e.g., number of visitors, numbers of events
- Creative activities e.g., presence of sculpture, arts, theatres, music, exhibitions
- Learning / educational opportunities and results
- Recreational / leisure attractions
- Crime rate
- Ecological benefits e.g., gardens attract birds, butterflies
- Agricultural or food growing activities
- Community building, e.g., clubs, exercise groups, interest groups, social interaction (overcoming isolation)

Glossary of terms

Access: opportunities to engage in social and development processes that contribute to the creation of a safe healthy and stimulating living environment

Barrier free: related to design criteria (or regulation) specific to the creation of accessible environments for people with disabilities over the long term

Consensus assumption: assumption that there is a reasonable consensus about what the landscape should look like

Defensible space: a living/residential environment which can be employed by inhabitants for the enhancement of their lives while providing security for families, neighbours and friends

Design guidelines: value system for the creation of good design, usually unregulated and based on observed successes and failures

Design principles: more clearly defined design applications that are often implemented to achieve specific goals i.e., transit oriented design principles. Principles are unregulated but usually based on academic and field research.

Design standards: implemented for the protection of public health and safety, inform the physical characteristics of the public realm i.e., surface materials, walkway widths, ramp and stair construction

Externalities: effects or consequences of design and development decisions often beyond the project scope

Human condition: The physical and mental well-being of an individual, community or global population as well as environmental quality and overall quality of life

Landscape and aesthetics: the total visual perception of landscape elements including the design of the elements, views, proportion, integration with surrounding landscape and materials

Landscape literacy: the comprehensive understanding of landscape as a process. Designing for the future means understanding the factors (social, cultural, political, economic and environmental) that have shaped and will continue to shape the landscape

Pareto optimal: named after economist Vilfredo Pareto. Refers to development decisions that make some better off and no one worse off.

Public realm: invited space suggestive of unrestricted access, governed by the principles of civic culture and public life

Resilience: the ability of a community or landscape to respond and adapt to change, increased by the restoration of human and natural systems that encourage interdependence

Restorative commons: a shared landscape that performs restorative functions for natural systems and human communities through a process of stewardship and mutual responsibility

Sustainable development: as defined by the UN World Commission in 1987, sustainable development refers to development that meets the needs of present populations without impacting the well-being of future generations. This definition can be applied in both an environmental and a social context

Universal design: set of principles related to the design of products, buildings and environments that promote unrestricted use by all

Welfare economics: concerned with the way in which private markets do or do not optimize social welfare. Recognizing both equity and efficiency in the allocation of resources and funding

Appendix: Interviews

Interviews with CLARB Public Welfare Task Force

We would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following CLARB leaders and staff who thoughtfully guided and informed the substance of this report, through telephone discussions, sharing of ideas and a review of the report. The list is in alphabetical order.

Temple W. Barry, ASLA

CLARB President
Barry Landscape
Jackson, Mississippi

Dennis E. Bryers, RLA, FASLA

Park Planner II – Landscape Architect
Omaha Parks, Recreation & Public Property Department
Omaha, Nebraska

Terrence DeWan, ASLA

Maine Licensed Landscape Architect
Terrence J. DeWan & Associates
Yarmouth, Maine

Thomas C. Sherry, Landscape Architect

President
Sherry Pratt Van Voorhis, P.S.
Landscape Architects
Spokane, WA

Cleve Turner, FASLA CLARB

Landscape Architect
Principal
Turner LandArchitecture LLC
Amarillo, TX

Ian Wasson. L.Arch.

CLARB President-elect
Planning & Building Department
City of Burnaby
Burnaby, British Columbia

William P. (Chip) Winslow III, FASLA, RLA, CLARB

Professor
Department of Landscape Architecture / Regional and Community Planning
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas

James Penrod, CAE, FASLA
Deputy Executive Director
Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards
Fairfax, VA 22030

Individual interviews

We would like to acknowledge the assistance of the following professional Landscape Architects who, through individual interviews and conversations, helped ERIN Research advance the goals of CLARB's ambitious undertaking.

Lise Burcher, BLA, MLA
Associate Professor, University of Guelph
City Council Member, City of Guelph

Sean Kelly, BLA, MSc. Rural Planning, CSLA, ASLA, OALA, OPPI
Assistant Professor Landscape Architecture, University of Guelph

Karen Landman, ODH Horticulture, BLA, MSc. Rural Planning, Ph.D., OPPI
Associate Professor, University of Guelph

Dee Merriam, FASLA
Community Planner, Center for Disease Control, Atlanta, GA

Nathan Perkins, BLA, MLA, Ph.D.
Associate Professor, University of Guelph

Agenda Item E

DISCUSS AND APPOINT REVIEW DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE AND REVIEW COMMITTEE FOR UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA EXTENSION PROGRAMS

LATC discussed the University of California (UC) extension program certification at the November 16, 2011 meeting. Both extension program approvals were originally scheduled to expire in 2010, and in August 2010 were provided an extension until an unspecified date in 2012. LATC asked that the Extension Programs prepare a voluntary Self Evaluation Report (SER) update in March 2012 to review substantive changes that are outlined in the criteria specified in California Code of Regulation (CCR) section 2620.5 *Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program*, and extended the Extension Programs' expiration date to December 31, 2013, in light of pending regulatory changes to CCR section 2620.5. A letter was sent to the programs on January 6, 2012, requesting the voluntary update and providing the extension of the current certification (Attachment E.1).

At the November 16, 2011 meeting, LATC discussed appointing a subcommittee in January 2012, which would include licensed academics from the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), potentially with experience from the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board and with prior experience conducting extension program reviews. It was also suggested that representatives from Northern and Southern California be on the subcommittees. The new subcommittee could review the SER and develop review procedures while the regulation package is pending approval.

An invitation was sent out to prospective subcommittee members to attend the January 23-24, 2012, LATC meeting. At the meeting, LATC chairperson, Christine Anderson, will appoint members to form a new subcommittee for the UC Extension Programs reviews which will begin preliminary work based on the proposed changes to CCR section 2620.5.

Attachments:

1. UC Extension Certificate Program letters – extension of current certification through December 31, 2013, and request for voluntary program update by March 30, 2012.
2. California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Section 2620.5 – proposed language

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
Public Protection through Examination, Licensure, and Regulation



Governor
 Edmund G. Brown Jr.

January 6, 2012

University of California, Berkeley
 Extension Certificate Program
 JC Miller, Program Director
 95 Third Street
 San Francisco, CA 94103

Dear Mr. Miller:

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) has extended the certification approval of the University of California at Berkeley, Landscape Architecture Extension Certificate Program through December 2013. The extension is due in part to pending regulation updates to California Code of Regulations (CCR) 2620.5, Requirements for an Approved Extension Certification Program. In order to allow sufficient time for the regulation review and approval process, an extension for the current University of California certification will be provided through December 2013.

In March 2010, the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board posted newly revised accreditation standards. Based on these changes, the LATC voted to update their own regulations governing the University of California Extension Program certification. The regulation package for CCR 2620.5 contains recent changes which will be the basis for the next certification review.

The last review of the extension program at UC Berkeley was October 4 – 6, 2006. At this time the LATC is requesting a voluntary update of UC Berkeley's certificate program to be provided by March 30, 2012.

Your current certification has been extended until December 31, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 575-7231.

Sincerely,

Trish Rodriguez
 Trish Rodriguez
 Program Manager



Governor
Edmund G. Brown Jr.

January 6, 2012

University of California, Los Angeles
Extension Certificate Program
Stephanie Landregan, Program Director
10995 Le Conte Ave, Ste. 414
Los Angeles, CA 90024-1333

Dear Ms. Landregan:

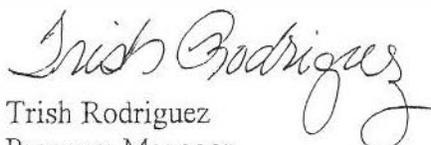
The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) has extended the certification approval of the University of California, Los Angeles, (UCLA) Landscape Architecture Extension Certificate Program through December 2013. The extension is due in part to pending regulation updates to California Code of Regulations (CCR) 2620.5, Requirements for an Approved Extension Certification Program. In order to allow sufficient time for the regulation review and approval process, an extension for the current University of California certification will be provided through December 2013.

In March 2010, the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board posted newly revised accreditation standards. Based on these changes, the LATC voted to update their own regulations governing the University of California Extension Program certification. The regulation package for CCR 2620.5 contains recent changes which will be the basis for the next certification review.

The last review of the extension program at UCLA was October 25 – 27, 2006. At this time the LATC is requesting a voluntary update of UCLA's certificate program to be provided by March 30, 2012.

Your current certification has been extended until December 31, 2013. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 575-7231.

Sincerely,


Trish Rodriguez
Program Manager

**CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
PROPOSED LANGUAGE**

California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26

Amend Section 2620.5 to read as follows:

§ 2620.5 Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program

An extension certificate program shall meet the following requirements:

(a) The educational program shall be established in an educational institution which has a four-year educational curriculum and either is approved under [a regional accrediting body](#) ~~Section 94900 of the Education Code~~ or is an institution of public higher education as defined by Section 66010 of the Education Code.

(b) There shall be a written statement of the program's philosophy and objectives which serves as a basis for curriculum structure. Such statement shall take into consideration the broad perspective of values, missions and goals of the profession of landscape architecture. The program objectives shall provide for relationships and linkages with other disciplines and public and private landscape architectural practices. The program objectives shall be reinforced by course inclusion, emphasis and sequence in a manner which promotes achievement of program objectives.

The program's literature shall fully and accurately describe the program's philosophy and objectives.

(c) The program shall have a written plan for evaluation of the total program, including admission and selection procedures, attrition and retention of students, and performance of graduates in meeting community needs.

(d) The program shall be administered as a discrete program in landscape architecture within the institution with which it is affiliated.

(e) There shall be an organizational chart which identifies the relationships, lines of authority and channels of communication within the program and between the program and other administrative segments of the institution with which it is affiliated.

(f) The program shall have sufficient authority and resources to achieve its educational objectives.

(g) The program's director shall be a [California licensed](#) landscape architect.

- (h) The program director ~~faculty~~ shall have the primary responsibility for developing policies and procedures, planning, organizing, implementing and evaluating all aspects of the program. The faculty shall be adequate in type and number to develop and implement the program approved by the Board.
- (i) The program curriculum shall provide instruction in the following areas related to landscape architecture including public health, safety and welfare:
- (1) History, design theory, ~~art~~ and critique ~~communication~~
 - (2) Natural ~~and~~ ~~-,~~ cultural, ~~and social~~ systems, and principles of sustainability
 - (3) Public policy and regulation
 - ~~(4)~~ Design, site design and planning as a process in shaping the environment
 - ~~(5)~~ Plant material and their application
 - ~~(6)~~ Construction documentation, materials, ~~and~~ techniques and implementation
 - ~~(7)~~ Professional practice methods
 - ~~(8)~~ Professional ethics and values
 - ~~(9)~~ Computer applications ~~systems~~ and advanced technology

The program's areas of study ~~curriculum~~ shall not be revised until it has been approved by the Board.

- (j) The program shall consist of at least 90 quarter units or 60 semester units.
- (k) The program shall maintain a current syllabus for each required course which includes the course objectives, content, ~~and~~ the methods of evaluating student performance, and clearly identifies where the public health, safety, and welfare issues are addressed.
- (l) The curriculum shall be offered in a timeframe which reflects the proper course sequence. Students shall be required to adhere to that sequence, and courses shall be offered in a consistent and timely manner in order that students can observe those requirements.
- (m) A program shall meet the following requirements for its instructional personnel:
- (1) At least one half of the program's instructional personnel shall hold a professional degree or certificate from an approved extension certificate program in landscape architecture.
 - (2) At least one half of the program's instructional personnel shall be licensed by the Board as landscape architects.
- (n) The program shall submit an annual report in writing based on the date of the most recent Board approval. The report shall include:
- (1) Any changes in curriculum, personnel, administration, fiscal support, and physical facilities that have occurred since the last report;

(2) Current enrollment; and

(3) Progress toward complying with the recommendations, if any, from the last approval.

The Board may choose to further evaluate changes to any of the reported items or to a program.

The Board shall review the program at least every seven years for approval. The Board may shorten the current approval based on the information received in the programs' annual reports.

Agenda Item F

ANNUAL ENFORCEMENT REPORT

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) continues to monitor activity relating to case aging and the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) initiatives to reduce the average enforcement completion timeline to between 12 and 18 months. DCA is focusing on reducing aging of enforcement cases and seeking greater efficiencies.

LATC had 57 pending enforcement cases at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2010/2011. The current pending case load as of January 10, 2012 is 34, a reduction of 40%.

LATC monitors ongoing unlicensed activity with respect to Business and Professions Code section 5641, Chapter Exceptions, Exemptions. The data is provided in a ten-year Enforcement Statistics chart (attached) that displays data for LATC enforcement cases organized by fiscal year. The chart includes a compilation of enforcement statistics ranging from FY 2001/2002 to FY 2010/2011. The enforcement actions shown in this chart are reported in the format required for LATC's last Sunset Review.

Enforcement Statistics by Fiscal Year

| Enforcement Data | 2001/02 | 2002/03 | 2003/04 | 2004/05 | 2005/06 | 2006/07 | 2007/08 | 2008/09 | 2009/10 | 2010/11 |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Inquiries | Total: N/A |
| Complaints Received (Source) | Total: 41 | Total: 55 | Total: 39 | Total: 38 | Total: 15 | Total: 33 | Total: 26 | Total: 30 | Total: 88 | Total: 30 |
| Public | 23 | 1 | 27 | 17 | 6 | 13 | 8 | 9 | 16 | 10 |
| Licensee/Prof. Groups | 4 | 0 | 5 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 12 | 4 |
| Governmental Agencies | 8 | 54 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 14 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 3 |
| Other | 6 | 0 | 3 | 14 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 10 | 45 | 13 |
| Complaints Filed (By Type) | Total: 41 | Total: 55 | Total: 39 | Total: 38 | Total: 15 | Total: 33 | Total: 26 | Total: 30 | Total: 88 | Total: 30 |
| Competence/Negligence | 4 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 12 | 4 |
| Unprofessional Conduct | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| Fraud | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Health & Safety | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unlicensed Activity | 31 | 0 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 22 | 22 | 26 | 75 | 24 |
| Personal Conduct | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 6 | 55 | 27 | 28 | 11 | 10 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 |
| Complaints Closed | Total: 21 | Total: 75 | Total: 18 | Total: 31 | Total: 26 | Total: 23 | Total: 29 | Total: 29 | Total: 46 | Total: 64 |
| Investigations Commenced | Total: 41 | Total: 55 | Total: 39 | Total: 38 | Total: 15 | Total: 33 | Total: 26 | Total: 30 | Total: 88 | Total: 30 |
| Compliance Actions | Total: 0 | Total: 7 | Total: 1 | Total: 14 | Total: 11 | Total: 8 | Total: 17 | Total: 12 | Total: 29 | Total: 37 |
| Citations and Fines | 0 | 3 | 0 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 3 |
| Public Letter of Reprimand | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Cease & Desist/Warning | 0 | 4 | 1 | 12 | 4 | 5 | 7 | 9 | 25 | 34 |
| Referred for Criminal Action | Total: 0 |
| Referred to AG's Office | Total: 0 | Total: 0 | Total: 0 | Total: 1 | Total: 1 | Total: 0 | Total: 1 | Total: 0 | Total: 0 | Total: 1 |
| Accusations Filed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Accusations Withdrawn | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Accusations Dismissed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Citations Appealed | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Disciplinary Actions | Total: 0 | Total: 0 | Total: 0 | Total: 0 | Total: 1 | Total: 0 |
| Revocation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Voluntary Surrender | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Suspension Only | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Probation with Susp. | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Probation | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Probation Violations | Total: 0 |
| Suspension or Probation | | | | | | | | | | |
| Revocation or Surrender | | | | | | | | | | |

Agenda Item A

CALL TO ORDER-ROLL CALL-ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Member Roster

Christine Anderson, Chair

David Allan Taylor, Jr., Vice Chair

Stephanie Landregan

CHAIR'S REMARKS

LATC Chair Christine Anderson will review the scheduled LATC actions and make appropriate announcements.

PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION

Members of the public may address the Committee at this time. The Committee Chair may allow public participation during other agenda items at her discretion.

Agenda Item B

STRATEGIC AND COMMUNICATIONS PLANNING REVIEW SESSION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012/2013

At this meeting, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee is scheduled to update its strategic plan, which will be facilitated by Daniel Iacofano of Moore Iacofano Goltsman, Inc. Attached are the July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012 Strategic and Communication Plans.

**CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE**

STRATEGIC PLAN

July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction.....1

Strategic Planning Process.....2

LATC External Environment.....3

Strategic Issues.....7

Mission.....9

Vision.....9

Values.....10

Goals.....10

Constituencies and Needs.....11

Action Plan.....13

Appendix A – Communications Plan.....19

Appendix B – LATC Staff Report Schedule.....24

INTRODUCTION

Effective January 1, 1998, the California Architects Board (Board) assumed responsibility for regulating the practice of landscape architecture in this State. Under the enabling legislation (AB 1546 – Chapter 475, Statutes of 1997), the California Legislature created the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), a technical advisory committee, which consists of five professional members. The LATC performs duties and functions delegated to it by the Board.

The LATC assists the Board with examination of candidates for licensure and, after investigation, evaluates and makes recommendations regarding potential violations of the Landscape Architects Practice Act. It is also charged with the duty of investigating, assisting, and making recommendations to the Board regarding regulation of landscape architects in California.

The laws and regulations addressing the practice of landscape architecture benefit two primary categories of people.

First, regulation protects the public at large. The primary focus of a landscape architect is to create ways in which people can safely interact with their environment. The practice of landscape architecture means planning and designing the use, allocation, and arrangement of land and water resources through the creative application of biological, physical, mathematical, and social processes to safeguard the public. Landscape architectural services include:

- Investigation, selection, and allocation of land and water resources for appropriate uses
- Feasibility studies, formulation of graphic and written criteria to govern the planning and design of land construction programs
- Preparation, review, and analysis of master plans for land use and development
- Production of overall site plans, landscape grading and landscape drainage plans, irrigation plans, planting plans, and construction details
- Specifications
- Cost estimates and reports for land development
- Collaboration in the design of roads, bridges, and structures with respect to the functional and aesthetic requirements of the areas on which they are to be placed
- Negotiation and arrangement for execution of land area projects
- Field observation and inspection of land area construction, restoration, and maintenance

Second, regulation protects consumers of services rendered by landscape architects. The LATC helps consumers directly by providing information on selection and hiring of landscape architects and by establishing regulations and enforcement/complaint handling procedures that protect consumers from incompetent and dishonest practitioners.

As marketplace conditions change, it is the role of the LATC to monitor and respond to those changes that impact the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS

Before the LATC's establishment, an interim Landscape Architects Advisory Council initiated the first strategic planning sessions in October and November 1997. This Council defined the mission and vision statements, identified three key strategic issues, and began identifying specific goals to further its mission.

Legislative authority that formed the LATC became effective January 1, 1998. The LATC held its first meeting on April 16, 1998. At this strategic planning session, the LATC evaluated, refined and formally adopted its mission, vision, key issues and prioritized its goals.

The LATC annually reviews and updates the Strategic Plan in response to changing conditions, needs, and priorities. At each session, the LATC reviews its progress on objectives over the previous year, updates the environmental scan in response to changing economic and technological climates, reviews its mission and vision statements, and strategizes to meet the challenges of the upcoming year.

This document reflects the latest update.

Strategic planning for the LATC is ongoing. Once the Board approves the main elements of the plan, the LATC develops specific action plans for each goal and objective, and continually monitors its performance in achieving them.

LATC EXTERNAL ENVIRONMENT

In developing its Strategic Plan, the LATC examines the external factors that impact the field of landscape architecture and the LATC's mission. This year's external environment is significantly impacted by the current economic downturn. Eight major factors have been identified based on perceptions and observations of LATC members and practitioners:

CHANGES IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PRACTICE

- Licensing has leveled out
- Increasing emphasis on security, crime prevention, and anti-terrorism in public space design
- Decreasing average firm size and considerable increase in number of smaller firms
- Due to an economic downturn, a change from a shortage of candidates to a more competitive marketplace with decrease in number of jobs for landscape architects
- Lower retirement rate in practice due to economic recession
- Increasing liability, risk and exposure due to lawsuits; forensic landscape architecture is on the rise (further highlighting the landscape architect's role in ensuring public health, safety, and welfare)
- Greater need for writing, communication, business, and critical reasoning skills
- Increasing reliance on environmental and biological science as a basis for landscape architectural design
- Need to understand the differing impacts of science, technology, nature and sustainability on landscape architectural practice.
- Widening scope of practice and responsibilities; growing demand for landscape architects; increasing functional specialization; greater need for landscape architects with working knowledge of key technical areas, especially ADA, etc.
- Widening body of knowledge required to practice landscape architecture
- Increasing public and professional demand for specialty certification
- Proliferation of unlicensed practice, potentially due to the economic downturn
- Increasing complexity of building codes and standards affecting the practice of landscape architecture
- Need for greater cooperation and communication between landscape architecture practitioners and academics
- Rapidly increasing emphasis on "green" and low-impact design due to diminished natural resources, use of sustainable design and development techniques
- Increasing costs of doing business
- Continuing effects of drought and water conservation-related legislation on practice
- Increasing level of landscape architect involvement earlier in the planning process
- Increase in design-build orientation, with a corresponding increase in firms adding design to their services
- Increasing level of competition among landscape architects for limited work opportunities due to the depressed economy
- Continuing lack of clarity about the landscape architect's responsible control over construction documents due to changes in the project delivery process and use of technology
- Rise in the number of sole practitioners as well as a rise in unlicensed activity

- Rise in demand for green design as it relates to infrastructure and storm water management
- Interest in establishing a national certification process that would allow landscape architects more job flexibility
- Critical issues emerging related to public health, safety, and welfare that landscape architecture can address including water conservation, fire hazard mitigation, coastal development, infill development, and need for healthy communities
- Opportunities for landscape architecture to become involved in public initiatives to develop sustainable urban food systems that promote community health and wellness

CHANGES IN LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE ACADEMIC PREPARATION

- A number of graduates with landscape architecture degrees elect not to pursue licensure
- Increasing emphasis on information selectivity and critical thinking skills in landscape architecture education
- Schools are not keeping pace with the rapidly expanding growth of the profession and the supply of qualified faculty is limited
- Decreasing numbers of undergraduate landscape architecture students and increasing numbers of graduate-level students
- Fewer slots available to prospective landscape architecture students and fewer graduates
- Increasing cost of education
- Institutional enrollment caps in landscape architecture programs limit the number of graduates available to meet the growth demands of the profession
- Academic career demands have limited the number of licensed faculty teaching in landscape architecture programs
- Need for landscape architects and accredited schools to demonstrate competencies in ecological sciences and processes

PROFESSIONAL COLLABORATION

- Increasing involvement as primary members of professional architecture and engineering consultant teams
- Increasing collaboration of landscape architecture, planning, design, and engineering professionals
- More “collateral” work, like grading, is being contracted out due to liability concerns
- More collaboration in design-build contracts and increasing numbers of such contracts

PUBLIC/CLIENT RELATIONS

- Greater public awareness of what landscape architects do
- Greater expectations for landscape architects to contribute to the public good, meet environmental quality goals, and garner community support
- Increasing client expectations for cost control, timely project delivery, agency processing, etc.
- Increasing expectations of consumers regarding quality of life issues in their communities
- Increasing public interest in park expansion and development
- Increasing recognition of the aesthetic value of landscape architecture and how it affects property values and sales

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Greater emphasis on professional development and continued competency due to more stringent technical requirements, incorporation of scientific knowledge, and new laws and mandates
- Growing number of landscape architects taking on more “environmental” responsibilities such as sustainable design, site hydrology, and environmental technologies; landscape architects in leadership or “prime roles” for these issues
- Segmentation of landscape architecture production, which impacts the integrity and quality of services delivered
- Rising cost of education, candidate examination fees, and licensure
- Technological advances make it difficult to keep up with professional development
- Rise in landscape architects seeking employment abroad in light of economic downturn

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- Continuing/expanding use of technology (e.g., CAD, GIS, Building Information Modeling (BIM), electronic plan checking, smart permits, etc.) including electronic plans
- Increasing use of “do-it-yourself” software, media, and web-based programs
- Increasing use of outsourcing, leading to practice without presence
- Greater use of technically-oriented individuals (especially for CAD and GIS) who may or may not be landscape architects
- Less distinction in the lines of responsibility due to remote supervision of design production and non-licensed individuals working in technical capacities
- Greater reliance on computer-aided design and drafting, increasing the difficulties and complexities of design production and supervision and leading to a false sense of confidence regarding quality of technical drawings (e.g., BIM)
- There are inherent limits to e-drawings. Among other concerns, they may result in a loss of attention to detail, creating potentially unsafe project conditions--E-boards have amplified copying, which then creates safety issues
- Proliferation of certifications that do not address health, safety, and welfare concerns and distract candidates who would otherwise seek licensure
- Recognition that interactive and real-time technology tools will be used and relied on for all steps of the design process
- Recognition that interactive and real-time technology will be an increasingly important element in design of new parks, streets, urban plazas, open space, trail systems, wayfinding systems, etc.

GOVERNMENT

- Continuing state budget crisis, resulting in impacts to purchasing, staffing, and travel
- Greater number of government services being offered via the Internet (“e-government”)
- Increasing level of sophistication and expectations from local city councils and planning commissions concerning project life-cycle costs (especially maintenance and operations)
- Increased competition for jobs now that Request for Proposals are on-line
- The federal government’s Public Service Initiative may affect profession
- Out-sourcing of plan checking by local and city agencies
- Persistent economic uncertainty has led to deep government cut backs, which results in reduced staff resources, restricted out-of-state travel for government agencies, and pressure to increase licensure

CULTURE AND LIFESTYLE

- Growth pressure throughout California places more emphasis on issues, such as urban/agriculture interface, water issues, toxins, transportation, and transit-oriented development
- Continuing water cost, supply, and quality issues and a growing focus on related fiscal impacts, without a corresponding increase in attention to public health, safety, and welfare
- Transfer of wealth to baby boom generation (who have high lifestyle expectations and are seeking sense of place) and to Generation X
- Growing regionalization within California, resulting in local areas wanting to create individual community identities
- Decrease in volunteerism among new generation
- Growing public knowledge and interest around the value of green space, livability, sustainable lifestyles, and natural processes

LATC SPECIFIC

- Sunset Review focused the LATC's resources on its ability to demonstrate competency, efficiency and necessity for review by the Legislature

STRATEGIC ISSUES

While discussing the external environment, a number of strategic issues were identified by the LATC in the areas of education, examinations, professional qualifications, enforcement and safety, public and professional awareness, and organizational effectiveness. The LATC recognizes that these broader issues are interrelated and require focused attention.

EDUCATION

- Promoting continuing education for landscape architects
- Supporting accreditation of approved extension certificate programs
- Participating in the process of educating students so that they are properly prepared to practice safely upon licensure

EXAMINATIONS AND LICENSURE

- Evolving nature of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) with respect to national and state requirements, expense, eligibility, and pass rates
- Ensuring that the examination stays current with a rapidly changing field
- Ensuring access to the profession while protecting consumers

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Understanding how the expanding scope of practice of landscape architects impacts education and regulation
- Articulating the requirements of contemporary landscape architecture practice in California
- Encouraging adequate candidate preparation for licensure
- Staying current with knowledge requirements, which are changing more rapidly than in the past

ENFORCEMENT AND SAFETY

- Enforcing rules and regulations
- Tracking consumer complaints and conducting complaint analysis
- Defining responsible control for landscape architects
- Enforcing laws against unlicensed practice, including lapsed licenses, and identifying the impact of unlicensed activity on public health, safety, and welfare
- Developing standard practices for cases involving contractors

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS

- Developing a plan to expand outreach to consumers, students, practitioners, and other key constituents regarding laws and regulations affecting the practice of landscape architecture
- Enhancing professional relationships as they relate to regulatory issues [i.e., American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) and the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)]
- Strengthening relationships with allied professionals, such as architects, engineers, and Building Officials, to ensure adequacy of LATC regulations and enforcement procedures
- Maintaining communication with licensees regarding current regulations and LATC matters

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

- Maintaining LATC appointments and adequate staffing
- Use of volunteers and staffing for committees
- Strengthen relationships with Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and the California Architects Board

MISSION

The mission of the LATC is to regulate the practice of landscape architecture in a manner which protects the public health, safety, and welfare and safeguards the environment by:

- Protecting consumers and users of landscape architectural services
- Empowering consumers by providing information and educational materials to help them make informed decisions
- Informing the public and other entities about the profession and standards of practice
- Ensuring that those entering the practice meet standards of competency by way of education, experience, and examination
- Establishing and enforcing the laws, regulations, codes, and standards governing the practice of landscape architecture
- Requiring that any person practicing or offering landscape architectural services be licensed

VISION

As a model organization for consumer protection, the LATC safeguards the public, protects and enhances the environment, and ensures quality landscape architectural services.

VALUES

The LATC will strive for the highest possible quality throughout all of its programs, making it an effective and efficient landscape architectural regulatory body.

To that end, the LATC will:

- Be **participatory**, through continuing involvement with CLARB and other organizations
- Be **professional**, by treating all persons who interact with the LATC as valued customers
- Be **prevention oriented**, by providing information and education to consumers, candidates, clients, licensees, and others
- Be **proactive**, by continuously scanning the field of landscape architecture for changes in practice and legislation that may affect consumers, candidates, clients, and licensees
- Be **progressive**, by utilizing the most advanced and effective means for providing services

GOALS

The LATC has established five goals as a framework for organizing the Strategic Plan.

REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

Protect consumers through effective regulation and enforcement of laws, codes, and standards affecting the practice of landscape architecture.

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

Ensure that landscape architects are qualified to practice by setting and maintaining equitable requirements for education, experience, and examinations.

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS

Increase public and professional awareness of LATC's mission, program, and services.

ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Strengthen effectiveness of relationships with related organizations in order to further LATC mission, goals, and services.

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Provide accessible and responsive quality service to consumers and licensees.

CONSTITUENCIES AND NEEDS

The primary constituency groups of LATC include the following:

| Constituency | Needs |
|---|---|
| Public (consumers/clients, users, general public) | Competent professionals Assurance of recourse Stewardship/environmental protection/safety Information on contracting with landscape architects |
| Licensees | Fair enforcement Regulation of practice High standards of competency and equitable licensing |
| Students | Information Coordinating with schools to communicate licensure and practice requirements |
| Candidates | Fair examinations Timely response to requests Quality, accurate, and relevant information |
| Public Agencies (e.g., Building, Planning, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works departments) | Maintaining standards, regulation, and information Information on practice standards for landscape architects |
| Policy making bodies (e.g., conservancies, city councils, planning commissions, Boards and supervisors, public utilities, and Water Boards) | Maintaining standards, regulation, and information Information on practice standards for landscape architects |
| Employers | Carry out and promote the Practice Act Communicate the benefits of licensure to employees Provide training opportunities to interns |
| Architects Engineers Landscape Contractors Geologists Landscape Designers | Collaboration on joint efforts Clarity of responsibility |
| Legislators | Consumer protection Clear definition of standards |
| CLARB | Information and participation |

| | |
|---|--|
| DCA | Support and information |
| American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CCASLA), California Landscape Contractors Association (CLCA), and the Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) | Regulation of profession and information |
| Educators | Information on licensure requirements and practice standards |

ACTION PLAN

The Action Plan is a dynamic framework for the many activities that the LATC performs in promoting and meeting its goals. The goals and objectives are assigned to committees, subcommittees, task forces, staff, or individuals, as appropriate, who create more detailed action plans in order to meet the goals and objectives set by the LATC.

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Regulation and Enforcement | 14 |
| Professional Qualifications | 15 |
| Public and Professional Awareness | 16 |
| Organizational Relationships | 17 |
| Organizational Effectiveness | 18 |

REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

GOAL: Protect consumers through effective regulation and enforcement of laws, codes, and standards affecting the practice of landscape architecture.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Address consumer complaints in a timely and effective manner.
- Analyze pattern of consumer complaint data to keep track of major issues.
- Maintain communication with licensees regarding the obligations and requirements of licensure.
- Implement regulatory changes, as needed, to keep Practice Act up to date.
- Maintain currency of Frequently Asked Questions on LATC Web site.
- Maintain currency of enforcement actions on LATC Web site.
- Review and update the Landscape Architects Practice Act and Regulations to keep pace with changes in practice.
- Monitor unlicensed activity with respect to Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 5641 – Exceptions and Exemptions amendment to Practice Act (report on results and determine appropriate action, if necessary.)
- Monitor enforcement activity, level of enforcement actions, and expenditures. Document results and determine appropriate course of action. Monitor level of enforcement efforts and expenditures as a proportion of the LATC’s total work effort. Propose changes, if necessary, based upon an annual review of data.
- Perform an annual assessment of consumer complaint resolution satisfaction survey.
- Monitor new DCA enforcement improvement initiatives, report to LATC and determine the appropriate course of action.

| Objectives | Target Date |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Develop and implement Complaint Disclosure Procedures. | October 2011 |
| 2. Update procedures for enforcement case review. | January 2012 |
| 3. Inform licensees of their rights and responsibilities associated with their stamping authority and communicate the Landscape Architect’s stamping authority to permitting and approval authorities. | January 2012 |

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS

GOAL: Ensure that landscape architects are qualified to practice by setting and maintaining equitable requirements for education, experience, and examinations.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Ensure access to the profession by providing a fair and equitable licensure process
- Ensure that examinations are kept current and meet all legal requirements
- Inform licensees on specific practice issues in California
- Review and monitor LATC's role in landscape architectural education
- Coordinate with CLARB to ensure timely, effective, and fair examination administration
- Track, review, and analyze sufficient pass rate data to determine if changes in examinations and/or eligibility are needed

| Objectives | Target Date |
|--|----------------|
| 1. Update the California Supplemental Examination (CSE). | September 2011 |
| 2. Appoint and convene a task force to address Landscape Architecture/APLD/Residential Designer issues, including BPC section 5641. | October 2011 |
| 3. Update the California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2620.5 in accordance with new Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) accreditation criteria. | January 2012 |
| 4. Modify examination eligibility requirements under CCR sections 2615 and 2620, if necessary. | January 2012 |
| 5. Incorporate CLARB's determinants of a success into California's experience requirements. | January 2012 |
| 6. Review CLARB's graphically-oriented public relations materials outlining a) steps to obtain licensure, geared towards candidates; and b) different ways candidates can gain the experience required to obtain licensure, geared towards employers, and adapt to be California-specific. | June 2012 |
| 7. Conduct new occupational analysis and evaluate alternative ways (including the CSSE) to ensure competency | November 2012 |

PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS

GOAL: Increase public and professional awareness of LATC’s mission, activities, and services.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Maintain effective communication with LATC constituencies
- Participate in consumer, public, and professional awareness events
- Continue to review and update the LATC Communications Plan and emphasize consumer and professional awareness
- Update written materials and LATC’s Web site, as needed
- Maintain a presence and an ongoing dialog at schools of landscape architecture to inform students and faculty about licensing requirements

| Objectives | Target Date |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Complete updates to consumer guides. | December 2011 |
| 2. Enhance use of e-mail and social media to distribute relevant information to licensees, candidates, and consumers. | January 2012 |
| 3. Initiate outreach to community colleges with landscape design programs. | January 2012 |

ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

GOAL: Strengthen effectiveness of relationships with related organizations in order to further LATC mission, goals and services.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Maintain working relationships with the Board and DCA
- Work with CLARB, LAAB, and Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA) to influence the national examination and to ensure that California-specific issues are addressed
- Exchange information with organizations that will assist the LATC in the regulatory process, such as ASLA, CCASLA, AIACC, building officials, California Building Officials, and engineers
- Maximize LATC and California involvement in CLARB by pursuing leadership opportunities
- Conduct ongoing communication with CLARB regarding important policy issues and procedures

| Objectives | Target Date |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Recommend that CLARB modify its by-laws to facilitate member participation in light of travel bans. | October 2011 |
| 2. Participate on CLARB committees. | January 2012 |
| 3. Encourage national organizations to meet in California. | January 2012 |
| 4. Encourage national organizations to utilize web technology and other communication tools. | January 2012 |

ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

GOAL: Provide accessible and responsive quality service to consumers and licensees.

Ongoing Responsibilities

- Improve service to all constituencies through timely, cost-effective, and efficient operations
- Encourage licensee participation in the LATC
- Update LATC Administrative Procedures Manual on a regular basis
- Monitor legislation that impacts landscape architectural practice as it relates to the public health, safety, and welfare
- Monitor State budget conditions and maintain clear budget priorities
- Utilize former LATC members on LATC committees and task forces to maintain organizational memory and continuity
- Monitor changes in CLARB examination fees

| Objectives | Target Date |
|---|--------------------|
| 1. Conclude the work of the Education Subcommittee. | September 2011 |
| 2. Utilize Sunset Review task force to assist with Sunset Review hearing process. | December 2011 |
| 3. Evaluate LATC revenue structure and assess need for adjustments. | January 2012 |
| 4. Work with DCA staff to implement the BREEZE system for LATC. | September 2013 |

COMMUNICATIONS PLAN

To support its strategic planning goals and objectives, the LATC conducts information and outreach activities. This plan presents key messages, existing communication channels, and preliminary strategies for improving external communications.

GOALS

The LATC Communications Plan seeks to achieve the following:

- Protect consumers and the public by providing education regarding the LATC's role
- Provide information to licensees regarding standards of practice and their legal and regulatory responsibilities
- Disseminate factual information in a timely manner
- Seek feedback to improve and measure overall operations
- Enhance consumer understanding of the landscape architecture profession
- Maintain consistent and quality outreach services
- Evaluate the success and effectiveness of the Communications Plan

CONSTITUENTS

The LATC provides information to eight main constituents:

- Public (consumers/clients, users, general public)
- Licensees
- Candidates and Pre-Candidates
- Practitioners
- Public Agencies
- Schools (educators and students)
- Professional Organizations
- Firms and Employers

MESSAGES AND KEY INFORMATION

The LATC Communications Plan will provide the following messages and key information to the eight main constituents:

PUBLIC (CONSUMERS/CLIENTS, USERS, GENERAL PUBLIC)

The public needs information regarding the role of the LATC, the practice and regulation of landscape architecture, compliance with laws, how and when to hire a landscape architect, and the role that licensure plays in ensuring quality professional service. The public also needs information explaining that LATC offers recourse in the event of disputes.

LICENSEES

Licensed professionals require up-to-date information to ensure compliance with the Landscape Architects Practice Act and other current laws. Important information includes:

- Enforcement procedures
- Updates and changes to laws and regulations
- Information that affects the public's health, safety, and welfare

CANDIDATES AND PRE-CANDIDATES

Candidates for examination need accurate and timely information regarding eligibility, costs, and the examination process. In addition, candidates need information in order to clearly differentiate between the LATC's and CLARB's roles, and to understand the value of a license.

PRACTITIONERS

Practitioners need information on the steps involved in obtaining a license.

PUBLIC AGENCIES

Public agencies need information regarding the role of the LATC, the practice and regulation of landscape architecture, the laws under the Practice Act, and the LATC's enforcement methods.

SCHOOLS (EDUCATORS AND STUDENTS)

Schools with landscape architectural programs and their faculty need to have current practice, licensure, and candidate information. They also need to understand the steps involved in obtaining a license to practice landscape architecture.

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Professional organizations, including CLARB, ASLA, LAAB, and CELA, and other state boards, need to be kept informed of changes to the Practice Act and LATC activities which may impact their organizations and members. These organizations and the LATC need opportunities to exchange information.

FIRMS AND EMPLOYERS

Employers are responsible for complying with the Practice Act and communicating the benefits of licensure, as well as providing training opportunities to interns for them to gain practical experience.

ACTIONS

The LATC recommends the following actions:

Public (consumers/clients, users, general public)

- Publish article(s) that clarify the practice of landscape architecture and the role of the LATC
- Review letter to television production company(ies) and distribute, if necessary
- Develop scope of practice table / “graphic” and post on LATC Web site
- Provide additional consumer information on the LATC Web site

Licensees

- Communicate with licensees regarding awareness of current health and safety-related codes and regulations

Candidates and Pre-Candidates

- Update, develop, and distribute candidate material
- Prepare “guidelines” for meeting examination experience requirements

Firms and Employers

- Communicate to encourage employees to obtain licensure
- Develop and provide guidelines for successful internship
- Disseminate information to promote accurate and current landscape architecture laws

Public Agencies

- Review Consumer Guides for currency and distribute
- Develop and distribute scope of practice table / “graphic” and other materials that clarify the practice of landscape architecture and the role of the LATC

Schools (educators and students)

- Review CLARB presentation materials for currency and incorporate information specific to California into LATC outreach materials
- Contact program directors regarding LATC presentations during professional practice courses
- Update PowerPoint presentation
- Prepare licensure letter for students approaching graduation

Professional Organizations

- Review CLARB presentation materials for currency and incorporate information into LATC outreach materials
- Contact CCASLA regarding collaboration to clarify the practice of landscape architecture for public agency officials
- Attend conferences and meetings to clarify the practice of landscape architecture and the role of the LATC
- Explore opportunities to participate in panels and workshops

COMMUNICATION TOOLS

The LATC will utilize the following communication tools to reach the target audiences identified above:

- Web Site Content*
- Newsletter/Technical Bulletin*
- Candidate Information Packet and PowerPoint*
- Practice Act, Rules and Regulations*
- Consumer Guides (residential, commercial, industrial)*
- Committee Participation
- Press Releases and Articles
- Joint Meetings
- Media/PowerPoint Presentations
- Licensure Posters (for practitioners, educators, students)
- Design Professions Chart
- CLARB Tools
- Speakers Bureau

* Highest priority communication tools for update.

Information available will be shared with the target audience and research conducted on what each group wants to see, what information will benefit them the most, and in what type of media they prefer to receive the information.

High Priority Target Audiences

| Audience | Candidate Publication | | | | | Message | Activity |
|--|-----------------------|-----------------|------------|--------------|---------|---|--|
| | | Consumer Guides | Newsletter | Practice Act | Website | | |
| Candidates, Pre-Candidates, and Students | X | X | | X | X | Value and purpose of license | Partner with ASLA and send out LATC postcard |
| Schools (educators) | X | | X | X | X | Steps to achieve a license | Convene focus group to determine what educators need to know about LATC and the best way to provide that information |
| Firms/Employers | | | | | X | Their role in supporting the licensing process by providing internships and practical experience | Partner with ASLA, sponsor seminars "The Practice Academy," send out information that summarizes topics on the examination |
| Public/Consumers | | X | | | X | Purpose and role of LATC (that LATC protects consumers and ensures qualified landscape architects; offers recourse in the event of a dispute) | |
| Licensees | | X | X | X | X | Current laws and regulations | |
| Practitioners/Mentors | X | | | X | X | Steps to achieve a license | |
| Public Agencies | | | | | X | LATC's current scope | Send out practice act with cover memo |
| Professional Organizations (CLARB, ASLA, etc.) | | X | X | X | X | LATC's current scope, current laws and regulations | Maintain regular two-way conversation and information exchange with relevant organizations |

APPENDIX B

LATC Staff Report Schedule

| Name of Report | Purpose | Frequency | Date | Data Source |
|--|--|-----------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Consumer Satisfaction Survey | To gauge satisfaction with LATC | Annual | November | Online consumer survey |
| Consumer Complaint Satisfaction Survey | To gauge satisfaction with LATC resolution process | Annual | November | Online complaintant survey |
| Examination Pass Rate Data | To monitor LA candidate success | Quarterly | June, September, December, March | CLARB |
| Enforcement Report | To monitor enforcement cases | Annual | October | TEALE reports |
| Candidate Eligibility and Success Report | To correlate candidate qualifications with examination success | Annual | November | Applicant Tracking System (ATS) |
| Strategic Plan Action Status Report | To monitor strategic plan objective completion | Quarterly | April, July, October, January | LATC staff |

October

1

ASLA Annual Meeting (cont'd)

Phoenix, AZ

November

12

Veterans Day Observed

Office Closed

22-23

Thanksgiving Holiday

Office Closed

December

5-6

Board Meeting

TBD

25

Christmas

Office Closed