



## NOTICE OF MEETING

#### January 17-18, 2017 Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) – HQ2 1747 North Market Boulevard, Emerald Room Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 (LATC)

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) will hold a meeting, as noted above. The notice and agenda for this meeting and other meetings of the LATC can be found on the LATC's website: latc.ca.gov. For further information regarding this agenda, please see reverse or you may contact Tremaine Palmer at (916) 575-7230.

The LATC plans to webcast this meeting on its website. Webcast availability cannot, however, be guaranteed due to limited resources or technical difficulties. The meeting will not be cancelled if webcast is not available. If you wish to participate or to have a guaranteed opportunity to observe, please plan to attend at the physical location. For meeting verification, call (916) 575-7230 or access the LATC website at latc.ca.gov.

#### Agenda January 17, 2017 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. (or until completion of business)

- A. Call to Order Roll Call Establishment of a Quorum
- B. Chair's Procedural Remarks and LATC Member Introductory Comments
- C. Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda (*The Committee may not discuss or take action on any item raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to refer the item to the Committee's next Strategic Planning session and/or place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].*)
- D. Review and Possible Action on November 4, 2016 LATC Meeting Minutes
- E. Program Manager's Report on Administration, Examination, Licensing, and Enforcement
- F. Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)
  - 1. Update on Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) Administration
  - 2. Update and Ratify LATC's Nomination for CLARB 2016-2017 Board of Directors and Committee on Nominations Elections

(Continued)

- G. Discuss and Possible Action on Strategic Plan Objective to Review Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Section 2620 (Education and Training Credits) to Expand Credit for Education Experience to Include Degrees in Related Areas of Study
- H. Discuss and Possible Action to Recommend to the Board to Adopt Originally Proposed Language or Approve Modified Text to Amend Reciprocity Requirements of Title 16, CCR Section 2615 (Form of Examinations)
- I. Review and Possible Action to Amend Title 16, CCR Section 2620.5 (Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program) and Add CCR Sections 2620.2 (Extension Certificate Programs – Application for Approval), 2620.3 (Suspension or Withdrawal of Approval), and 2620.4 (Annual Reports)
- J. Discuss and Possible Action on Draft *Consumer's Guide to Hiring a Landscape Architect*
- K. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future LATC Meeting Dates
- L. Recess

#### Agenda January 18, 2017 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (or until completion of business)

- M. Call to Order Roll Call Establishment of a Quorum
- N. Strategic Planning Session

#### O. Adjournment

Action may be taken on any item on the agenda. The time and order of agenda items are subject to change at the discretion of the Chair and may be taken out of order. The meeting will be adjourned upon completion of the agenda, which may be at a time earlier or later than posted in this notice. In accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, all meetings of the LATC are open to the public.

Government Code section 11125.7 provides the opportunity for the public to address each agenda item during discussion or consideration by the LATC prior to the Committee taking any action on said item. Members of the public will be provided appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue before the Committee, but the Committee Chair may, at his or her discretion, apportion available time among those who wish to speak. Individuals may appear before the Committee to discuss items not on the agenda; however, the Committee can neither discuss nor take official action on these items at the time of the same meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Tremaine Palmer at (916) 575-7230, emailing tremaine.palmer@dca.ca.gov, or sending a written request to the LATC. Providing your request at least five business days before the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

Protection of the public shall be the highest priority for the LATC in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public shall be paramount. (Business and Professions Code section 5620.15)

# Agenda Item A

#### CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Roll is called by the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Vice Chair or, in his/her absence, by an LATC member designated by the Chair.

#### LATC MEMBER ROSTER

Patricia Trauth, Chair

Marq Truscott, Vice Chair

Andrew Bowden

David Allan Taylor, Jr.

# Agenda Item B

# CHAIR'S PROCEDURAL REMARKS AND LATC MEMBER INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

LATC Chair Patricia Trauth, or in her absence, the Vice Chair will review the scheduled LATC actions and make appropriate announcements.

# Agenda Item C

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

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

(The Committee may not discuss or take action on any item raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to refer the item to the Committee's next Strategic Planning session and/or place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].)

# Agenda Item D

# **REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON NOVEMBER 4, 2016 LATC MEETING MINUTES**

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) is asked to review and take action on the attached November 4, 2016 LATC Meeting Minutes.

<u>ATTACHMENT:</u> November 4, 2016 LATC Meeting Minutes (Draft)





#### **Meeting Minutes**

CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD Landscape Architects Technical Committee

> November 4, 2016 Sacramento, California

Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Members Present Andrew Bowden, Chair David Allan Taylor, Jr., Vice Chair Patricia Trauth Marq Truscott

<u>Staff Present</u> Doug McCauley, Executive Officer Vickie Mayer, Assistant Executive Officer Trish Rodriguez, Program Manager Gary Duke, Legal Counsel, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) Tremaine Palmer, Special Projects Analyst Kourtney Nation, Examination Coordinator Gretchen Kjose, Retired Annuitant

<u>Guests Present</u> Jason Bisho Maureen Decombe, Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) Fernando Galli, Board and Bureau Relations, DCA Amelia Lima, APLD Dustin Maxam Sarah Maxam Greg Melton, Melton Design Group Shawn Rohrbacker

#### A. Call to Order – Roll Call – Establishment of a Quorum

LATC Chair Andrew Bowden called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. and Vice Chair David Allan Taylor Jr. called roll. Four members of LATC were present, thus a quorum was established.

## B. Chair's Procedural Remarks and LATC Member Introductory Comments

Mr. Bowden noted that the October 4, 2016 LATC meeting had been postponed due to a procedural issue regarding the meeting notice period.

#### C. Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda

There were no comments from the public.

(One public comment was received and acknowledged under Agenda Item F.)

### D. Review and Possible Action on May 24, 2016 LATC Meeting Minutes

Mr. Bowden asked for comments concerning the May 24, 2016 LATC Meeting Minutes. There were no comments from the Committee members.

• Patricia Trauth moved to approve the May 24, 2016 LATC Meeting Minutes.

Marq Truscott seconded the motion.

Members Trauth, Truscott, and Chair Bowden voted in favor of the motion. David Allan Taylor, Jr. abstained. The motion passed 3-0-1.

# E. Program Manager's Report on Administration, Examination, Licensing, and Enforcement

Trish Rodriguez presented the Program Manager's report. She announced the LATC has a new Licensing/Administration Coordinator, Stacy Townsend. Ms. Rodriguez noted that November 3, 2016 was Enforcement Analyst, Matt McKinney's last day with the LATC and indicated recruitment to fill that position had begun.

Ms. Rodriguez reported that since LATC's last meeting in May, the Workload and Revenue report was completed and submitted to DCA in September. She advised that the next Strategic Planning session would have annual updates from BreEZe staff and DCA's Budget Office. She also noted that BreEZe is still in its release 3 phase, which was originally scheduled to begin in 2016. She said that LATC would commence implementation of BreEZe once notified by DCA.

Ms. Rodriguez reported that the proposed regulatory change to California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2620 (Education and Training Credits), which allows teaching credit under a landscape architect, was approved by Office of Administrative Law and will take effect on January 1, 2017.

Ms. Rodriguez reported that staff continues to work on proposed changes to CCR 2620.5 (Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program), noting that the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board's (LAAB) new Accreditation Standards and Procedures,

which were approved and implemented in March 2016, contain numerous changes in curriculum requirements.

Ms. Rodriguez reported that LATC's proposed revisions to the *Disciplinary Guidelines* are with the Board's Regulatory and Enforcement Committee (REC). She continued that once revisions are approved by the REC and the Board, staff will incorporate them into LATC *Guidelines* so that they are aligned with the Board's *Guidelines*.

Ms. Rodriguez reported that staff had completed the *Consumer's Guide to Hiring a Landscape Architect*, to be discussed today under a separate agenda item. Ms. Rodriguez continued that, if approved at today's meeting, the *Guide* would be posted on LATC's website. Mr. Truscott inquired how accessible the *Guide* would be to the public and Ms. Rodriguez responded that the *Guide* would be included in initial licensure packets, available in LATC's lobby, at schools with landscape architecture degree programs, and as a PDF version on the website.

## F. Discuss and Possible Action on Public Comments Regarding California Code of Regulations (CCR) Title 16, Section 2615 (Form of Examinations) Reciprocity Requirements

Ms. Rodriguez stated that the issue of reciprocity was first discussed by the LATC in December 2012, when a letter was received regarding California's reciprocity requirements. She continued that staff has completed a significant amount of work in assessing initial licensure eligibility and reciprocity requirements for all states, which is included for the LATC's information today as attachments to this agenda item.

She summarized that the national average of combined training or education for all states is 7 years, that there are 4 states that provide an "education only" pathway and 27 that provide a "training only" pathway to licensure.

Ms. Rodriguez reported that a proposed regulatory amendment to CCR section 2615 (Form of Examinations), which would allow reciprocity for candidates (licensed in another jurisdiction but who do not meet California's education requirements) was approved by the LATC at its November 17, 2015 meeting. She advised that the proposed regulatory amendment was noticed in August 2016, which began a 45-day public comment period that ended on September 27, 2016. During the public comment period, 296 comments (291 were substantially similar) were received opposing the length of post-licensure experience being proposed for reciprocity candidates who do not meet California's education requirement. Ms. Rodriguez concluded that at today's meeting the Committee is asked to review the public comments on the proposed regulation and take action.

Ms. Trauth began the discussion by asking for background information on a letter received from Kody Ryff after the close of the public comment period. Mr. Bowden stated that Mr. Ryff's letter was to be considered under Agenda Item C, Public Comments for Items not on Agenda. DCA Legal Counsel, Gary Duke, stated that although Mr. Ryff's letter would not be part of the formal rulemaking record, it would be appropriate for the LATC to consider the issues he presented if it so chooses.

Mr. Bowden stated that Mr. Ryff's letter suggests alternatives to the LATC's proposed regulatory amendment by reducing the number of years of experience required, noting that as proposed, the number of years of experience required for a reciprocity candidate without a degree in landscape architecture, would prevent the individual from being licensed in California until the age of 35 or thereafter.

Mr. Truscott reiterated that the proposed regulatory language allows a candidate who holds a valid license in good standing and who has been offering professional services for 10 out of the last 15 years to be eligible for reciprocity. He also noted that the California Architects Board (Board) does not require an educational component for reciprocity. Mr. McCauley stated that the Board's only additional practice requirement is for candidates who have not completed the formal structured internship program (Architectural Experience Program (AXP)), and the requirement is three additional years of practice experience. Mr. Bowden stated that since LATC does not have the Board's structure of an internship program, it is limited to dealing with what is currently in regulation. He suggested that LATC discuss the internship issue in Strategic Planning.

Mr. Taylor expressed his opinion that the proposed time frame of 10 years of post-licensure experience appears to be excessive. Ms. Trauth stated that since California requires a combination of 6 years training and experience for initial licensure, 6 years of additional experience for those without a degree in landscape architecture seems more appropriate. Mr. Bowden stated that the intent was to allow the time frame to be non-continuous.

Vickie Mayer reminded the Committee that it decided at a prior meeting that 10 years was appropriate based on extensive research of other jurisdictions' requirements. Mr. Bowden stated that the number was based on reciprocity requirements in Arizona and New York, which have similar licensing populations.

Mr. Bowden stated that in 2005, the LATC's Education Subcommittee evaluated the education and experience requirements for examination, and their findings contain data pertinent to the discussion of reciprocity. He recommended that the Committee take the findings of the Subcommittee into consideration and apply them to reciprocity. He also recommended discussing the reciprocity requirements during the upcoming Strategic Planning session and Ms. Trauth concurred.

Mr. Truscott stated that the Committee has been addressing the reciprocity issue for years and that it should move forward. Ms. Rodriguez noted that the LATC denied two applications in 2014 and three in 2015 for not meeting the education requirements. She added that there are no current reciprocity applications pending that will be denied under the current reciprocity standards.

Mr. Truscott inquired if the Committee could amend the previously approved regulatory language. Mr. Duke responded that amending the proposed language would require publishing a 15-day Notice thereby providing the opportunity for public comments on the proposed amendments. Mr. Duke stated that if LATC would like to re-examine all of the requirements in order to make changes, he would recommend withdrawing the rulemaking package and starting over. Ms. Trauth asked Mr. Duke about the drawbacks to modifying a provision of the regulation and then reviewing the rest of the regulation during Strategic Planning. Mr. Duke responded that it would be a policy decision for the LATC. Mr. Bowden added that LATC would be considering alternate degrees, through the Education Subcommittee, during Strategic Planning.

# • Marq Truscott moved to proceed with the rulemaking file. Patricia Trauth seconded the motion.

Chair, Andrew Bowden asked for discussion.

The discussion opened with public comments from the audience. Dustin Maxam introduced himself and expressed dissatisfaction with the LATC's review of the public comments. He stated that of the 296 comments received, only one was in support of the proposed amendments and the other 295 supported his opposition.

Mr. Maxam stated that he felt the Committee did not understand his proposal and the reasoning behind it. He continued that his revised language is an alternative that is more equitable, less burdensome, and equally effective in ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Mr. Maxam indicated that the proposed language was taken out of context from Arizona's and New York's requirements. Mr. Bowden asked Mr. Maxam if he had anything new to add that was not included in his written comments.

Mr. Maxam went on to note that out of 3,600 licensed California landscape architects on the 2016 roster, nearly half were licensed prior to 1998, the year LATC was established. He continued that nearly 50% of California landscape architects have more than 18 years of professional experience, and that the majority are approaching retirement. Mr. Maxam stated that the LATC grants less than 100 new licenses every year, and with the current trend, it is not possible to replace those leaving the profession without major changes. He continued that LATC's proposed regulatory language requires so much experience, 18 years in some cases, that most individuals who gained licensure under the previous Board of Landscape Architects and early years of the LATC, who were licensed under more inclusive educational requirements, would not qualify for licensure under current law.

Mr. Maxam concluded by explaining that in his opinion, practicing or offering professional services for 10 of the last 15 years is excessive, while a more balanced approach, aligned with Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) and some other states, is 2 of the last 5 years and any college degree. He added that offering professional services for 6 of the last 10 years aligns with many other states.

Amelia Lima, Jason Bisho, Shawn Rohrbacker, and Greg Melton introduced themselves and agreed with Mr. Maxam's position. Mr. Rohrbacker also stated that Committee members may have believed that 10 years was excessive, and would have been dismayed if the Committee decided to move forward.

Ms. Lima inquired on the statistics Ms. Rodriguez provided earlier regarding the number of reciprocity applicants. Ms. Rodriguez responded that the statistics were from research on the affected number of reciprocity applicants. Mr. Maxam stated that it is 2-3% or possibly more of the number of licenses granted a year.

Sarah Maxam agreed with Mr. Maxam's position. Ms. Maxam stated that in an attempt to streamline the process, a defensible position was given. She continued that more public comments would not surface, as Mr. Maxam's position is what the public desires. Ms. Maxam added that by not taking action today, the LATC would be ignoring the will of the public.

Mr. Truscott noted that Mr. Maxam's letter and all information presented has been considered. Mr. Truscott again moved to proceed with the rulemaking file. Ms. Mayer suggested an amendment to have more discussion at the Strategic Planning session in order to address the public comments and Mr. Truscott agreed to amend his motion.

Mr. Bowden stated a concern for the language of the motion. He continued that by proceeding with the rulemaking file, there would be no further discussion or modifications. Mr. Truscott clarified that the motion would grant time to make modifications to the approved regulatory language. Mr. Bowden indicated that he was no longer in favor of the proposed regulatory language because he felt the timeframe is no longer appropriate based on the public comments received.

• Marq Truscott moved to amend the motion to withdraw the motion to proceed with the rulemaking file.

Patricia Trauth seconded the amendment to the motion.

David Allan Taylor, Jr. moved to table the item until the Strategic Planning session with the intent to vote on amendments to the regulatory language during Strategic Planning.

# Patricia Trauth seconded the motion.

Maureen Decombe stated that in the agenda it states "discuss and possible action on public comments." She expressed confusion on why there was not a deeper discussion of the public comments and further analysis in front of the public. Mr. Bowden reiterated that the public comments were reviewed and considered, but the Committee would like more time to analyze the public comments in order to discuss them further at the Strategic Planning session.

Members Trauth, Truscott, Taylor, and Chair Bowden voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

# G. Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB)

Ms. Rodriguez reported that she and Ms. Trauth attended CLARB's annual meeting on September 22-24, 2016.

She reported that the next administration of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) would be December 5-17, 2016 and noted that prior LARE pass rates were included in the meeting packet for the Committee's information. Ms. Rodriguez also noted that the results of CLARB's recent task analysis, identifying knowledge, skills, and abilities required at the initial point of licensure, would be incorporated into the LARE beginning in April 2017.

Ms. Rodriguez stated that nominations for CLARB's Board of Directors and Committee on Nominations were due in September and that, on behalf of the LATC, Mr. Bowden and Ms. Trauth had selected the following candidates under consideration: Christine Anderson, Nicole Cruchfield, Allison Fleury, Julia Gambrel, and Phil Meyer. Ms. Rodriguez asked the Committee to vote on the elections ballot.

### • Marq Truscott moved to approve the elections ballot.

#### Patricia Trauth seconded the motion.

Members Trauth, Truscott, Taylor, and Chair Bowden voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

### H. Discuss and Possible Action on Strategic Plan Objective to Adopt New Methods and Identify New Resources to Effectively Educate Consumers Regarding Health, Safety, and Welfare Issues Within Landscape Architecture

Ms. Rodriguez noted that, as part of its 2015-16 Strategic Plan, LATC members and staff worked in collaboration to develop two new consumer education publications, the *Consumer's Guide to Hiring a Landscape Architect* and *Consumer Tips for Design Projects* which were provided today for the Committee's review, comments, and possible approval.

Mr. Bowden inquired as to how the publications would be distributed to consumers. Ms. Rodriguez stated that they would be sent to new licensees as part of their initial licensure packet, available in LATC's lobby and at accredited schools associated with landscape architecture, and on the LATC website. Mr. McCauley stated that the Board supplies building departments, firms, and local regulatory agencies with their *Guide*. Mr. Truscott suggested that the *Guide* and *Consumer Tips* be sent to planning and community development departments.

Mr. Truscott also inquired, in terms of funding, what resources the LATC has to disseminate the publications. Ms. Rodriguez stated that mailing is an option, as well as distributing them at LATC meetings held at schools throughout the state. Mr. McCauley advised that there is a distribution list for planning departments that could be utilized and Ms. Mayer added that an email could be sent to LATC's subscribers indicating the *Guide* and *Consumer Tips* are available on the website, or could be requested directly from the LATC.

Ms. Decombe expressed concern that that the photographs and plant materials depicted in the proposed *Guide* show water features, high water use plant pallets, and lawn dominated designs that do not support water conservation. Ms. Decombe also had comments on the table in the *Guide* that lists the professional qualifications of landscape architects, landscape contractors, architects, civil engineers, irrigation consultants, nurserypersons and unlicensed persons could be misinterpreted by the information provided and landscape designers were not listed. She opined that one of the goals of the *Guide* should be to clarify the differences between landscape designers and landscape architects, and that the postsecondary education and experience of landscape designers should be included to truly educate consumers. She concluded by saying the *Guide* seems to imply the only persons qualified to engage in residential landscape design belong to the professions listed.

Mr. Taylor suggested including information on the California Landscape Contractors Association and APLD, stating that a description of what each profession can and cannot do, might be helpful to consumers. Mr. Bowden stated that the table reflects the fact that an unlicensed individual is not required to have postsecondary education; therefore, the table is factual. Ms. Trauth stated that landscape designers were previously included; however, the list became extensive and cumbersome. Mr. Bowden added that listing all professions was not feasible. Mr. McCauley stated that as a regulatory agency, LATC's publications must reflect what is in the Practice Act.

The LATC agreed that the publications should contain pictures of compelling low water landscapes with California plant material and asked staff to obtain images for review at the next LATC meeting.

#### I. Discuss and Possible Action on Strategic Plan Objective to Explore Methods for Developing a Teleconferenced Educator's Roundtable Comprised of School Representatives to Increase Collaboration and Communication for Future LATC Strategic Plans

Ms. Rodriguez reported that for the upcoming Strategic Planning session, staff would like direction from the Committee as to the topics to be considered under this objective.

Mr. Truscott stated that he was in support of having educator roundtable discussions and Mr. McCauley indicated they could be held in conjunction with LATC meetings as a regular agenda item. He continued that schools and landscape architect organizations would have an opportunity to report on changes to the degree programs, trends, and other related issues. Ms. Trauth noted the success the LATC has had holding Committee meetings at various landscape architect schools across the state.

Mr. Bowden stated that each school program concentrates on different areas of landscape architecture and he felt, as part of Strategic Planning, the goal should be to prepare graduates for the LARE. He expressed his opinion that one of LATC's responsibilities is to determine how the quality of education graduates receive relates to licensure.

Mr. Bowden suggested that a possible topic could be community college transfer agreements with LAAB accredited degree programs. He continued that in architecture, there are reciprocal agreements between community colleges and schools of architecture where an associate degree earned grants entry into the school of architecture. Mr. Bowden noted that there are no such agreements between community colleges and schools of landscape architecture.

Mr. Bowden also suggested researching an integrated path to licensure for landscape architects similar to the one in place for architects. Mr. McCauley explained that this consists of integrating licensure components into the degree program. He advised that once enrolled in one of these programs, approved by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, students complete the required coursework and license requirements. He noted that this includes the Architectural Experience Program. Mr. McCauley stated that hours are logged in various content areas in the internship phase, and that one begins early testing at an eligibility point determined by the school. Mr. McCauley added that once students graduate from the program,

they are positioned to become licensed. Mr. McCauley concluded that the program can reduce the amount of time it takes for individuals to become licensed.

Mr. Bowden inquired as to how the LATC could facilitate a similar program, stating that CLARB and other organizations would have to be in support to move forward. He wondered if LATC could initiate the process. Ms. Trauth supported the concept and suggested it be placed on the agenda for Strategic Planning. Messrs. Bowden and Truscott agreed, with Mr. Truscott adding that it might be challenging to gain a concerted effort from all parties.

#### J. North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners v. Federal Trade Commission Case Review – Department of Consumer Affairs Legal Counsel

Mr. Duke began by stating that the case involving North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners and the Federal Trade Commission was an important Supreme Court case regarding occupational licensing. He noted that this case does not affect California licensing boards as much as other states because California has a well-developed and complex regulatory system with checks and balances in place.

Mr. Duke reported that the basis of this case involved the North Carolina State Board of Dental Examiners sending cease and desist letters to businesses who were providing teeth whitening services, as well as property owners. The letters were sent as the result of several complaints filed by dentists who were concerned about the impact on their businesses, as opposed to the health, safety, and welfare of consumers. He stated that the United States has a history of promoting competitive and fair business practices through anti-trust and other statutes. Mr. Duke concluded that, due to the dental board's reasoning for mailing the cease and desist letters, the Supreme Court ruled that they were engaging in anti-competitive conduct which restricted the free market.

### K. Election of LATC Officers for Fiscal Year 2016/17 Discuss and Possible Action on LATC Officer Election Procedures

Ms. Rodriguez reported that the Board holds elections for officers at the last meeting of the calendar year and the newly elected officers begin their terms at the first meeting of the new year. In order to align with the Board's procedures, LATC was asked to elect its Chair and Vice Chair for calendar year 2017. Mr. Bowden noted that with this amendment to the procedures, the officers elected today would begin their roles at the January 2017 meeting.

• David Allan Taylor, Jr. moved to change the elections of officer positions (Chair and Vice Chair) to the last meeting of the calendar year, and who will assume roles on January 1 of the following year.

Patricia Trauth seconded the motion.

Members Trauth, Truscott, Taylor, and Chair Bowden voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

• Andrew Bowden moved to nominate Patricia Trauth as Chair for 2017.

David Allan Taylor, Jr. seconded the motion.

Members Trauth, Truscott, Taylor, and Chair Bowden voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

• David Allan Taylor, Jr. moved to nominate Marq Truscott as Vice Chair for 2017.

Andrew Bowden seconded the motion.

Members Trauth, Truscott, Taylor, and Chair Bowden voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed 4-0.

#### L. Review Tentative Schedule and Confirm Future LATC Meeting Dates

Mr. Bowden indicated the next LATC meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2017, followed by a Strategic Planning session on January 18, 2017. The meeting will be held in Sacramento.

#### M. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.

# Agenda Item E

# PROGRAM MANAGER'S REPORT ON ADMINISTRATION, EXAMINATION, LICENSING, AND ENFORCEMENT

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

#### ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Program Manager's Report
- 2. California Architects Board December 15-16, 2016, Meeting Notice

# LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Program Manager's Report January 2017

#### ADMINISTRATIVE/MANAGEMENT

#### **Annual Reports**

Pursuant to Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 312(a), the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) submits an Annual Report to the Governor and Legislature. The staff of the Office of Publications, Design and Editing (PDE) began working on the DCA Annual Report 2015-2016. The narrative portion which includes a summary of regulations, major studies and other new program developments was submitted by LATC staff on August 31, 2016. Final data summaries of licensing and enforcement activities were submitted to PDE on November 30, 2016.

#### Applicant Tracking System (ATS)/Workaround System (WAS)

Manual processes created in 2014 remain in place, using the temporary WAS until the transition to BreEZe. The WAS became a functional necessity upon regulatory approval of licensure requirements. It was established after a freeze was put in place for any legacy system changes during DCA's transition to BreEZe. With no projected date for Release 3 of BreEZe, the hard freeze placed on legacy system changes was lifted on April 7, 2016. However, staff will continue to use WAS in place of ATS. On September 15, 2016, the WAS database was shifted from desktop hardware to an existing server located at the Del Paso office to make it part of the enterprise database. Programming changes were also implemented to encrypt social security numbers and alter the user interface to simplify staff processes. Staff continue to work with the BreEZe team towards integrating WAS and ATS data with the BreEZe system.

#### **BreEZe Project**

The DCA has been working with Accenture, LLP to design, configure, and implement an integrated, enterprise-wide enforcement case management and licensing system (BreEZe). This system supports DCA's highest priority initiatives of job creation and consumer protection by replacing aging legacy business systems with an industry-proven software solution that utilizes current technologies to facilitate increased efficiencies for DCA board and bureau licensing and enforcement programs. More specifically, BreEZe supports applicant tracking, licensing, license renewal, enforcement, monitoring, cashiering, and data management capabilities. Additionally, the system is web-based which allows the public to file complaints and search licensee information and complaint status via the Internet. It also allows applicants and licensees to submit applications, license renewals, and make payments online. BreEZe is being deployed department-wide via three separate releases. Release 1 was implemented on October 9, 2013; Release 2 was implemented on January 19, 2016; and Release 3 was planned to begin development in 2016. The Board and LATC are currently part of Release 3. The State Auditor recommended that DCA conduct a cost-benefit analysis for Release 3 boards and bureaus. Absent any contrary finding in that analysis, DCA plans to bring the remaining boards and

bureaus into BreEZe, but likely will do so in smaller groups. DCA is developing a plan for the boards and bureaus that have not transitioned to the BreEZe system. The path forward will include business process planning, during which existing business processes will be mapped (and potentially re-engineered), use cases developed, and solution requirements will be defined. Next, the Department of Technology's four-stage Project Approval Lifecycle will facilitate business analysis justification, alternatives and cost benefit analysis, solution development framework, and project approval. The final step of the process will be implementation, possibly following an agile or agile-hybrid development methodology.

# Budget

Staff met with DCA's Budget Office in February 2016 to determine whether the temporary reduction of biennial license renewal fees, from July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017, would be sufficient to reduce LATC's funds in reserve to the level required by BPC section 128. The Budget Office projected that LATC's months in reserve at the end of fiscal year (FY) 2016/17 would still be in excess of 20 months and suggested extending the fee reduction for one more renewal cycle. A regulatory proposal to amend California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2649 (Fees) would need to be completed in order to extend the reduction in license renewal fees (from \$400 to \$220 biennially) through June 30, 2019 (see "Regulatory Amendments" section in this report for additional information regarding the regulatory proposal).

# **California Architects Board Meeting**

The Board held a meeting on December 15-16, 2016, in Sacramento, which included a Strategic Planning session on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Doug McCauley updated the Board on the November 4, 2016 LATC meeting, explaining that LATC focused much of its time on the proposed reciprocity regulations. He conveyed that LATC, much like the Board, supports flexible pathways to licensure in California and seeks to expand in the area of reciprocity. He also noted that the Board considered a number of enforcement issues, such as enhancing the written contract requirements and updating the citation regulations.

# Personnel

Program Manager, Trish Rodriguez, accepted a promotion with the California Board of Pharmacy effective November 18, 2016. Recruitment efforts to fill both the Program Manager and enforcement analyst positions are underway. In the interim, retired annuitant, Gretchen Kjose, has assisted in coordinating many of the duties of the Program Manager in order to prepare for today's LATC meeting and Strategic Planning session.

# **Regulatory Amendments**

*CCR 2615 (Form of Examinations) – Reciprocity Requirements -* At its meeting on February 10, 2015, LATC directed staff to draft proposed regulatory language to specifically state that California allows reciprocity to individuals who are licensed in another jurisdiction, have 10 years of practice experience, and have passed the CSE. At the LATC meeting on November 17, 2015 the Committee approved proposed amendments to CCR 2615(c)(1), and recommended that the Board authorize LATC to proceed with a regulatory change. At its December 10, 2015 meeting, the Board approved the regulatory changes and delegated authority to the EO to adopt the corresponding regulations to amend CCR 2615 provided no adverse comments are received during the public comment period and make minor technical or non-substantive changes to the language, if needed.

Following is a chronology to date, of the processing of LATC's regulatory proposal for CCR 2615:

November 17, 2015	Proposed regulatory language approved by the LATC
December 10, 2015	Proposed regulatory language approved by the Board
August 2, 2016	Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations submitted to OAL
August 12, 2016	Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations published by OAL
September 27, 2016	Public hearing, public comments received during 45-day period

The LATC received extensive input during the public comment period expressing concern about the proposed length of post-licensure experience (at least 10 years, within the past 15 years) to be required of reciprocity candidates who do not meet California's educational requirements (specifically, a degree in landscape architecture). At its November 4, 2016, meeting, LATC reviewed and discussed the comments, heard from several members of the audience, and directed staff to provide additional research and possible options for its next meeting in January 2017.

*CCR 2620(a)(13), Expand Eligibility Requirements to Allow Credit for Teaching Under a Licensed Landscape Architect* – At the LATC meeting on February 10, 2015, the Committee agreed that up to one year of experience/training credits should be granted for teaching under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect. At the May 13, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee approved the proposed language to amend CCR 2620 by adding subsection (a)(13) which provides one year of teaching credit under the supervision of a landscape architect in a degree program as specified in CCR 2620(a)(1), (2), and (4). At the August 6, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee recommended that the Board authorize LATC to proceed with a regulatory change. At its September 10, 2015 meeting, the Board approved the regulatory changes and delegated authority to the EO to adopt the regulations to amend CCR 2620 provided no adverse comments are received during the public comment period and make minor technical or non-substantive changes to the language, if needed.

Following is a chronology to date, of the processing of LATC's regulatory proposal for CCR 2620:

August 6, 2015	Proposed regulatory language approved by LATC
September 10, 2015	Proposed regulatory language approved by Board
October 9, 2015	Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations published by OAL
November 30, 2015	Public hearing, no comments received
March 24, 2016	Final rulemaking file submitted to DCA Legal Office and Division of
	Legislative and Policy Review
June 10, 2016	Final rulemaking file submitted to Business, Consumer Services and
	Housing Agency (Agency) for approval

July 25, 2016	Final rulemaking file approved by Agency
August 2, 2016	Final rulemaking file submitted to OAL for approval
September 13, 2016	Regulation approved by OAL and filed with the Secretary of State to
-	become effective January 1, 2017

*CCR 2620.5, Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program* - LATC established the original requirements for an approved extension certificate program based on university accreditation standards from the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). These requirements are outlined in CCR 2620.5. In 2009, LAAB implemented changes to their university accreditation standards. Prompted by the changes made by LAAB, LATC drafted updated requirements for an approved extension certificate program and recommended the Board authorize LATC to proceed with a regulatory change. At its December 15-16, 2010 meeting, the Board approved the regulatory change and delegated authority to the EO to adopt the regulations to amend CCR 2620.5 provided no adverse comments are received during the public comment period and make minor technical or non-substantive changes to the language, if needed. The regulatory proposal to amend CCR 2620.5 was published by the OAL on June 22, 2012.

In 2012, the LATC appointed the University of California Extension Certificate Program Task Force, which was charged with developing the procedures for the review of the extension certificate programs, and conducting reviews of the programs utilizing the new procedures. The Task Force held meetings on June 27, 2012, October 8, 2012, and November 2, 2012. As a result of these meetings, the Task Force recommended additional modifications to CCR 2620.5 to further update the regulatory language with LAAB guidelines and LATC goals. At the November 14, 2012 LATC meeting, the LATC approved the Task Force's recommended modifications to CCR 2620.5, with an additional edit. At the January 24-25, 2013 LATC meeting, the LATC reviewed public comments regarding the proposed changes to CCR 2620.5 and agreed to remove a few proposed modifications to the language for CCR 2620.5 at their March 7, 2013 meeting.

On July 17, 2013, a Decision of Disapproval of Regulatory Action was issued by the OAL. The disapproval was based on OAL's determination that the regulatory package did not meet the necessity standard of Government Code (GC) section 11349.1, subdivision (a)(1). GC 11349, subdivision (a), defines "necessity" as demonstrating the need for the regulatory change through evidence not limited to facts, studies, and expert opinion. Based on OAL's disapproval, staff worked with DCA Legal Counsel and the Task Force Chair to refine the proposed language and identify appropriate justification that would meet OAL's requirements.

In May 2014, the LATC Special Projects Analyst prepared draft language for CCR 2620.5 incorporating Legal Counsel's recommendation that regulatory language be added to address the application, approval, denial, and annual review processes. In June 2014, staff assignments changed. The interim Special Projects Analyst began working on new proposed regulatory language in November 2014. On December 8, 2014, staff was advised by LAAB that the accreditation standards are scheduled to be reviewed and updated beginning with draft proposals in the spring of 2015. LAAB anticipated adopting new standards in early 2016. On December 30, 2014, staff met with the Task Force Chair to discuss proposed changes to

CCR 2620.5 and the probability that new LAAB accreditation standards will be implemented in 2016. Staff also met with DCA Legal Counsel on January 14, 2015, to discuss justifications to proposed changes and again on January 28, 2015 to further review edits and justifications.

Proposed regulatory language was presented to the LATC at its February 10-11, 2015, meeting. At this meeting, the Committee approved the appointment of a new working group to assist staff in substantiating recommended standards and procedures in order to obtain OAL approval. Linda Gates and Christine Anderson, former LATC members and University of California extension program reviewers, were appointed to the working group.

On June 5, 2015, LAAB confirmed that they were in the process of updating their Standards and Procedures for the Accreditation of Landscape Architecture Programs. The process included a public call for input and commentary that took place last fall (2014). LAAB met in the summer of 2015 to draft revisions to the Standards. In the fall 2015, additional public input and comments were received.

On October 8, 2015, LATC received a copy of LAAB's proposed revisions which included several suggested changes to curriculum requirements. LATC staff began incorporating the proposed changes and drafting new proposed language that included many of LATC's previously submitted modifications to CCR 2620.5.

LAAB implemented its new Accreditation Standards and Procedures in March 2016, which incorporate numerous changes to curriculum requirements. Staff recommends that LATC review the new LAAB Accreditation Standards and Procedures and determine how to proceed.

Following is a chronology to date, of the processing of LATC's regulatory proposal for CCR 2620.5:

November 22, 2010	Proposed regulatory language approved by LATC
December 15, 2010	Proposed regulatory language approved by the Board
June 22, 2012	Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations published by OAL
	(Notice re-published to allow time to notify interested parties)
August 6, 2012	Public hearing, no public comments received
November 30, 2012	40-Day Notice of Availability of Modified Language posted
January 9, 2013	Written comment (one) received during 40-day period
January 24, 2013	LATC approved modified language to address public comment
February 15, 2013	Final rulemaking file submitted to DCA Legal Office
March 7, 2013	Proposed regulatory changes of modified language approved by the
	Board
May 31, 2013	Final rulemaking file submitted to OAL
July 17, 2013	Decision of Disapproval of Regulatory Action issued by OAL
August 20, 2013	LATC voted not to pursue a resubmission of rulemaking file to OAL
February 21, 2014	Staff met with Task Force Chair to discuss justifications for proposed
	changes
December 8, 2014	LAAB reported that accreditation standards are scheduled to be
	reviewed and updated in 2015

February 10, 2015	LATC approved the appointment of a new working group to assist staff
October 8, 2015	LATC received LAAB's suggested revisions to curriculum
	requirements
March 2016	LAAB implemented its new Accreditation Standards and Procedures*

*CCR 2649 (Fees)* – BPC 128.5 requires agencies within DCA to reduce license or other fees if the fund balance meets or exceeds 24 months in reserve at the end of any FY. The LATC had 24.7 months of funds in reserve at the end of FY 2012-13. To address the fund condition, the LATC initiated fiscal management measures consisting of a negative budget change proposal to reduce LATC's spending authority by \$200,000, and implemented a temporary license renewal fee reduction from \$400 to \$220 for one license renewal cycle, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2017, with the intention of extending the license renewal fee reduction for an additional renewal cycle if the fund condition did not drop below the 24-month reserve level.

At the end of FY 2015-16, the LATC had 27.4 months of funds in reserve. Based on projections including the current temporary license renewal fee reduction of \$220, at the end of FY 2016-17, there will be approximately 20.6 months of funds in reserve. At the LATC meeting on May 24, 2016, the Committee approved the extension of the license renewal fee reduction through June 30, 2019. Once the reduction completes its term, the LATC is projected to have 7.1 months of funds in reserve. To extend the reduction of the license renewal fee, a regulatory change to amend CCR 2649 is necessary.

This regulatory proposal would amend CCR 2649 subsection (f), to reduce the fee for the biennial renewal of a license from \$400 to \$220 for licenses expiring on or after July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2019.

Following is a chronology, to date, of the processing of LATC's regulatory proposal for CCR 2649:

May 24, 2016	Proposed regulatory language approved by LATC
June 9, 2016	Proposed regulatory language approved by Board
October 14, 2016	Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations published by OAL
November 30, 2016	Public hearing, no public comments received
December 14, 2016	Regulatory file sent to DCA for review and signatures

*CCR 2680 (Disciplinary Guidelines)* – The LATC current Strategic Plan tasks the LATC with collaborating with the Board to review and update its *Disciplinary Guidelines*. The LATC's *Disciplinary Guidelines* were last updated in 2000.

The Board's 2013 and 2014 Strategic Plans directed its Regulatory and Enforcement Committee (REC) to review and update the Board's *Disciplinary Guidelines*. To this end, Board staff consulted with its Legal Counsel and Deputy Attorney General (DAG) Liaison and reviewed the *Disciplinary Guidelines* for both the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists and the Contractors State License Board to determine if changes were needed to the Board's *Disciplinary Guidelines*. As a result, staff and Legal Counsel recommended revisions

which were provided to the REC for its consideration and ultimately approved by the Board at its December 10, 2014 meeting.

Based upon the Board's approval of its *Disciplinary Guidelines* and authorization to proceed with a regulatory amendment, LATC staff reviewed and revised its own *Disciplinary Guidelines* to mirror the Board's wherever possible.

At its February 10, 2015 meeting the LATC approved the edits to its *Disciplinary Guidelines*. Following that meeting, staff requested its DAG Liaison to review the approved Guidelines. The DAG made several suggestions that were incorporated into the previously approved Guidelines. These amendments included: 1) Changes to the Factors to be Considered; 2) Increasing the length of suspension for Gross Incompetence in Practice, from 90 to 120 days; and, 3) Adding Conviction of Crime; Suspension, Revocation – Grounds as an offense.

At its August 6, 2015 meeting, the LATC approved the DAG's recommended revisions to its *Disciplinary Guidelines*, the proposed regulations to amend CCR 2680, and directed staff to present to the Board for approval. Following the August 6, 2015 LATC meeting, DCA Legal Counsel advised staff of additional research necessary regarding Optional Conditions 9 (CSE) and 10 (Written Examination) of the *Disciplinary Guidelines*. Absent any additional recommended edits by DCA Legal Counsel, the amended *Disciplinary Guidelines* and proposed regulatory package was approved by the Board at their September 10, 2015 meeting.

Staff subsequently discussed the issues regarding Optional Conditions 9 and 10 with DCA Legal Counsel on September 30, 2015. On October 21, 2015 staff sent DCA Legal Counsel proposed edits to the Optional Conditions for review. DCA Legal Counsel notified staff on November 12, 2015 that the edited portions were sufficient but substantive, and would require approval by the Board. On November 25, 2015, DCA Legal Counsel further advised staff to include the current version of the Board's Quarterly Report of Compliance form (1/11) as "Attachment A" in the *Disciplinary Guidelines*. At its December 10, 2015 meeting, the Board approved the revised *Disciplinary Guidelines* and delegated authority to the EO to adopt the regulations to amend CCR section 2680 provided no adverse comments are received during the public comment period, and to make minor technical or non-substantive changes to the language, if needed. Board staff prepared the proposed regulatory package for DCA Legal Counsel's review and approval on March 15, 2016. On April 8, 2016, DCA Legal Counsel advised staff that more substantive changes were necessary prior to submission to the OAL.

Board staff developed recommended revisions to the *Guidelines* in response to Legal Counsel's concerns, and presented those revisions to the REC for review and consideration at its November 8, 2016, meeting. At the meeting, the REC voted to recommend to the Board that it approve the additional revisions to the *Disciplinary Guidelines* and authorize staff to proceed with the regulatory change to amend CCR 154 in order to incorporate the revised *Guidelines* by reference. The additional revisions to the *Guidelines* and the proposed regulatory language to amend CCR 154 was approved by the Board at its December 15, 2016, meeting.

LATC staff is updating its *Guidelines* to include the changes recently approved by the Board that are appropriate to the program. The revisions will be presented to the LATC for its consideration at a future meeting.

Following is a chronology to date, of the processing of LATC's regulatory proposal for CCR 2680:

August 6, 2015	Proposed regulatory language approved by LATC
September 10, 2015	Proposed regulatory language approved by Board
December 10, 2015	Proposed regulatory changes approved by Board (including DCA Legal
	Counsel recommended edits)

### **Strategic Plan Objectives**

LATC's Strategic Plan for 2015–2016 contains numerous objectives. Below is a summary of status of some of the major objectives:

*Create and Disseminate Consumer's Guide* - to educate the public on the differences between landscape architects, landscape contractors, and landscape designers. At its November 17, 2015 meeting, staff presented to the Committee a drafted *Consumer's Guide to Hiring a Landscape Architect*, which is based on the Board's *Consumer's Guide to Hiring an Architect*. Following discussion, the Committee agreed to create a subcommittee to complete revisions to the guide. During discussion at its February 10, 2016 meeting, the Committee suggested editions to the guide including a chart for professional qualifications within the industry as well as information on drought conditions and the Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance. The subcommittee worked with staff to revise the guide and create a chart on the professional qualifications of landscape architects, landscape contractors, and other related professions. At its May 24, 2016 meeting, the Committee approved the guide with minor edits to be made to the professional qualifications chart. Staff completed the edits and worked with DCA's Digital Print Services to prepare the guide which was reviewed by the LATC at its November 2016 meeting.

At the meeting, a member of the audience expressed concern that that the photographs and plant materials depicted in the proposed *Guide* show water features, high water use plant pallets, lawn dominated designs that do not support water conservation, and noted that the goal of the State is to conserve water, and that the goal of Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance is to reduce lawns and water features that evaporate water. The LATC agreed that the publication should contain pictures of low water landscapes with California land material and asked staff to obtain images for review and possible approval of the *Guide* at its next meeting.

*Expand Credit for Education Experience* - to include degrees in related areas of study, i.e., urban planning, environmental science or horticulture, etc., to ensure that equitable requirements for education are maintained. At the November 17, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee directed staff to agendize this objective. At the February 10, 2016 LATC meeting, the Committee agreed to table the objective until its upcoming Strategic Planning Session in January 2017.

*Review Expired License Requirements (CCR 2624 and 2624.1)* - to assess whether any revisions are needed to the regulations, procedures, and instructions for expired license requirements. At

the August 6, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee reviewed the procedures and expired license requirements contained in BPC 5680.2 (License Renewal – Three Years After Expiration) and CCR 2624 and 2624.1, and directed staff to assess whether the Board's procedures and requirements should be considered for use by LATC. At the November 17, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee reviewed re-licensure requirements of various state landscape architect licensing boards and three DCA licensing boards and directed staff to research re-licensure procedures for additional state boards. At the February 10, 2016 LATC meeting, the Committee directed staff to draft proposed language to amend the LATC's re-licensure procedures to require an individual whose license has been expired for less than five years to pay any accrued fees, and to require the holder of a license that has expired for more than five years to reapply for licensure and retake the CSE.

At its meeting on May 24, 2016, the Committee voted to amend BPC 5680.2 and repeal CCR 2624 and 2624.1. Prior to the meeting, staff discovered BPC 5680.1 included language that would also need to be amended. It was noted to the Committee that BPC 5680.1 would be included when presented to the Board for its consideration. At its June 9, 2016, meeting, the Board voted to amend BPC 5680.1 and 5680.2 and repeal CCR 2624 and 2624.1. Staff worked with DCA Legal Counsel to draft the amendment of BPC 5680.1 and 5680.2. Once the amendments to BPC 5680.1 and 5680.2 are passed by the Legislature, staff will prepare the rulemaking file to repeal CCR 2624 and 2624.1.

# Training

The following employees have been scheduled for upcoming training:

2/14-16/17 Rulemaking (Stacy)

#### Website

LATC staff continues to publish the updated "Licensee Search" lists monthly.

# EXAMINATION PROGRAM

#### Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE)

The LARE was administered on December 5-17, 2016. Examination results will be released mid to late January 2017.

#### California Supplemental Examination (CSE)

Upon execution of the Intra-Agency Contract Agreement with the Office of Professional Examination Services, the LATC recruited subject matter experts to participate in examination development workshops to focus on item writing and examination construction. Monthly examination development workshops were conducted from August 2016 until December 2016.

The questions developed have been added to the examination item bank and will be incorporated into the CSE beginning in September 2017.

#### **ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM**

#### **Enforcement Actions**

Brock, Bonnie (Palo Alto) The Board issued a citation that included a \$1,000 administrative fine to Bonnie Brock, an unlicensed individual, for an alleged violation of BPC 5640 (Unlicensed Person Engaging in Practice – Sanctions). The action alleged that Brock provided services for a project in Menlo Park which is not an exempt project as described in BCP 5641. Brock paid the fine, satisfying the citation. The citation became final on October 10, 2016.

Enforcement Statistics	<u>Current Month</u> November 2016	<u>Prior Month</u> October 2016	<u>FYTD</u> 2015/16	<u>5-FY Avg</u> 2011/12 – 2015/16
Complaints				
Received/Opened(Reopened)	3(0)	0(0)	14(0)	26(0)
Closed:	1	0	23	36
Average Days to Close:	107 days	0	368 days	360 days
Pending:*	5	3	10	21
Average Age (Pending)	134 days	227 days	162	301 days
Citations				
Issued:	0	0	6	3
Pending:*	0	0	2	2
Pending (AG):***	0	0	1	2
Final:	0	1	3	2
Disciplinary Actions				
Pending AG:*	0	0	2	1
Pending DA:*	0	0	0	0
Final:	0	0	0	1
Settlement Reports (§5678)**				
Received/Opened:	0	1	1	1
Closed:	1	0	1	1
Pending:*	0	1	2	1

\* FYTD data is presented as a monthly average of pending cases.

\*\* Also included within "Complaints" information.

\*\*\* Also included within "Pending Citations."



Edmund G. Brown Jr. GOVERNOR

# CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD

PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND REGULATION

#### NOTICE OF BOARD MEETING

December 15-16, 2016 Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building 914 Capitol Mall, Room 500 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 651-6466 or (916) 575-7221 (Board)

The California Architects Board will hold a Board meeting, as noted above. The notice and agenda for this meeting and other meetings of the Board can be found on the Board's website: cab.ca.gov. For further information regarding this agenda, please see below or you may contact Mel Knox at (916) 575-7221.

The Board plans to webcast this meeting on its website at cab.ca.gov. Webcast availability cannot, however, be guaranteed due to limited resources or technical difficulties. The meeting will not be cancelled if webcast is not available. If you wish to participate or to have a guaranteed opportunity to observe, please plan to attend at a physical location. Adjournment, if it is the only item that occurs after a closed session, may not be webcast.

#### Agenda December 15, 2016 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (or until completion of business)

- A. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum
- B. President's Procedural Remarks and Board Member Introductory Comments
- C. Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda (*The Board may not discuss or take action on any item raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to refer the item to the Board's next Strategic Planning session and/or place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].*)
- 2420 DEL PASO ROAD, SUITE 105 SACRAMENTO, CA 95834

916-**574-7220** T 916-**575-7283** F

cab@dca.ca.gov www.cab.ca.gov

- D. Review and Possible Action on September 29, 2016 Board Meeting Minutes
- E. Executive Officer's Report Update on November 2016 Monthly Report on Board's Administrative/Management; and Examination, Licensing and Enforcement Programs

(Continued)

- F. Election of 2017 Board Officers
- G. Regulatory and Enforcement Committee (REC) Report
  - 1. Update on November 8, 2016 REC Meeting
  - 2. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding Proposed Language to Amend Business and Professions Code Section 5536.22 (Written Contract)
  - Discuss and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding Proposed Amendment to Title 16, California Code of Regulations (CCR) Sections 152 (Citations) and 152.5 (Contest of Citations, Informal Conference)
  - 4. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding Proposed Amendments to Board's *Disciplinary Guidelines* and Title 16, CCR Section 154 (Disciplinary Guidelines)
- H. Communications Committee Report
  - 1. Update on November 10, 2016 Communications Committee Meeting
  - 2. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2015-2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Collaborate with Professional Organizations and Universities to Raise Awareness at Community Colleges and High Schools About the Profession and the Paths to Licensure
  - 3. Update and Possible Action on 2015-2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Survey Recipients of the Board's Educational Materials to Determine the Effectiveness of Outreach Efforts
  - 4. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2015-2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Collaborate with Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Public Affairs to Improve Outreach and Communication
- I. Executive Committee Report
  - 1. Update on December 1, 2016 Executive Committee Meeting
  - 2. Discuss and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2016 Octavius Morgan Distinguished Service Awards
  - 3. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2015–2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Review, Leverage, and Evaluate Effectiveness of Board's Liaison Program to Build Stronger Relationships with Organizations
  - 4. Discuss and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2015–2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Annually Present Consumer Satisfaction Survey Data to Measure Performance and Identify Areas for Improvement
  - 5. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2015–2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Analyze Fees to Determine Whether they are Appropriate
  - 6. Update and Possible Action on Recommendation Regarding 2015–2016 Strategic Plan Objective to Complete Sunset Review Process and Implement Recommendation(s) to Comply with Legislature's Directives
- J. Update on Landscape Architects Technical Committee November 4, 2016 Meeting

- K. Closed Session
  - 1. Review and Possible Action on September 29, 2016 Closed Session Minutes
  - Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(e)(1), the Board will Confer with Legal Counsel on Litigation Regarding *Marie Lundin vs. California Architects Board, et al.*, Department of Fair Employment and Housing, Case No. 585824-164724
  - 3. Pursuant to Government Code Section 11126(c)(3), the Board will Deliberate on Disciplinary Matters
- L. Reconvene Open Session
- M. Recess

#### Agenda December 16, 2016 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (or until completion of business)

- N. Call to Order/Roll Call/Establishment of a Quorum
- O. Public Comment on Items Not on Agenda (*The Board may not discuss or take action on any item raised during this public comment section, except to decide whether to refer the item to the Board's Strategic Planning session and/or place the matter on the agenda of a future meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].*)
- P. Strategic Planning Session
- Q. Review of Future Board Meeting Dates
- R. Adjournment

Action may be taken on any item on the agenda. The time and order of agenda items are subject to change at the discretion of the Board President and may be taken out of order. The meeting will be adjourned upon completion of the agenda, which may be at a time earlier or later than posted in this notice. In accordance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, all meetings of the Board are open to the public.

Government Code section 11125.7 provides the opportunity for the public to address each agenda item during discussion or consideration by the Board prior to the Board taking any action on said item. Members of the public will be provided appropriate opportunities to comment on any issue before the Board, but the Board President may, at his or her discretion, apportion available time among those who wish to speak. Individuals may appear before the Board to discuss items not on the agenda; however, the Board can neither discuss nor take official action on these items at the time of the same meeting [Government Code sections 11125 and 11125.7(a)].

(Continued)

The meeting is accessible to the physically disabled. A person who needs a disability-related accommodation or modification in order to participate in the meeting may make a request by contacting Mel Knox at (916) 575-7221, emailing mel.knox@dca.ca.gov, or sending a written request to the Board. Providing your request at least five business days before the meeting will help to ensure availability of the requested accommodation.

Protection of the public shall be the highest priority for the Board in exercising its licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public shall be paramount. (Business and Professions Code section 5510.15)

# Agenda Item F

#### COUNCIL OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURAL REGISTRATION BOARDS (CLARB)

- 1. Update on Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) Administration
- 2. Update and Ratify LATC's Nomination for CLARB 2016-2017 Board of Directors and Committee on Nominations Elections

The LARE was administered on December 5-17, 2016 and results will be released in mid to late January 2017. The next LARE administration will be held on March 27-April 8, 2017. The Landscape Architects Technical Committee's (LATC) continues to track pass rates for the LARE. Pass rates for the August 1-13, 2016 LARE administration are attached (see attachment F.1).

On November 22, 2016, CLARB provided a list of eligible candidates for the CLARB 2017 Board of Directors and Committee on Nominations Elections. Since nominations were due to CLARB by January 13, 2017, LATC Chair Patricia Trauth and LATC Vice Chair Marq Truscott were asked whether they wished to nominate anyone. Ms. Trauth advised that she would be interested in pursuing the Region 5 Director position.

At today's meeting, LATC is asked to ratify Ms. Trauth's nomination for Region 5 Director. A final slate of nominees will be available at least 60 days prior to the CLARB Annual Meeting on September 13-15, 2017, and LATC will have an opportunity to vote in this election by mail-in ballot prior to the CLARB meeting.

Also attached is a copy of the most recent (December 2016) publication of CLARB Member Board E-News (see attachment F.2).

#### ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. LARE California and National Pass Rates
- 2. CLARB Member Board E-News (December 2016)

# Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) California and National Pass Rates

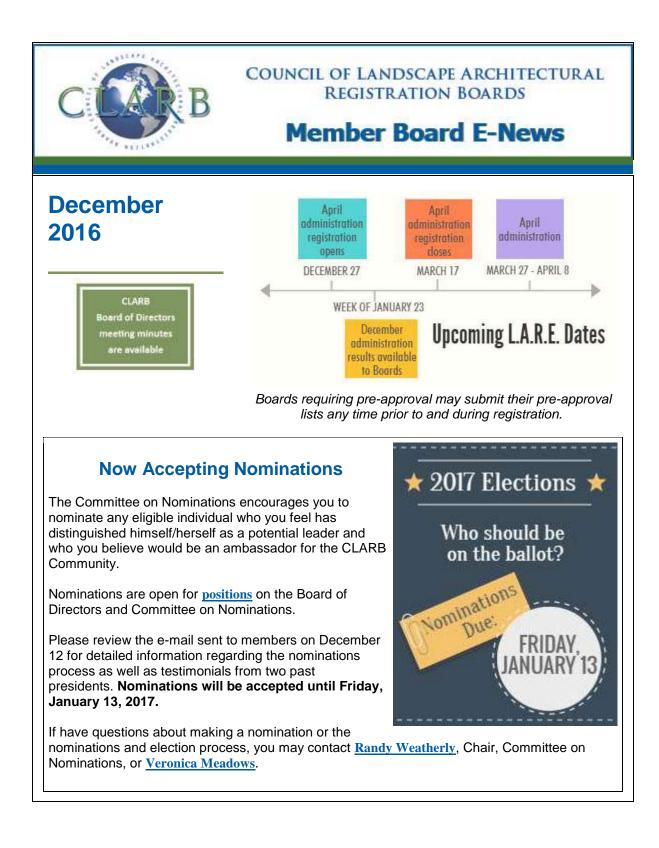
# **LARE Sections**

- 1 Project and Construction Administration
- **2** Inventory and Analysis
- **3** Design
- 4 Grading, Drainage and Construction Documentation

2014		N	Iarch	<b>n 31-</b> A	April	12		August 18-30								December 1-13								Total						
	California National						California National						California National							C	Califori	nia	N	ationa	1					
Section	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.		
1	46	33	72%	351	260	74%	-2%	59	40	68%	303	203	67%	1%	53	39	74%	296	219	74%	0%	158	112	71%	950	682	72%	-1%		
2	47	26	55%	326	222	68%	-13%	46	32	70%	271	192	71%	-1%	58	40	69%	314	223	71%	-2%	151	98	65%	911	637	70%	-5%		
3	28	22	79%	275	215	78%	1%	34	17	50%	251	175	70%	-20%	37	28	76%	250	180	72%	4%	99	67	68%	776	570	73%	-5%		
4	48	28	58%	338	210	62%	-4%	46	24	52%	271	271 159 59% -7%				14	38%	301	163	54%	-16%	131	66	50%	910	532	58%	-8%		

2015			A	pril 6	-18			August 3-15								November 30 - December 13								Total						
	California National						California National							C	aliforn	lia	National				California			National						
Section	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.		
1	61	41	67%	420	327	77%	-10%	42	27	64%	258	185	72%	-8%	77	62	81%	373	283	76%	5%	180	130	72%	1051	795	76%	-3%		
2	64	37	58%	380	269	70%	-12%	45	32	71%	286	208	73%	-2%	66	42	64%	349	258	74%	-10%	175	111	63%	1015	735	72%	-9%		
3	50	37	74%	343	260	75%	-1%	39	22	56%	285	208	73%	-17%	47	28	60%	317	228	72%	-12%	136	87	64%	945	696	74%	-10%		
4	50	25	50%	348	201	57%	-7%	53	35	66%	301	201	67%	-1%	52 32 62% 346 218 63%						-1%	155	92	59%	995	620	62%	-3%		

2016			A	pril 4	-16					Au	gust	1-13		December 5-17								
	С	aliforr	nia	N	ation	al		С	aliforr	nia	N	ation	al		C	aliforn	ia	N				
Section	Total Pass % Total Pass %				Diff	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.	Total	Pass	%	Total	Pass	%	Diff.			
1	78	53	68%	426	307	72%	-4%	52	38	73%	327	229	70%	3%								
2	78	44	56%	420	302	72%	-16%	77	52	68%	323	249	77%	-9%								
3	65	43	66%	377	271	72%	-6%	55	39	71%	254	201	79%	-8%								
4	54	19	35%	370	226	61%	-26%	59	35	59%	281	180	64%	-5%								



# **FARB Requests Your Participation**



A note from FARB on their request for Member Board Executives and Member Board Members to complete this survey:

On behalf of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB), we request your participation in this important survey.

FARB is gathering data with the intent to be a resource for the regulatory community and a positive voice regarding common sense regulation. Please answer the survey questions from your perspective as a participant with a regulatory board. We ask for candid comments to allow for an accurate reflection of the subject matter. These are important times and ripe for a critical analysis of regulation.

The aggregate results will be reported at the 2017 FARB Forum in San Antonio, Texas, and will be made available on the FARB website. The survey should take approximately 20 minutes to complete. The deadline for response is January 3, 2017.

Survey link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FARB2016Survey



Again, thank you for your time and input with this valuable information.

# **New York Develops New Practice Guidelines**

Over the past two years, the New York State Board for Landscape Architecture and the New York Education Department's (NYSED) Office of the Professions researched the profession and developed a set of practice guidelines for registered and licensed landscape architects in their state.



The <u>practice guidelines</u> are intended to give licensed landscape architects useful information on good and recommended practices in the profession and are offered as a supplement reflecting current common practice areas and concerns. By knowing and understanding what is recommended, licensees will be positioned to minimize and eliminate practice that may lead to professional complaints.

New York has developed the guidelines to address 23 areas of practice broken into three general categories: seal and signature; practice; and client relations. Each guideline describes a potentially problematic practice area and includes situations where landscape architects may face professional misconduct laws, rules, and regulations. Rob Lopez, New York's Member Board Executive and a member of CLARB's MBE Committee, gives one example his Board is asked almost every day and where it appears in the practice guidelines: "Guideline B.5 does a 'deep dive' into the question of the types of permissible corporate entities that can be formed in New York and who needs to be licensed and registered within the practice."

Congratulations to New York on a successful and collaborative effort. The practice guidelines provide valuable information to landscape architects in New York and demonstrates one example of increasing relevancy in the changing face of regulation.



# Determining Student Success on the L.A.R.E.

CLARB's Determinants of Success study, conducted in 2009, demonstrated that candidates were more successful on Sections 1 and 2 of the L.A.R.E. the closer they took it to graduation. This important finding shifted our thinking and ultimately resulted in many jurisdictions allowing earlier testing. With this in mind, CLARB would like to establish if students, currently enrolled in their landscape architecture



programs, will be as successful as their recently graduated peers. To demonstrate this, CLARB will be conducting a study over the next two years with the support of the Ontario Association of Landscape Architecture.

The research will begin in January 2017, and is being led by Kate Brown, CLARB's Student Outreach Consultant. Study participants will include third and fourth year undergraduate landscape architecture students at the University of Guelph. Participant success on the exam will be tracked over the course of the study and the results will be presented to the membership at the Annual Meeting in 2018 in Toronto, Ontario.

Kate began working as a consultant with CLARB in 2016 to assist with the development and implementation of a strategy to effectively reach students on the importance of licensure. Kate is an Olmstead Scholar, she earned her Bachelors of Landscape Architecture from the University of Guelph and is currently enrolled as a student in the Masters of Urban Design program at University of Toronto.

In addition, Kate was successful in passing Section 1 of the L.A.R.E in her third year of undergraduate studies, wrote a book about her experience and has mentored other successful students through the L.A.R.E.

You can follow Kate's work on CLARB's <u>Instagram channel</u>. Periodic updates to the membership will also be provided over the course of the study. For more information about the research, please contact <u>Veronica Meadows</u>.

#### DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON STRATEGIC PLAN OBJECTIVE TO REVIEW TITLE 16, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS (CCR) SECTION 2620 (EDUCATION AND TRAINING CREDITS) TO EXPAND CREDIT FOR EDUCATION EXPERIENCE TO INCLUDE DEGREES IN RELATED AREAS OF STUDY

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee's (LATC) Strategic Plan contains an objective to "Review California Code of Regulations (CCR), section 2620 to expand credit for education experience to include degrees in related areas of study." Currently, credit is granted for degrees or approved extension certificates in landscape architecture and architecture degrees accredited by the National Architectural Accreditation Board. Below is background information on the development of current educational requirements outlined in CCR 2620 (see attachment G.1) and a summary of the LATC's prior evaluation of alternative degrees.

#### **Background Information**

Prior to January 1, 1997, CCR 2620 included a provision to grant credit for any bachelors or associates degree towards the required six years of training experience, allowed eligibility to applicants with six years of training experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect in lieu of requiring education, and also granted up to one year of training credit for experience as, or under the supervision of, a licensed architect, registered civil engineer, licensed landscape contractor or certified nursery person. In March 1994, the California Board of Landscape Architects (BLA) began discussing the possibility of increasing the maximum amount of credit allowed for experience as a licensed landscape contractor experience, the education requirement should be changed. In November 1994, the BLA finalized revisions to CCR 2620 that would allow up to four years of training credit for landscape contractor experience and require all applicants to hold either a degree or approved extension certificate in landscape architecture in order to qualify for the licensing exams, and ultimately licensure. These regulatory changes took effect on January 1, 1997.

In August 2004, LATC formed an Education Subcommittee charged with evaluating California's eligibility requirements for the national Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) to ensure that applicants have appropriate educational and training/work experience before the examination is taken. Specifically, the Subcommittee was to determine appropriate levels of experience as they relate to: 1) public health, safety, and welfare, and 2) successfully preparing applicants for the examination. The Subcommittee met between October 8, 2005 and February 27, 2007.

The Subcommittee discussed the acceptance of various "related" degrees that are either recognized by other states or were identified by Subcommittee members and/or LATC staff. Consideration of accepting degrees related to landscape architecture was a result of the following: 1) Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) previously raised concerns regarding the fact that, prior to 1997, California applicants could receive educational credit for holding any type of bachelor's degree with a four-year curriculum; 2) Board grants educational credit for designated degrees related to architecture and unrelated degrees; 3) review of the neighboring and larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions (New York, Florida, Texas, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington) revealed that at least six out of those nine jurisdictions recognize degrees related to landscape architecture; and 4) at the time, Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) allowed applicants to sit for the licensing examination with any type of bachelor's degree, plus three years of diversified experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

After extensive review of the research material and discussion at the June 17, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee recommended that LATC accept accredited bachelor's degrees in architecture and civil engineering to satisfy the education requirement for examination eligibility with a caveat of conducting further research on other related degree programs. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the additional research and agreed to recommend acceptance of accredited professional degrees in architecture and civil engineering (undergraduate and graduate degrees), as those degrees emphasize the acquisition of critical thinking and technical skills that are necessary to address health, safety, and welfare issues and are essential to the practice of landscape architecture. Also at this meeting, the Subcommittee agreed to recommend one-year of educational credit be granted for completion of these degree programs. One year of educational credit was agreed upon because the Subcommittee determined the curricula examined for such degree programs did not include sufficient specific exposure to landscape architecture related topics, but did address a certain measure of critical thinking and technical skills that are necessary to address health, safety, and welfare issues.

The Subcommittee determined that there was not clear and/or comparable rationale for granting similar credit for other related degree programs based on their insufficient curriculum and/or lack of accreditation standards. For example, urban design and horticulture degrees were considered and not included in this recommendation because they are either non-accredited or the coursework is not specifically related to the practice of landscape architecture.

The Education Subcommittee's findings and recommendations were approved by the LATC at its meeting on May 9, 2006 and presented to the California Architects Board (Board) at its meeting on June 7, 2006. At this meeting, the Board questioned education credit parity between architects and landscape architects. As a result of the Board's parity question, the Education Subcommittee reconvened on November 8, 2006 and agreed to research the parity issue as it pertained to education curriculum for architects and civil engineers. At its February 27, 2007 meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the education curriculum research and decided to revise their earlier recommendation and recommend acceptance of accredited professional degrees in architecture, but not in civil engineering. Along with its earlier determination as to critical thinking and technical skills, the Subcommittee also noted that there were similar curriculum elements in the architectural degree programs in comparison to the landscape architecture programs and that it would warrant educational credit. The Education Subcommittee's final recommendations (see attachment G.2) were approved by the LATC on May 4, 2007 and the Board on June 15, 2007.

In July 2016, Department of Consumer Affairs legal staff reviewed Business and Professions Code section 5650 (Examinations - Qualifications, Application, Fee) and determined that it does not impose a degree requirement. Instead, what it does impose is an experience requirement and allows a "degree from a school of landscape architecture approved by the board" to count as four

years toward California's six-year experience requirement. Therefore, the LATC is not bound by statute to keep the current education requirement in place.

Below displays the changes in qualifying educational credit:

	Maximum Credit	
Education Allowed	Allowed	Time Period Accepted
Approved degree in Landscape Architecture	4 years	Always
Non-approved degree in Landscape	3 years	Always
Architecture		
Associate degree in Landscape Architecture	1 year	Always
Approved extension certificate in Landscape	2 years	Always
Architecture		
Any bachelor's degree	2 years	Prior to January 1, 1997
Any associate degree	1 year	Prior to January 1, 1997
Accredited degree in architecture	1 year	After March 7, 2012
Partial completion of approved degree	1 year	After March 7, 2012
Partial completion of extension certificate	1 year	After March 7, 2012

Attachment G.3 is CCR section 2620 (Education and Training Credits), the Education Subcommittee Final Report, and a chart of degrees currently accepted by all CLARB jurisdictions. Of CLARB's 52 member board jurisdictions, 31 grant educational credit for accredited engineering degrees and 28 grant educational credit for any bachelor's degree. These jurisdictions require candidates to have additional experience credit in combination with their alternative degree to be eligible for licensure. Among these jurisdictions, 12 grant credit for engineering degrees at the discretion of the licensing board and 9 grant credit for any bachelor's degree in the same way. Of the jurisdictions that specify the amount of additional credit required in combination with an engineering degree, the average is 6 years (ranging from 2 to 10 years), Of the jurisdictions that specify the amount of additional credit required in combination sthat specify the amount of additional credit required in combination sthat specify the amount of additional credit required in combination sthat specify the amount of additional credit required in combination sthat specify the amount of additional credit required in combination with any bachelor's degree, the average is 5 years (ranging from 4 to 10 years),

At today's meeting, the Committee is asked to review the information provided and determine if additional degrees should be considered for credit towards California's education requirement.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. CCR Section 2620 (Education and Training Credits)
- 2. Education Subcommittee Final Report: The Evaluation of Education and Experience Requirements to Examine for Licensure (January 2010)
- 3. Degrees Accepted by CLARB Jurisdictions for Initial Licensure

#### California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26

#### 2620 Education and Training Credits

The Board's evaluation of a candidate's training and educational experience is based on the following table:

Experience Description	Education Max. Credit Allowed	Training and/or Practice Max. Credit Allowed
(a) Experience Equivalent:		
(1) Degree in landscape architecture from an approved school.	4 years	
(2) Degree in landscape architecture from a non- approved school.	3 years	
(3) Extension certificate in landscape architecture from an approved school.	2 years	
(4) Associate degree in landscape architecture from a community college which consists of at least a 2-year curriculum.	1 year	
(5) Extension certificate as specified in subdivision (a)(3) and a degree from a university or college which consists of a 4-year curriculum.	4 years	
<ul> <li>(6) Associate degree from a college specified in subdivision (a)(4) and an extension certificate as specified in subdivision (a)(3) of this section.</li> </ul>	3 years	
(7) Partial completion of a degree in landscape architecture from an approved school.	1 year	
(8) Partial completion of an extension certificate in landscape architecture from an approved school where the applicant has a degree from a university or college which consists of a four-year curriculum.	1 year	

Experience Description	Education Max. Credit Allowed	Training and/or Practice Max. Credit Allowed
(9) A degree in architecture which consists of at least a four-year curriculum that has been accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board.	1 year	
(10) Self employment as, or employment by, a landscape architect licensed in the jurisdiction where the experience occurred shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		5 years
(11) Self employment as, or employment by, a licensed architect or registered civil engineer in the jurisdiction where the experience occurred shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		1 year
(12) Self employment as a California licensed landscape contractor or a licensed landscape contractor in another jurisdiction where the scope of practice for landscape contracting is equivalent to that allowed in this state pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 7027.5 and Cal. Code Regs. Title 16, Section 832.27 shall be granted credit on a 100% basis		4 years

(b) Education credits

- (1) Candidates shall possess at least one year of educational credit to be eligible for the examination.
- (2) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be defined as one of the following:
  - (A) Bachelor of Landscape Architecture.
  - (B) Bachelor of Science in landscape architecture.
  - (C) Bachelor of Arts in landscape architecture.
  - (D) Masters degree in landscape architecture.
- (3) The maximum credit which may be granted for a degree or combination of degrees from an approved school shall be four years of educational credit.
- (4) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be deemed to be approved by the Board if the landscape architectural curriculum has been approved by

the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) as specified in its publication: "Accreditation Standards And Procedures" dated February 6, 2010 or the Board determines that the program has a curriculum equivalent to a curriculum having LAAB accreditation.

- (5) For purposes of subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), "partial completion" shall mean that the candidate completed at least 80 percent of the total units required for completion of the 4-year degree or extension certificate program.
- (6) Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), no credit shall be granted for academic units obtained without earning a degree or extension certificate under categories of subdivisions (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.
- (7) A candidate enrolled in a degree program where credit earned is based on work experience courses (e.g., internship or co-op program) shall not receive more than the maximum credit allowed for degrees under subdivisions (a)(1), (2) or (3) of this section.
- (8) Except as specified in subdivision (a)(5) and (6) of this section, candidates with multiple degrees shall not be able to accumulate credit for more than one degree.
- (9) The Board shall not grant more than four years of credit for any degree or certificate or any combination thereof for qualifying educational experience.
- (c) Training Credits
  - (1)(A) Candidates shall possess at least two years of training/practice credit to be eligible for the examination.
    - (B) At least one of the two years of training/practice credit shall be under the direct supervision of a landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction, and shall be gained in one of the following forms:
      - After graduation from an educational institution specified in subdivisions (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.
      - 2. After completion of education experience specified in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8) of this section.
    - (C) A candidate shall be deemed to have met the provisions of subdivision (c)(1)(B) if he or she possesses a degree from a school specified in subdivision (a)(1) and has at least two years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor or possesses a certificate from a school specified in subdivision (a)(3) and has at least four years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor.
  - (2) Candidates shall be at least 18 years of age or a high school graduate before they shall be eligible to receive credit for work experience.
  - (3) A year of training/practice experience shall consist of 1500 hours of qualifying employment. Training/practice experience may be accrued on the basis of part-time employment. Employment in excess of 40 hours per week shall not be considered.
  - (d) Miscellaneous Information
    - (1) Independent, non-licensed practice or experience, regardless of claimed coordination, liaison, or supervision of licensed professionals shall not be considered.
    - (2) The Board shall retain inactive applications for a five (5) year period. Thereafter, the Board shall purge these records unless otherwise notified by the candidate. A candidate who wishes to reapply to the Board, shall be required to re-obtain the required documents to allow the Board to determine their current eligibility.

Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 5650, Business and Professions Code.

Attachment G.2 -



# Landscape Architects Technical Committee

THE EVALUATION OF

## **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS**

## TO EXAMINE FOR LICENSURE

January 2010

#### **Credits and Contact Information**

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee would like to thank the Education Subcommittee volunteers for all their time, effort, and long-term commitment to the report.

Richard Zweifel, Chair Christine Anderson Linda Gates Steve Lang Alexis Slafer

#### **Contacting the Landscape Architects Committee and Copies of Report**

#### All communication should be addressed to:

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Approved January 2010

### **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary 1	
List of Recommended Changes as Approved by Landscape Architects	
Technical Committee and California Architects Board	
Other Eligibility Issues Reviewed and Retained	
Intent of Recommendations	
Examples of Impacts	
Background/History 5	
History of Statutory and Regulatory Law	
The Practice of Landscape Architects	
Associated Professions	
Architects	
Civil Engineers	
Landscape Contractors	
Landscape Designers	
The Landscape Architects Technical Committee's Actions	
Current Licensure Standard and Recommended Changes 11	L
Statutory Law	
Regulatory Law	
Education and Experience Requirement Comparison 15	5
Landscape Architecture Examination	
Comparison with 'Model' Requirements used by CLARB for Examination Eligi	bility
Synopsis of Current Paths to Qualify for Exam/Licensure	
Other CLARB Member Boards	
Other Board Requirements for Examination Eligibility	
California Architects Board	
Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors	

California Board for Geologists and Geophysicists

Contractors State Licensing Board

#### Education

Education Equivalences Accredited Universities Extension Certificate Programs Community Colleges Out of State Foreign Education in Landscape Architecture

#### Experience

Types of Experience When is experience gained? How is experience verified? Is an Internship Required? Experience Summary

#### Conclusion

Improving Access to Licensure Growth and Demand in the Profession History of Licensees Chart

#### **Appendices & Notes**

Appendix A--Approved Recommendations and Justification Appendix B—Related Studies October 2004 - Landscape Architects Body of Knowledge (LABOK) December 2006 – DCA Office of Examination Resources, California Validation Report 2006 - Thompson Prometric National Task Analysis Appendix C—Meeting Notes Summaries Notes

25

27

31

#### 21

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (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 as related to public health, safety, and welfare in California and successfully preparing applicants for the examination.

As part of its charge, and with the assistance of LATC staff, the Educational Subcommittee also provides a comparative analysis of several related discipline's eligibility requirements as part of their assessment and basis for recommendations that were then vetted, modified and approved by the LATC and the California Architects Board (CAB):

- ∝ Council of Landscape Architectural Regulatory Boards (CLARB's) national eligibility requirements
- ∞ Eligibility requirements of neighboring and larger licensing jurisdictions
- ∝ Eligibility requirements of other design professional boards (CAB and Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors)
- ∝ Eligibility requirements pertaining to the type and duration of training/work experience
- ∝ Any additional licensure requirements of other jurisdictions that may pertain to the subcommittee's charge including requirements for reciprocity
- ∝ Curricula of California landscape architectural programs with specific attention to licensing examination subject matter

## List of Recommended Changes as Approved by Landscape Architects Technical Committee and California Architects Board

The following are the summary recommendations that were initiated by the Education Subcommittee with subsequent review and approval by the LATC and CAB. They were developed in response to the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee's findings regarding increasing access to landscape architecture licensure.

- ∝ Accept accredited professional architecture degree as meeting the education requirement for eligibility
- ∝ Based on a transcript review of major and support courses, grant credit for partial completion of an accredited landscape architecture degree allowing minimum "education" eligibility for examination
- ∝ Allow early eligibility to begin examination, prior to meeting work experience requirements, for candidates with an accredited degree or approved extension certificate in landscape architecture
- ∝ Develop and implement a candidate education/ experience tracking system and reciprocity candidate tracking system to collect objective data regarding preparation and success for examination
- ∝ Revise certificate of applicant's experience form to include more specific information regarding the preparation recommended for California examination and licensure
- ∝ Develop and communicate additional student/ candidate/educator/employer information regarding examination and California licensure

#### **Other Eligibility Issues Reviewed and Retained**

The LATC thoroughly assessed the full spectrum of education and experience requirements and determined that the following should remain unchanged.

- ∝ Retain the six-year education/experience requirements
- ${\bf \infty}$  Retain credit for associate degrees in landscape architecture
- ∞ Retain current reciprocity requirements
- ∝ Not implement a rolling time clock to limit the number of years for a candidate to obtain licensure
- ∝ Not allow licensure with work experience alone
- ∞ Not provide credit for teaching and research experience

As a result of the review, it was determined that further outcome assessment regarding candidate examination success and preparation would be needed to determine if additional modification to the eligibility requirements may be warranted. The Subcommittee recommended that additional candidate tracking procedures be implemented to provide the necessary data.

#### **Intent of Recommendations**

The LATC anticipates that implementing the recommendations will improve access to qualified individuals interested in becoming landscape architects. Examples of expanded eligibility access include:

- ∝ Applicants with an accredited degree in architecture will be determined to have met the educational access component for examination eligibility
- ∝ Applicants who can demonstrate successful completion of a majority of an accredited landscape architecture degree, will be determined to have met the minimum educational access component for examination eligibility
- ∝ Candidates will be allowed access to the multiple choice sections of the national licensure examination upon graduation thereby encouraging a clear and continuous path to licensure
- ∝ LATC will be better able to identify specific correlations with education and work experience preparation requirements with examination success
- ∝ Information guide(s) will identify preparation expectations for licensure success in California for candidates, educators and students
- ∝ Candidates and employers will be better able to identify on-the-job duties that relate to LARE and California examination

#### History of Statutory and Regulatory Law

With the roots of the profession in North America dating back to 1860, California became the first U.S. jurisdiction to regulate the practice of landscape architecture in 1953 with the formation of the Board of Landscape Architects (BLA). In 1997, the BLA was sunset by the California Legislature and restructured in 1998 as the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) under the California Architects Board (CAB). Today, 49 states, two Canadian provinces, and Puerto Rico regulate the practice of landscape architecture. California has both a practice act, which precludes unlicensed individuals from practicing landscape architecture, and a title act, which restricts the use to the title "landscape architect" to those who have been licensed by the LATC.

There are currently more than 20,000 licensed landscape architects in the United States. The LATC licenses more than 3,700 landscape architects, who are responsible for the design and planning of millions of dollars worth of public sector, private development, and residential projects.

#### The Practice of Landscape Architects

Landscape architecture is a profession that involves planning and designing the use, allocation and arrangement of land and water resources through the creative application of biological, physical, mathematical, and social processes. Based on environmental, physical, social and economic considerations, landscape architects produce overall guidelines, reports, master plans, conceptual plans, construction contract documents, and construction oversight for landscape projects that create a balance between the needs and wants of people and the limitations of the environment. Specific services include city planning and development, environmental restoration, regional landscape planning, urban/town planning, park and recreation planning, ecological planning and design, landscape design, code research and compliance, cost analysis, and historic preservation. The decisions and performance of landscape architects affect the health, safety, and welfare of the client, as well as that of the public and environment. Therefore, it is essential that landscape architects meet minimum standards of competency. The LATC's regulation of the practice of landscape architecture protects both direct consumers of landscape architectural services and the public at large – the millions of people who use or visit the spaces designed by landscape architects.<sup>i</sup>

The California Business and Professions Code defines the practice of landscape architecture as:

#### § 5615. "Landscape Architect" — Practice of Landscape Architecture

"Landscape architect" means a person who holds a license to practice landscape architecture in this state under the authority of this chapter.

A person who practices landscape architecture within the meaning and intent of this article is a person who offers or performs professional services, for the purpose of landscape preservation, development and enhancement, such as consultation, investigation, reconnaissance, research, planning, design, preparation of drawings, construction documents and specifications, and responsible construction observation. Landscape preservation, development and enhancement and enhancement is the dominant purpose of services provided by landscape architects. Implementation of that purpose includes: (1) the preservation and aesthetic and functional enhancement of land uses and natural land features; (2) the location and construction of aesthetically pleasing and functional approaches and settings for structures and roadways; and, (3) design for trails and pedestrian walkway systems, plantings, landscape irrigation, landscape lighting, landscape grading and landscape drainage.

Landscape architects perform professional work in planning and design of land for human use and enjoyment. Based on analyses of environmental physical and social characteristics, and economic considerations, they produce overall plans and landscape project designs for integrated land use.

The practice of a landscape architect may, for the purpose of landscape preservation, development and enhancement, 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.

This practice shall include the location, arrangement, and design of those tangible objects and features as are incidental and necessary to the purposes outlined herein. Nothing herein shall preclude a duly licensed landscape architect from planning the development of land areas and elements used thereon or from performing any of the services described in this section in connection with the settings, approaches, or environment for buildings, structures, or facilities, in accordance with the accepted public standards of health, safety, and welfare."<sup>iii</sup>

#### **Associated Professions**

#### Architects

Architects are licensed by CAB. They research, plan, design, and administer building projects for clients, applying knowledge of design, construction procedures, zoning and building codes, and building materials. They consult with clients to determine functional and spatial requirements of new structure or renovation, and prepare information regarding design, specifications, materials, color, equipment, estimated costs, and construction time. They also plan the layout of the project and integrate engineering elements.

The California Business and Professions Code defines the practice of architecture as:

#### § 5500.1 Practice of Architecture Defined

"(a) The practice of architecture within the meaning and intent of this chapter is defined as offering or performing, or being in responsible control of, professional services which require the skills of an architect in the planning of sites, and the design, in whole or in part, of buildings, or groups of buildings and structures. (b) Architects' professional services may include any or all of the following:

(1) Investigation, evaluation, consultation, and advice.

(2) Planning, schematic and preliminary studies, designs, working drawings, and specifications.

(3) Coordination of the work of technical and special consultants.

(4) Compliance with generally applicable codes and regulations, and assistance in the governmental review process.

(5) Technical assistance in the preparation of bid documents and agreements between clients and contractors.

(6) Contract administration.

(7) Construction observation."

Under the Landscape Architects Practice Act, a licensed architect is exempt from the provisions of the Landscape Architects Practice Act except that an architect may not use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a landscape architect license as required.

#### **Civil Engineers**

Civil engineers are licensed by the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. They plan, design, and direct civil engineering projects, such as roads, railroads, airports, bridges, harbors, channels, dams, irrigation systems, pipelines, and power plants; analyze reports, maps, drawings, blueprints, tests, and aerial photographs on soil composition, terrain, hydrological characteristics, and other topographical and geologic data to plan and design a project. They calculate costs and determine feasibility of projects based on analysis of collected data, applying knowledge and techniques of engineering, and advanced mathematics.<sup>iii</sup>

The California Business and Professions Code defines the practice of civil engineer as:

#### § 6701. Professional Engineer Defined

"'Professional engineer,' within the meaning and intent of this act, refers to a person engaged in the professional practice of rendering service or creative work requiring education, training and experience in engineering sciences and the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical and engineering sciences in such professional or creative work as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning or design of public or private utilities, structures, machines, processes, circuits, buildings, equipment or projects, and supervision of construction for the purpose of securing compliance with specifications and design for any such work."

#### § 6702. Civil engineer defined

"'Civil engineer' as used in this chapter means a professional engineer in the branch of civil engineering and refers to one who practices or offers to practice civil engineering in any of its phases."

Under the Landscape Architects Practice Act, a licensed professional engineer is exempt from the provisions of the Landscape Architects Practice Act except that a licensed engineer may not use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a landscape architect license as required.

#### Landscape Contractors

Landscape contractors are licensed by the Contractors State License Board, and must install their own designs or the design work of landscape architects. Landscape contractors cannot prepare independent landscape plans they do not install. A landscape contractor constructs, maintains, repairs, installs, or subcontracts the development of landscape systems and facilities for public and private gardens and other areas. In connection therewith, a landscape contractor prepares and grades plots and areas of land for the installation of any architectural, horticultural and decorative treatment or arrangement.

#### **California Code of Regulations**

**Title 16, Division 8, Article 3. Classifications: C27 - Landscaping Contractor** "A landscape contractor constructs, maintains, repairs, installs, or subcontracts the development of landscape systems and facilities for public and private gardens and other areas which are designed to aesthetically, architecturally, horticulturally, or functionally improve the grounds within or surrounding a structure or a tract or plot of land. In connection therewith, a landscape contractor prepares and grades plots and areas of land for the installation of any architectural, horticultural and decorative treatment or arrangement."

Under the Landscape Architects Practice Act, a licensed landscape contractor may design systems and facilities for work to be performed and supervised by that landscape contractor. A licensed landscape contractor may not use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a landscape architect license.

#### Landscape Designers

A landscape designer is unlicensed and may only prepare plans, drawings, and specifications for the selection, placement, or use of plants for single-family dwellings; and drawings for the conceptual design and placement of tangible objects and landscape features. Due to limitations provided in the Landscape Architects Practice Act regarding unlicensed practitioners, they may not prepare construction documents, details, or specifications for tangible landscape objects or landscape features or prepare grading and drainage plans for the alteration of sites. Unlicensed individuals may not use the title "landscape architect," "landscape architecture," "landscape architectural," or any other titles, words or abbreviations that would imply or indicate that he or she is a landscape architect.

#### Landscape Architects Technical Committee Actions

During the 1996 Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) review, it was recommended that Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) review the six-year education and experience requirement to determine if it is justified. This review did not occur due to the sunset of the Landscape Architects Board in 1998.

The JLSRC 2004 Recommendations and the 2004 LATC Strategic Plan directed the LATC to identify examination eligibility issues, propose solutions and report to DCA and the Legislature if changes should be made to this requirement. The Strategic Plan further directs the LATC to, if necessary, modify examination eligibility requirements under California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 26, Section 2620, and prepare "guidelines" for meeting examination experience requirements.<sup>iv</sup>

An Education Subcommittee was formed August 2004 and charged with evaluating California's eligibility requirements for the national Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE) to ensure that applicants have appropriate educational and training/work experience before the examination is taken. Specifically, the Subcommittee's charge was to determine appropriate levels of experience as they relate to: 1) public health, safety and welfare in California, and 2) successfully preparing applicants for the examination. The Subcommittee met between October 8, 2005 and February 27, 2007. After subsequent meetings with the LATC and the California Architects Board (CAB), the recommendations were shared with the California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects and approved by the LATC on May 4, 2007 and CAB on June 15, 2007. A summary of the meeting notes is included in Appendix C.

#### **Statutory Law**

California Business and Professions Code Section 5650-Examinations-Qualifications, Application, Fee states:

"Subject to the rules and regulations governing examinations, any person, over the age of 18 years, who has had six years of training and educational experience in actual practice of landscape architectural work shall be entitled to an examination for a certificate to practice landscape architecture. A degree from a school of landscape architecture approved by the board shall be deemed equivalent to four years of training and educational experience in the actual practice of landscape architecture. Before taking the examination, a person shall file an application therefore with the executive officer and pay the application fee fixed by this chapter."

#### **Regulatory Law**

California Code of Regulations are stated below with the impact of the LATC recommended changes in strike-out / <u>underline</u> format:

#### § 2615. Form of Examinations.

(a) (1) A candidate who has a combination of six years of education and training experience as specified in section 2620 shall be eligible and may apply for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), a candidate who has a Board approved degree in landscape architecture in accordance with section 2620(a)(1) or an extension certificate in landscape architecture from a Board approved school in accordance with section 2620(a)(3) shall be eligible and may apply for the multiple choice sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(b) A candidate shall be deemed eligible and may apply for the California Supplemental Examination upon passing all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(c) All candidates applying for licensure as a landscape architect shall pass all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination or a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California, as determined by the Board, and the California Supplemental Examination subject to the following provisions:

(a) (1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination.
 (b) (2) A candidate who is not a licensed landscape architect and who has received credit from a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico for a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California shall be entitled to receive credit for the corresponding sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination, as determined by the Board, and shall be eligible for licensure upon passing any remaining sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

#### 2620. Education and Training Credits-Operative on

#### January 1, 1997

The Board's evaluation of a candidate's training and educational experience is based on the following table:

Experience Description		Training and/or Practice Max. Credit Allowed
(a) Experience Equivalent:		
(1) Degree in landscape architecture from an approved school.	4 years	

Experience Description	Education Max. Credit Allowed	Training and/or Practice Max. Credit Allowed
(2) Degree in landscape architecture from a non-approved school.	3 years	
(3) Extension certificate in landscape architecture from an approved school.	2 years	
(4) Associate degree in landscape architecture from a city/community college which consists of a least a 2-year curriculum.	1 year	
(5) Extension certificate as specified in subdivision (a)(3) and a degree from a university or college which consists of a 4-year curriculum.	4 years	
(6) Associate degree from a college specified in subdivision (a)(4) and an extension certificate as specified in subdivision (a)(3) of this section.	3 years	
(7) Partial completion of a degree in landscape architecture from an approved school.	<u>1 year</u>	
(8) Partial completion of an extension certificate in landscape architecture from an approved school where the applicant has a degree from a university or college which consists of a four-year curriculum.	<u>1 year</u>	
(9) A degree in architecture which consists of at least a four-year curriculum that has been accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board.	<u>1 year</u>	
(710) Self employment as, or employment by, a landscape architect licensed in the jurisdiction where the experience occurred shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		5 years
(811) Self employment as, or employment by, a licensed architect or registered civil engineer in the jurisdiction where the experience occurred shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		1 year
(912) Self employment as a California licensed landscape contractor or a licensed landscape contractor in another jurisdiction where the scope of practice for landscape contracting is equivalent to that allowed in this state pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 7027.5 and Cal. Code Regs. Title 16, Section 832.27 shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		4 years

(b) Education Credits.

(1) Candidates shall possess at least one year of educational credit to be eligible for the examination.

(2) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be defined as one of the following:

(A) Bachelor of Landscape Architecture.

(B) Bachelor of Science in landscape architecture.

(C) Bachelor of Arts in landscape architecture.

(D) Masters degree in landscape architecture.

(3) The maximum credit which may be granted for a degree or combination of degrees from an approved school shall be four years of educational credit.

(4) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be deemed to be approved by the Board if the landscape architectural curriculum has been approved by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) as specified in its publication: "Accreditation Standards for Programs in Landscape Architecture" dated February 26, 1990 or the Board determines that the program has a curriculum equivalent to a curriculum having LAAB accreditation. (5) For purposes of subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), "partial completion" shall mean that the candidate completed at least 80 percent of the total units required for completion of the 4-year degree or extension certificate program.

(36) No-Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), no credit shall be granted for academic units obtained without earning a degree or <u>extension</u> certificate <u>under categories of subsection (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section</u>.

(47) A candidate enrolled in a degree program where credit earned is based on work experience courses (e.g., internship or co-op program) shall not receive more than the maximum credit allowed for degrees under subdivision (a)(1), (2) or (3) of this section.

(58) Except as specified in subdivision (a)(5) and (6) of this section, candidates with multiple degrees shall not be able to accumulate credit for more than one degree.

(69) The Board shall not grant more than four years of credit for any degree or certificate or any combination thereof

for qualifying educational experience.

(c) Training Credits

(1)(A) Candidates shall possess at least two years of training/practice credit to be eligible for the examination.(B) At least one of the two years of training/practice credit shall be under the direct supervision of a landscape

architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction, and shall be gained in one of the following forms:

<u>1. Aafter graduation from an educational institution specified in subdivision (a)(1), (2), (3), -or-(4) or (9) of this section.</u>

2. After completion of education experience specified in subdivision under (a)(7) and (8) of this section.

(C) A candidate shall be deemed to have met the provisions of subdivision (c)(1)(B) if he or she possesses a degree from a school specified in subdivision (a)(1) and has at least two years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor or possesses a certificate from a school specified in subdivision (a)(3) and has at least four years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor.

(2) Candidates shall be at least 18 years of age or a high school graduate before they shall be eligible to receive credit for work experience.

(3) A year of training/practice experience shall consist of 1500 hours of qualifying employment. Training/practice experience may be accrued on the basis of part-time employment. Employment in excess of 40 hours per week shall not be considered.

(d) Miscellaneous Information

(1) Independent, non-licensed practice or experience, regardless of claimed coordination, liaison, or supervision of licensed professionals shall not be considered.

(2) The Board shall retain inactive applications for a five (5) year period. Thereafter, the Board shall purge these records unless otherwise notified by the candidate. A candidate who wishes to reapply to the Board, shall be required to re-obtain the required documents to allow the Board to determine their current eligibility.<sup>v</sup>

In California, the LATC is the governing body over the practice of landscape architecture. In keeping with its highest priority of protection of the public, the LATC has established licensure eligibility and professional qualifications minimums that candidates must meet through a combination of preparation requirements. They include direct experience in the discipline, landscape architectural education and demonstration of knowledge through examination.

#### Landscape Architecture Examination

There are two separate examinations that candidates must successfully complete as a part of the licensure process in California. The first is the Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE). The LATC maintains a contract with the Council of Landscape Architects Registration Boards (CLARB) for them to develop, administer and grade the LARE. The LATC is a member of CLARB. CLARB is the sole provider for the LARE that is used by all 48 member boards throughout the United States and Canada.

The second examination is the California Supplemental Examination developed and administered by the LATC. This examination consists of 100 multiple-choice questions designed to assess a candidate's landscape architecture knowledge specific to California. The LARE must be successfully completed in order to be *eligible* for the California Supplemental Examination.

The LARE is an inter-related, multi-section examination consisting of five interdependent sections covering landscape architecture competencies. There are three multiple-choice sections (A,B and D) and two graphic response sections (C and E) that require a drafted solution.

- ∝ Section A Project and Construction Administration
- ${\bf \propto}$  Section B Inventory, Analysis and Program Development
- ∝ Section C Site Design
- $\infty$  Section D Design and Construction Documentation
- ∝ Section E Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management

As developed by CLARB and employed by the LATC in the execution of its regulatory duties the LARE "is designed to determine whether applicants for landscape architectural licensure possess sufficient knowledge, skills and abilities to provide landscape architectural services without endangering the health, safety and welfare of the public."

In 2004, CLARB computerized all multiple-choice sections and began administering them at centralized testing centers. As an efficiency measure in 2009, the LATC enacted regulatory changes to allow the ability to further contract the administration of the graphic sections of the LARE to CLARB. CLARB now administers all five sections of the LARE for California.

Comparison with 'Model' Requirements used by CLARB for Examination Eligibility

CLARB member licensing jurisdictions enforce their own eligibility requirements or delegate the responsibility to CLARB, who applies established model law identifying eligibility requirements to evaluate prospective applicants.

- ∝ Hold a four or five year Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board [LAAB] or Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Accreditation Council [LAAC] accredited undergraduate degree in landscape architecture, or a LAAB or LAAC accredited graduate degree program in landscape architecture (or will complete by the exam administration date), or
- ∞ Hold a **National Architectural Accrediting Board** [NAAB] accredited degree in architecture, and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- ∝ Hold a Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology [ABET] accredited degree in engineering, and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- ∝ Hold a non-accredited undergraduate degree in landscape architecture, or a non-accredited graduate degree program in landscape architecture, and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- ∞ Hold a bachelor's degree in any subject and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) three years diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- $\infty$  Have applied to and been approved by a CLARB member board.

A side-by-side examination eligibility comparison between California education and experience requirements used by the LATC and model law used by CLARB was carried out in December 2008. This comparison identified the differences between the two standards. CLARB accepts applicants with no experience if they have an accredited landscape architecture degree. Unaccredited landscape architecture degrees, accredited architecture or civil engineering degrees are all accepted with only one year of experience under a landscape architect. CLARB also accepts any bachelor degree with three years experience under the direction of a landscape architect.

In contrast, along with the recommended educational preparation of an accredited landscape architectural degree (four or five years), the LATC accepts candidates with a variety of other educational preparations including an associate degree with five years experience under the direction of a landscape architect or a certificate from a University of California Extension Program with four years experience under a landscape architect. In California, the UC Extension Program has two landscape architecture programs and four two-year colleges that offer associate degrees in landscape architecture. These programs are somewhat unique to California and provide a significant number of California citizens with access to an education in landscape architecture. The table below identifies the comparison:

LATC			CLARB		
Education	Max Ed		Education + Experience Combinations equals <u>six</u> credits	Education	Education + Experience Combinations equals <u>five</u> credits
Accredited LA Degree	4	А	2 yrs as or under LA	Accredited LA Degree	no experience required

#### Synopsis of Current Paths to Qualify for Exam/Licensure

l			1 yr as or under LA	1	
		В	1 yr as or under an Arch		
After degree is awarded, one year training/experience under LA is required except for pattern E.		С	1 yr as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE		
		D	1 yr as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27 license		
		E	2 yrs holding C-27 license		
Unaccredited LA Degree					
(includes approved Foreign degrees)	3	F	3 yrs as or under LA	Unaccredited LA Degree	1 yr under an LA
		G	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch		
		Н	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE		
		I	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27		
		J	1 yr as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27		
			1 yr as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27		
		К	1 yr as or under Arch 1 yr as or under LA		
		L	1 yr holding C-27 1 yr as or under CE		
Annual Fritzenski					
Approved Extension Certificate in LA	2	М	4 yrs as or under LA	not accepted	
		Ν	3 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch		
		0	3 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE		
		Р	2 yrs as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27		
		Q	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch		
		-	1 yr holding C-27		
		R	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE		
		S	1 yr holding C-27 1 yr as or under LA 3 yrs holding C-27		
		5	1 yr as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27		
After Certificate is		Т	1 yr as or under Arch		
awarded, one year			1 yr as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27		
training/experience unde required except for patte		U V	1 yr as or under CE 4 yrs holding C-27		
			, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		
Approved Extension Certificate in LA + 4 yr					
degree in any Subject	4	А	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under LA	not accepted	
		В	1 yr as or under an Arch 1 yr as or under LA		
		С	1 yr as or under CE 1 yr as or under LA		
After Certificate is award year training/experience		D	1 yr holding C-27 license		
is required except for pat	tern E.	E	2 yrs holding C-27 license		
Associate LA Degree	1	W	5 yrs as or under LA	not accepted	
		Х	4 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch 4 yrs as or under LA		
		Y	4 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE 4 yrs as or under LA		
		Z	4 yrs as or under LA 1 holding C-27 3 yrs as or under LA		
		AA	2 yrs as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27 3 yrs as or under LA		
		BB	1 yr holding C-27 1 yr as or under Arch		
		00	3 yrs as or under Arch 1 yr holding C-27		
		CC	1 yr as or under CE 2 yrs as or under LA	-	
		DD	3 yrs holding C-27 2 yrs as or under LA		
		EE	2 yrs as of under LA 2 yrs holding C-27 1 yrr as or under Arch		
1			Tyn as or under Aron		

	FF GG HH II	2 yrs as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under CE 1 yr as or under LA 4 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under LA 3 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under Arch 1 yr as or under LA 3 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under CE		
not accepted			Accredited Arch Degree	1 yr as or under LA
not accepted			Accredited CE Degree	1 yr under LA
not accepted			Any Bachelors Degree	3 yr under LA

#### **Other CLARB Member Boards**

In 2002, the LATC discussed the need to review its current eligibility requirements for appropriateness, as well as compare the requirements of other CLARB member jurisdictions and other design profession boards. At that time, staff research revealed that California's requirements were comparable to other licensing jurisdictions. For example, 45 licensing jurisdictions recommended that applicants have a degree in landscape architecture as a primary means of satisfying the educational requirement for the examination. Of those that did not specifically require a degree in landscape architecture, a range of between eight and twelve years of work experience was required.

In addition, the LATC assessed that California candidates are offered flexibility in meeting the educational requirement, as accredited and unaccredited bachelors and masters' degrees, extension certificates, and associate degrees in landscape architecture are recognized. Further, the extension certificate programs allow individuals the opportunity to more easily transition into a landscape architectural career by offering evening course schedules. Candidates are also able to satisfy the experience requirements with self-employment as a licensed landscape contractor, and self-employment, or employment by, a licensed architect or registered civil engineer. Therefore, upon reviewing its requirements, the LATC assessed that they remain appropriate for California, and that a more thorough evaluation should be conducted once data becomes available through the candidate tracking process.

As a part of the examination eligibility review process, the LATC Education Subcommittee evaluated the acceptance of various "related" degrees that are either recognized by other states or were identified by Subcommittee members and/or LATC staff. Consideration of accepting degrees related to landscape architecture was a result of the following: 1) the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) previously raised concerns regarding the fact that, prior to 1997, California applicants could receive educational credit for holding any type of bachelors degree with a four-year curriculum; 2) CAB grants educational credit for designated degrees related to architecture;

3) a review of California's neighboring and the larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions (New York, Florida, Texas, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington) revealed that at least six out of those nine jurisdictions recognize degrees that are related to landscape architecture; and 4) model law used by CLARB to determine eligibility currently allows applicants to sit for the licensing examination with any type of bachelors degree, plus three years of diversified experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

In addition, a survey sent out by LATC staff in May 2005 to the neighboring and larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions confirmed that: 1) many of the states accept various related degrees; 2) a few of the states accept any degree; and 3) most of the states that accept non-landscape architecture degrees accept architecture and civil engineering degrees.

#### Other Board Requirements for Examination Eligibility

#### California Architects Board

To be eligible to begin the examination and licensure process, candidates seeking an architect license must provide verification of at least five years of education and/or architectural work experience. Candidates can satisfy the five-year requirement as follows:

1) Providing verification of a three-year, five-year, or six-year professional degree in architecture through a program that is accredited by NAAB or Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB).

2) Providing verification of at least five years of educational equivalents. Candidates are granted educational equivalents in various amounts pursuant to the Board's Table of Equivalents:

- ∝ A maximum of four years for a non-accredited professional degree in architecture
- ∞ Various amounts for other degrees and for units earned toward degrees, including: an undergraduate degree in architecture, a degree in a field related to architecture or in another field of study, and, to a limited extent, units earned toward some degrees
   ∞ Work experience under the direct supervision of a licensed architect<sup>vi</sup>
- work experience under the un ect supervision of a needsed archite

#### Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

To obtain a license as an engineer in training and civil engineer, applicants must:

- ∝ Have completed three years of course work in a Board-approved engineering curriculum (any curriculum approved by the Engineering Accreditation Commission [EAC] of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology [ABET]) or three years or more of engineering-related work experience anywhere in the world.
- $\infty$  Successfully pass the first division of the examination.
- ∝ The applicant shall be eligible to sit for the first division of the examination after satisfactory completion of three years or more of college or university education in a board-approved engineering curriculum or after completion of three years or more of board-approved experience.

The applicant for registration as a professional engineer shall comply with all of the following:

- ∝ Furnish evidence of six years or more of qualifying experience in engineering work satisfactory to the board evidencing that the applicant is competent to practice the character of engineering in the branch for which he or she is applying for registration.
- ∝ The applicant must successfully pass the second division of the examination. The applicant for the second division of the examination shall successfully pass the first division examination or shall be exempt therefrom.

#### Contractors State License Board

To obtain a C-27 landscape contractor's license a candidate must pass the written Law and Business Examination and a specific trade examination if required. Examination eligibility

requires candidates to document at least four full years of journey-level or higher experience in the classification for which he or she is applying. This experience must have occurred within the last ten years. The Contractors State License Board may grant up to three years of credit toward the four-year requirement for completed education and/or apprenticeship programs.<sup>vii</sup>

#### **EDUCATION**

#### **Education Equivalences**

The LATC determined that in order to best ensure the critical thinking skills necessary to appropriately provide public health and safety protection, landscape architects should continue to be required to have both a formal education and direct experience. Fortunately, in comparison with many other member boards, California provides a number of recognized, as well as non-traditional opportunities to obtain formal education in landscape architecture. The LATC offers candidates flexibility in meeting the educational requirement for a landscape architectural degree by accepting bachelors, masters, or associate degrees, as well as approved extension certificate programs in landscape architecture.

As of January 2010, there are five accredited and four unaccredited landscape architecture bachelor and master degree programs in California. Additionally, there are two LATC approved UC Extension Programs, as well as four associate degree programs in landscape architecture from various community colleges. The following list illustrates the range of opportunities available within California to fulfill the education requirement:

#### Accredited Undergraduate Programs:

- ∝ California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (BLA)
- ∝ California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (BSLA)
- ∝ University of California, Davis (BSLA)

Accredited Graduate Programs:

- ∝ California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (MSLA)
- ∞ University of California, Berkeley (MLA)

Unaccredited Undergraduate Programs: ∞ University of California, Berkeley (BLA)

Unaccredited Graduate Programs:

- ∝ University of Southern California (MLA) (undergoing accreditation candidacy)
- ∝ New School of Architecture and Design, San Diego (MLA)

University of California Extension Programs:

- ∝ University of California, Berkeley
- ∝ University of California, Los Angeles

Associate Degree Programs:

- ∞ Mesa College, San Diego (AS)
- ∞ Mira Costa College, Oceanside (AA)
- ∞ Modesto Junior College, Modesto (AS)
- ∝ Southwestern College, Chula Vista (AS)
- ∞ West Valley College, Saratoga (AS)

#### Accredited Universities

The Landscape Architecture Accrediting Board (LAAB) recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, accredits educational programs leading to first professional degrees at the master's or bachelor's level. Therefore, in addition to assessing how well a program meets its own specific and institutional educational mission and objectives, LAAB evaluates all programs against standards that ensure programs contain the essential educational components leading to entry-level professional competence. These standards are developed by community-of-interest consensus and are regularly reviewed and assessed.

Accreditation has four constituencies: the public, the students, the institution, and the profession. To the public and to students, accreditation assures that the program has been independently reviewed and found to meet professional higher-education standards. It also assists in transfer of credit and acceptance into other programs. To the institutions, accreditation provides a consultative peer review and stimulus to continually improve their educational offerings. To the profession, accreditation provides the opportunity for participation in establishing entry-level skills.

A degree in landscape architecture from an accredited school is granted four years of educational credit towards licensure. Some programs offered by California schools lead to a degree in landscape architecture although they are not accredited. The latter are granted three years of educational credit. The LAAB does not currently review extension or community college programs in landscape architecture.

#### **Extension** Certificate Programs

Candidates for licensure receive credit for University of California Extension Programs that are approved by the LATC. To gain approval, these programs are reviewed by site teams appointed by the LATC. The teams conduct site visits to determine the program's compliance with California Code of Regulations Section 2620.5, Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program.

Candidates who successfully complete an extension program in landscape architecture are granted two years of educational credit. Extension program certificate holders receive four years of educational credit when combined with a four-year degree in any subject, and three years of educational credit when combined with an associate degree in landscape architecture.

#### **Community Colleges**

Candidates with an associate degree in landscape architecture are granted one year of educational credit.

#### Out of State

Candidates' education degrees awarded outside of California are verified via the Accredited Programs in Landscape Architecture list and the Historical List of Programs Accredited by the LAAB.

#### Foreign Education in Landscape Architecture

Foreign education transcripts are submitted by the candidate to an approved foreign evaluation service for a general evaluation of the courses equating the degree to an accredited master or bachelor degree in the United States. Foreign education determined equivalent to an accredited master or bachelor degree in landscape architecture in the United States receive four years of educational credit. No credit is provided for unaccredited or other foreign degrees.<sup>viii</sup>

#### **EXPERIENCE**

Through its examination eligibility review, the LATC has determined that maintaining flexibility in the combination of formal landscape architecture education with directed work experience, provides the greatest access to licensure *and* preparation for examination.

#### **Types of Experience**

Education and work experience credits are combined to achieve the required total of six years credit towards eligibility to examine for the landscape architect license. There are multiple training/experience variations for a candidate to qualify in California; however, the LATC requires candidates to have completed a minimum of one year education credit and two years of recognized work experience.

One year of training consists of 1,500 hours of qualifying employment. Training received under the following circumstances receives credit as indicated:

- ∞ Employment by a licensed landscape architect equals up to five years credit
- $\infty$  Self-employment as or employment by a licensed architect equals up to one year credit
- $\infty$  Self-employment as or employment by a registered civil engineer equals up to one year credit
- $\infty$  Self-employment as a licensed landscape contractor equals up to four years credit<sup>ix</sup>

#### When is experience gained?

Candidates must possess a minimum of two years of training credits to be eligible for the examination. At least one year of training must be gained post graduation and under direct supervision of a landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction. There is an exception to this post graduation requirement for candidates qualifying with experience as a self-employed landscape contractor and holding an extension certificate, master or bachelor degree in landscape architecture.

#### How is experience verified?

Candidates submit a Certification of Applicant's Experience and Qualifications signed under penalty of perjury from each licensed supervisor verifying the candidate's training and experience. The certifying person must have supervised the candidate directly and have knowledge of the candidate's qualifications. The certifying individual must hold a valid license to practice landscape architecture, architecture and/or civil engineering.

#### Is an internship required?

There is no internship requirement for landscape architects at this time. The current work experience requirements shall be weighted with the same value as internships required for architects and civil engineers.

#### **Experience** Summary

As with the educational requirement, there are numerous variations of training experience permitted to achieve the minimum requirement. The LATC review and subsequent adjustment of California examination eligibility requirements has determined that at this time, the flexibility in training and education allowances that are provided, recognize a variety of personal and economic circumstances, and thereby offer wide access to licensure while maintaining the necessary assurances for public health, safety and well being.

#### **Improving Access to Licensure**

In 2004, the JLSRC recommended that the Department of Consumer Affairs review the sixyear education and experience requirement to determine if it is justified. The LATC formed the Education Subcommittee to research and respond to this request. The results are presented here and suggest opening up entry to the LARE for applicants with partially completed landscape architect degrees and those with accredited degrees in architecture. All recommendations were based on current knowledge. In attempt to improve candidate success and retention rates, the LATC also recommends allowing candidates to sit for the multiplechoice sections of the LARE before acquiring the required experience.

The LATC thoroughly assessed the full spectrum of education and experience requirements and assessed that the following should remain unchanged. Some requirements were determined to be adequate, while others could not be assessed due to insufficient data. To counter this deficiency in the future, the LATC began collecting data and plans to interpret information as it becomes available and determine the best course of action.

- ∞ Retain the six-year education/experience requirements
- ∝ Retain credit for associate degrees in landscape architecture
- ∞ Retain current reciprocity requirements
- ∝ Not implement a rolling time clock to limit the number of years for a candidate to obtain licensure
- ∞ Not allow licensure with work experience alone
- ∝ Not provide credit for teaching and research experience

In addition to specific changes to the LATC education and experience requirements, outcomes of the review include several projects that have been identified for completion in the LATC strategic plan:

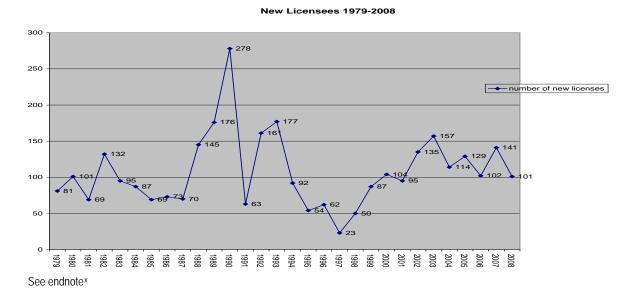
- ∝ Development of a tracking system for candidate data that will allow assessments to demonstrate whether experience and type of education reflect on the success of California candidates taking the LARE.
- ∝ Revision of the certificate of applicants experience form to provide both the candidate and the employer a better understanding of the experience required to pass the examinations.
- ∞ Development of criteria and recommend curriculum for an associate degree in landscape architecture.
- ∝ Development of a candidate/educator/employer expectations guide with the intent to improve examination success rates.

The guide will be used in conjunction with the LATC's strategic and communication plan objectives to communicate and provide outreach to university faculty, students, and practitioners in the field that mentor future licensees. By communicating required criteria, faculty, students and mentors will be able to better focus their efforts and assignments towards candidates' success. Draft regulatory language incorporating the recommended changes to examination eligibility is prepared. Once the regulatory language is approved by the LATC and CAB, the State's rulemaking process will ensue.

#### Growth and Demand in the Profession

The future holds the promise of new developments and challenges for the ever-broadening practice of landscape architecture. According to the December 11, 2008 of U.S. News & World Report, landscape architecture is projected to grow 18 to 26 percent by 2016 and is listed as one of the top thirty careers in 2009. Outside magazine (May 2008 issue) called landscape architecture one of the 50 best jobs in the United States in 2008.

With environmental concerns becoming increasingly important, landscape architects are being called upon to solve complex problems. Rural concerns are attracting landscape architects to farmland preservation, small town revitalization, landscape preservation, energy resource development, and water conservation. Trends in computer technology have streamlined plan preparation and consultant communication and coordination for the practice.



History of Licensees Chart

In comparison, the total number of licensed landscape architects has continued to increase as indicated.

Year - # of licensees: ∞ 2009 - 3706 ∞ 2008 - 3501 ∞ 2007 - 3438 ∞ 2006 - 3338 ∞ 2005 - 3289 ∞ 2004 - 3189 Landscape architects who develop strong technical skills, such as computer design; communication skills; and knowledge of environmental codes and regulations will capture the best opportunities. Those with additional training or experience in urban planning increase their prospects for employment in landscape architecture firms that specialize in site planning, as well as landscape design.

The future also promises increased cooperation among landscape architects and other design professionals. As interest in the profession continues to grow, an increasing number of students desire to study the profession. Nearly 60 universities and colleges in the United States and Canada now offer accredited baccalaureate and post-graduate programs in landscape architecture.

During the past decades, landscape architects have responded to the increased demand and professional responsibilities with new skills and expertise. More and more businesses appreciate the profession and the value that it brings to a project. The public praises the balance achieved between the built and natural environments.<sup>xi</sup>

A - Approved Recommendations & Justification	
<b>B</b> - Related Studies	40
C – Education Subcommittee Meeting Summaries	44
Notes	46

# **APPENDICES & NOTES**

# Appendix A

Approved Recommendations and Justification - Approved by the California Architects Board (CAB) and the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC)

After reviewing the multiple studies addressed and referenced within this report, the following recommendations were approved by the LATC on May 4, 2007, and received final CAB approval on June 15, 2007.

#### 1. Accept Accredited Professional Architecture and Civil Engineering Degrees

The LATC Education Subcommittee discussed the acceptance of various "related" degrees that are either recognized by other states or were identified by Subcommittee members and/or LATC staff. Consideration of accepting degrees related to landscape architecture was a result of the following: 1) the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) previously raised concerns regarding the fact that, prior to 1997, California applicants could receive educational credit for holding any type of bachelors degree with a four-year curriculum;<sup>xii</sup> 2) CAB grants educational credit for designated degrees related to architecture and unrelated degrees;

3) a review of the neighboring and larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions (New York, Florida, Texas, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington) revealed that at least six out of those nine jurisdictions recognize degrees related to landscape architecture; <sup>xiii</sup> and 4) CLARB currently allows applicants to sit for the licensing examination with any type of bachelors degree, plus three years of diversified experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

In addition, a survey sent out by LATC staff in May 2005 to the landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions<sup>xiv</sup> listed above confirmed that: 1) many of the states accept various related degrees; 2) a few of the states accept any degree; and 3) most of the states that accept non-landscape architecture degrees accept architecture and civil engineering degrees.

After extensive review of the research material and discussion at the June 17, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee gave preliminary approval to accept accredited bachelor degrees in architecture and civil engineering to satisfy the education requirement for examination eligibility with a caveat of conducting further research on other related degree programs. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the additional research<sup>xv</sup> and agreed to recommend acceptance of accredited professional degrees in architecture and civil engineering (undergraduate and graduate degrees), as those degrees emphasize the acquisition of critical thinking and technical skills that are necessary to address health, safety, and welfare issues and are essential to the practice of landscape architecture. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend one-year of educational credit be granted for completion of these degree programs.

The Subcommittee felt there was not clear and/or comparable rationale for granting similar credit for other related degree programs based on their insufficient curriculum and/or lack of accreditation standards. For example, urban design and horticulture degrees were considered and not included in this recommendation because they are either non-accredited or the coursework is not specifically related to the practice of landscape architecture. One year of educational credit was agreed upon because the Subcommittee determined the curricula examined for such degree programs did not include sufficient specific exposure to landscape architecture related topics, but did address a certain measure of critical thinking and technical skills that are necessary to address health, safety and welfare issues related to the practice of landscape architecture.

The LATC presented the Final Findings and Recommendations to CAB at its meeting on June 7, 2006. At this meeting, CAB questioned education credit parity between architects and landscape architects. As a result of

CAB's parity question, the Education Subcommittee reconvened on November 8, 2006 and agreed to research the parity issue as it pertained to education curriculum for architects and civil engineers. At its February 27, 2007 meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the education curriculum research <sup>xvi</sup> and decided to revise their earlier recommendation and recommend acceptance of accredited professional degrees in architecture and not in civil engineering. Along with their earlier belief in critical thinking and technical skills, the Subcommittee also believed there were similar curriculum elements in the architectural degree programs in comparison to the landscape architecture programs and that it would warrant educational credit. Accredited professional degrees in architecture would receive one-year of educational credit.

#### Recommendation:

• The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC accept accredited professional degrees in architecture towards satisfying the education requirement for examination eligibility and that one year of credit be granted for completion of such program.

# 2. Grant Credit for Partial Completion of an Accredited Landscape Architecture Degree

At the March 4, 2005 Education Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that the LATC had previously granted credit for partial completion of accredited and unaccredited degrees in landscape architecture and that CAB currently grants credit for partial completion of various degree programs (i.e., accredited and unaccredited architecture degrees and related degrees with a four-year curriculum). During the June 17, 2005 meeting, some Subcommittee members voiced an interest in granting credit for partial completion of accredited degrees in landscape architecture; however, it was noted that they would need to take a closer look at how credit would be determined. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee examined the issue further <sup>xvii</sup> and determined that one year of educational credit should be granted for partial completion of an accredited degree in landscape architecture. In addition, the Subcommittee determined that an applicant applying for examination under such circumstances must demonstrate that he/she has completed at least 80% of the total units required for the degree.

In addition to the former regulatory provision granting educational credit for partial completion of degree programs, the Subcommittee recognized that CAB accepts partial completion of various degree programs (i.e., architecture degrees and related degrees) and that granting educational credits would provide an expanded avenue to licensure.

# **Recommendation:**

• The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC grant credit for partial completion of an accredited degree in landscape architecture, that one year of educational credit be granted for such, and that an applicant demonstrate that he/she has completed at least 80% of the total units required for such degree program.

# 3. <u>Allow Early Eligibility for Examination with an Accredited Degree or Approved Extension</u> <u>Certificate in Landscape Architecture</u>

At the June 17, 2005 Education Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that, under Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) current standards, candidates are allowed to take the multiplechoice sections of the LARE with either an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree in landscape architecture and no work experience. A number of CLARB member jurisdictions follow this standard and allow candidates to sit for the multiple-choice sections of the LARE upon receipt of an accredited degree in landscape architecture (a total of nine states were examined by the Subcommittee and staff, and four states allow candidates to sit for the examination under such circumstances xviii). At the meeting, the Subcommittee indicated that they were open to considering this option for California candidates and directed staff to obtain additional background information from CLARB to assist with a recommendation with respect to this issue. The background information xix was reviewed and evaluated by two Subcommittee members and a recommendation to allow this option for California candidates was presented to the Subcommittee on December 2, 2005. The Subcommittee discussed the benefits of offering this option to candidates, and in the absence of contrary data relative to pass rates, supported allowing candidates to sit for the multiple-choice sections of the LARE prior to meeting the experience requirement for examination. No quantifiable evidence regarding pass-rate success was found to support either position, but the Subcommittee felt this option would encourage graduates to continue the path to licensure immediately after attaining their accredited degree. At the November 8, 2006 meeting, the Subcommittee agreed to also allow candidates with an approved extension certificate plus four-year degree to qualify for the multiple-choice sections of the examination based on the belief that extension certificate holders are equally qualified for early eligibility as accredited degree holders.

# Recommendations:

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC allow candidates with an accredited degree in landscape architecture or approved extension certificate plus four-year degree to sit for the three multiple-choice sections of the LARE (Sections A, B, and D) prior to meeting training/work experience requirements.
- If this option is approved, the Subcommittee recommends that the LATC closely monitor the success of these candidates on the examination via the proposed Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4).

# 4. <u>Implement a Candidate Education/Experience Tracking System and Reciprocity Candidate</u> <u>Tracking System</u>

At the October 8, 2004 meeting, the Subcommittee directed staff to gather information pertaining to the most recent 100 individuals that became licensed in California and develop a chart to determine if there was a correlation between a candidate's number of attempts to pass each section of the licensing examination and: 1) the landscape architecture program attended; 2) the type of degree earned, and 3) the type of training/work experience earned. This request was made to assist the Subcommittee with its evaluation of California's eligibility requirements for examination. After a review of this information<sup>xx</sup>, it was noted by the Subcommittee that candidate data should be tracked on an ongoing basis so that the data is more readily available for future evaluation of eligibility requirements. It was also noted by the Subcommittee that similar

information pertaining to reciprocity candidates should be tracked. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee reviewed and approved the final Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart and the Reciprocity Candidate Tracking Chart.<sup>xxi</sup> The Subcommittee felt the candidate education/experience tracking charts would allow the LATC to analyze existing and future regulatory related decisions. The LATC would like the tracking to begin immediately, excluding candidates' names and social security numbers from the charts.

# **Recommendation:**

• The Subcommittee recommends that LATC staff implement a Candidate Education/Experience Tracking System and Reciprocity Candidate Tracking System and collect data by utilizing tracking charts.

# 5. <u>Revise Certificate of Applicant's Experience Form</u>

As part of the Subcommittee's charge, the eligibility requirements pertaining to the type and duration of training/ work experience were reviewed and discussed. The Subcommittee reviewed the current certificate of applicant's experience form, which is completed by a candidate's supervisor(s) to meet the training/work experience requirement for examination eligibility.

After discussion, the Subcommittee felt that, in an effort to aid candidates/employers with acquiring/providing appropriate knowledge and work experience for success on the examination, the form should be expanded to include a list or description of specific practice categories that are tested on the examination. This modification, as well as the new Candidate/Education/ Employer Brochure, would therefore be important tools in further ensuring success on the examination (discussed under Recommendation 6).

Staff obtained samples of employment verification forms from other regulatory boards, which will assist with revising the LATC's certificate of applicant's experience form that will be developed in the future.

# Recommendation:

• The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC revise the certificate of applicant's experience form to include specific practice categories that are tested on the LARE.

# 6. Develop Candidate/Educator/Employer Information

The Subcommittee discussed the need to create relatively detailed candidate/educator/employer information that discusses preparation for examination/licensure and recommends appropriate work experience in order to be successful on the examination. The brochure would assist candidates, educators and employers to ensure that candidates successfully prepare for examination and licensure as well as understand what is expected for their success. The candidate/educator/employer information would be made available by hardcopy, the LATC's website and email.

#### <u>Recommendations:</u>

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC develop Candidate/Educator/Employer Information.
- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC reference CAB's Comprehensive Intern Development Program Handbook when developing such information.

# 7. <u>Retain Six-Year Education/Experience Requirement</u>

At the June 17, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that: 1) the six-year combined education and experience requirement under Business and Professions Code Section 5650 has been in effect since 1953; 2) a review of the requirements of other states revealed that they have similar requirements with respect to combined education and experience xxii; 3) the traditional route to licensure in California, and in most other states, has been to obtain an accredited degree in landscape architecture and two years of experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect; 4) there appear to be no past or present issues with respect to the six-year requirement; and 5) the combination of education and experience appears to provide the greatest protection to the public's health, safety, and welfare.

#### Recommendation:

• The Subcommittee recommends that the six-year combined education/experience requirement be retained at this time.

# 8. <u>Retain Existing Credit for Associate Degrees in Landscape</u> <u>Architecture</u>

A thorough review of California associate degree curricula <sup>xxiii</sup> was conducted by the Subcommittee at its March 4, 2005 meeting. Although some discrepancies were noted between the programs with respect to subject areas and required units, it was determined the LATC should not assume the responsibility of reviewing associate degree programs and that the discrepancies were not serious enough to reconsider the one year of educational credit currently granted for completion of such programs. The LATC noted: 1) education is a necessary component of licensure, 2) all criteria for landscape architecture requirements cannot be met solely with experience, and 3) one year of educational credit for an associate degree in landscape architecture provides an additional opportunity for licensure.

In the past, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office requested that LATC examine certification of their landscape architecture programs. The LATC determined as a consequence of the number of programs, variety, and indeterminate curricular approval and oversight, it was not practical for the LATC to review community college programs for purposes of educational eligibility standards.

At the February 27, 2007 Subcommittee meeting, as part of CAB's parity question and discussion on education credits, the Subcommittee agreed the LATC should monitor the success of candidates receiving educational credit and qualifying for the licensing examination with an associate degree.

#### <u>Recommendations:</u>

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC should not take on the responsibility of reviewing associate degree programs at this time.
- The Subcommittee recommends that one year of educational credit continue to be granted for completion of an associate degree in landscape architecture.
- If this option is approved, the Subcommittee recommends that the LATC closely monitor the success of these candidates on the examination via the proposed Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4).

# 9. <u>Retain Current Reciprocity Requirements</u>

At the June 17, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee reviewed and discussed California, Nevada, Texas and Washington's current requirements for reciprocity <sup>xxiv</sup> to determine if changes to California reciprocity requirements should be considered.

Currently, a reciprocity applicant must: 1) hold a current license in another U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico; 2) have passed a written examination equivalent to that which is required in California at the time of application; and 3) have passed the California Supplemental Examination if, at the time of application, it is required of all California applicants.

However, it was noted by the Subcommittee that changes to the current requirements could potentially present barriers for out-of-state candidates wanting to gain licensure in California and that, to date, there have not been any issues or problems identified. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee confirmed its recommendation to retain California's current requirements for reciprocity and institute a reciprocity tracking system as part of Recommendation 4.

# **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC retain its current requirements for reciprocity.
- The Subcommittee instead recommends that LATC staff track reciprocity candidate information via the proposed Reciprocity Candidate Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4) and, once enough data is gathered, bring this issue back for the LATC to reconsider its position.

# 10. Rolling Time Clock for Examination Candidates

At the June 17, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that Texas and Washington have implemented a five-year time limit for candidates to complete the examination process and become licensed. It was also noted that CAB plans to adopt a five-year "rolling time clock" that applies only to examination scores. Finally, it was noted by LATC staff that, presently, most California landscape architectural candidates complete the examination process within a five-year period and that, currently, there does not appear to be a problem with respect to this issue. However, the Subcommittee agreed to recommend a tracking system to monitor this issue as part of Recommendation 4.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC not implement a "rolling time clock" for examination candidates at this time.
- The Subcommittee instead recommends that LATC staff track candidates' number of attempts to pass each section of the LARE via the proposed Candidate Education/ Experience Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4) at this time and, after two years, gather data from CAB and other CLARB member jurisdictions and have the LATC reassess whether implementing a "rolling time clock" would be appropriate at that time.

# 11. Eligibility for Examination with Experience Only

At the March 4, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that a limited number of states allow candidates to sit for the examination with specified work experience alone (and no education). Data relative to pass rate differences between candidates with university level education in landscape architecture and those without has not been available. As comparative background, CAB allows architectural candidates to sit for its licensing examinations with work experience alone (and no education).<sup>xxv</sup> CAB has also recently implemented the national Intern Development Program (IDP) and Comprehensive IDP that require new candidates to obtain appropriate levels of work experience in specified areas of practice. Upon considering this information, reviewing eligibility requirements for the other states that require licensing, and the absence of pass-rate data, the Subcommittee agreed to maintain requiring appropriate educational experience, obtaining appropriate work experience, and then testing for minimal competency through the LARE. The Subcommittee felt that some form of formal education provides basic knowledge of landscape architecture and experience alone was not equivalent to that knowledge.

# Recommendations:

- The Subcommittee recommends that candidates not be allowed to sit for the examination with work experience alone at this time and notes that education of some form is required to succeed.
- The LATC recommends tracking data from reciprocal candidates and LARE success rates, then bringing this matter back for future consideration once enough data is gathered. In addition, data from other states should be analyzed if it is available.

# 12. Credit for Teaching and/or Research

At the March 4, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that a few states accept teaching and/or research experience towards fulfilling examination requirements<sup>xxvi</sup>. However, the Subcommittee felt teaching and/or research experience does not provide the same skills that are acquired while working under a licensed professional. Additionally, teaching and/or research experience varies significantly, thus making it difficult to

assess the equivalent relationship to the practice of landscape architecture and the health, safety and welfare of the public.

# **Recommendation:**

• The Subcommittee recommends that credit not be granted for teaching and/or research experience at this time.

# **APPENDICES & NOTES**

#### **Appendix B**

#### **Related Studies**

#### **October 2004 – Landscape Architects Body of Knowledge**

The Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge (LABOK) study was designed to address the core competencies that help define the landscape architecture profession and the fundamental body of knowledge that should be expected of all graduates from accredited landscape architecture degree programs. The approach used to answer these two questions consisted of several iterative steps that required input from incumbents in the field of landscape architecture. During these steps both detailed knowledge and competency statements identifying the components of the Body of Knowledge for consideration by the academic community or for post-graduation on-the-job learning were developed.

The LABOK Task Force was established in response to these questions raised through the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board's regular review of accreditation standards. The Task Force consisted of representatives of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA), the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), and the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). The Task Force authorized The Chauncey Group International to perform the Body of Knowledge study described in this part of the report. Chauncey Group's role was to facilitate the multiple interactions with landscape architect subject matter experts and/or incumbents in the field.

By building upon the information from the earlier task analysis for landscape architects and input from the Task Force, then augmenting that information through consultation with multiple panels of subject matter experts, the Task Force developed a survey that covered the body of knowledge thoroughly. The distribution of the survey reached the varied groups desired and resulted in a strong indication of the knowledge and competencies that are required upon graduation from a degree program and those that should be developed on the job. It was necessary for each of the contributing organizations to carefully examine the data and make the most efficient use of the information that is available. As suggested in the cover letter to the survey respondents, this information may be used to make curricula determinations, to guide the development of continuing education activities, and to continue strong requirements for licensure through the regulatory bodies. Based on the apparent high agreement among the various subgroup responses and the process used to develop the Body of Knowledge in this study, it is reasonable to conclude that the goals of the study were obtained.<sup>xxvii</sup>

#### 2006 - Thompson Prometric National Task Analysis

The Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards contracted with Thomson Prometric to conduct a job analysis in order to maintain the currency of the Landscape Architects Registration Examination. Job analysis refers to procedures designed to obtain descriptive information about the tasks performed on a job and/or the knowledge, skills, or abilities thought necessary to adequately perform those tasks. The specific type of job information collected for a job analysis is determined by the purpose for which the information will be used. For purposes of developing workplace certification examinations, a job analysis should identify important tasks, knowledge, skills, and/or abilities. The use of job analysis (also known as task analysis, practice analysis, or role delineation) to define the content domain is a critical component in establishing the content validity of certification examinations. Content validity refers to the extent to which the content covered by an examination overlaps with the important components (tasks, knowledge, skills, or abilities) of a job. A well-designed job analysis should include the participation of a representative group of subject-matter experts who reflect the diversity within the job. Diversity refers to regional or job context factors and to subject-matter expert factors such as length and type of experience, gender, and race/ethnicity. Demonstration of content validity is accomplished through the judgments of subject-matter experts. The process is enhanced, when feasible, by the inclusion of large numbers of subject-matter experts who represent the diversity within the relevant areas of expertise. The job analysis involved a multi-method approach that included meetings with subject-matter experts and the conduct of a survey.

On November 12-13, 2004, a panel of landscape architects, selected by CLARB, attended a meeting with the primary purpose of developing an updated survey for distribution in first quarter, 2005. Prior to the meeting, participants received a Job Analysis Procedures Manual and selected information from the 1998 Job Analysis report and the Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge Study.

The first topic of discussion at the meeting was a general description of the successful licensee. The group then talked about the places where a licensee might work and gave examples of what they might do. The task force agreed that is was important to keep all approaches to practice in mind when we proceed to design the job analysis tool. The key issue is maintaining health, safety and welfare within the practice. The group then turned their attention to defining the major domains for the survey. Following the identification of the domains, the full group assigned the tasks from the 1998 survey to the new domains. Teams were then recruited to work on specific domains to review, edit, and/or delete the tasks. The next activity was to review the knowledge statements that appeared in the 1998 survey. Each of the task force members was asked to indicate whether the knowledge topic appeared in the 2004 LABOK study. Only those knowledge statements that were not included in the LABOK were added to the survey. The development of the skills list and the background questions completed the work of the group at the meeting.<sup>xxviii</sup>

The contents of the proposed survey were shared with CLARB staff for initial review. Following approval of the components, Thomson Prometric staff created the survey using Web-based software. The survey was shared with the development committee for initial review. Their suggestions were incorporated and the revised survey was presented to a pilot group to take. The responses and individual comments were shared with CLARB staff and final revisions to the survey were made.

In early May, the survey was officially closed and the data analysis begun. Preliminary results were shared with CLARB staff in preparation for the meeting to develop the test specifications. Decisions about the appropriate subgroup analyses were made prior to the meeting.

The completion of the job analysis process consisted of a review of the job analysis results. A committee reviewed the background questions and began the review of the tasks. The respondents were offered opportunities to suggest additional tasks. The whole panel reviewed these and suggested additional examples for current tasks or noted those that are emerging topics. Following the review of the tasks, the committee proceeded to the review of the knowledge statements and the skills.<sup>xxix</sup>

# December 2006 – Department of Consumer Affairs Office of Examination Resources, California Validation Report

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee requested the Office of Examination Resources conduct a validation study to identify critical job activities performed by landscape architects licensed in California. The occupational analysis is part of the LATC's comprehensive review of the practice of landscape architecture. The purpose of the occupational analysis is to define practice for California licensed landscape architects in terms of actual job tasks that new licensees must be able to perform safely and competently. The result of the occupational analysis serves as a basis for the examination program for landscape architects in California.

OER followed testing standards and guidelines to develop a legally defensible examination outline for landscape architects in California and implemented a content validation strategy to describe the content of the landscape architect profession. OER conducted interviews with California licensed landscape architects, researched the profession, analyzed material prepared by CLARB, facilitated four focus groups California licensees, and sent a questionnaire surveying all California licensed landscape architects.

The initial two focus groups reviewed and refined task and knowledge statements of the landscape architecture profession in California. Based on these specific task and knowledge statements of the profession, Office of Examination Resources was able to develop a comprehensive survey to be sent to landscape architects throughout the state. The third focus group reviewed and approved the survey results and links specific job tasks with knowledge statements in order to construct the examination outline. The final focus group evaluated the examination outline for concurrence and to prepare for the development of examination questions.<sup>xxx</sup>

# **APPENDICES & NOTES**

# Appendix C

#### **Meeting Note Summaries**

#### May 9, 2006 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

- Voted on the preliminary approval of the Education Subcommittee's response to the JLSRC recommendations.
- Approved retaining the six-year education/experience requirement.
- Approved maintaining eligibility for examination with current education requirements.
- Approved initiate tracking upon candidacy.
- Suggestions were made to look into accrediting standards and determining how schools are measured in order to clarify subject relationship to examination topics and into education standards as it relates to health, safety and welfare concerns.<sup>xxxi</sup>

#### June 7, 2006 - California Architects Board

- The LATC's recommendations regarding the eligibility requirements for examination were presented to CAB.
- All recommendations were approved under the condition that the LATC review recommendation 1, Accept Accredited Professional Architecture and Civil Engineering Degrees, and provide an analysis to CAB on parity of the requirements to apply for examination between licensure of architects versus landscape architects prior to the recommendations moving forward. As a result of the preliminary approval, Strategic Planning objectives to 1) begin identifying variables that impact LARE pass rates by tracking and maintaining data, and 2) investigating potential reasons for low examination pass rates and develop an appropriate response to issue to the JLSRC were initiated.<sup>xxxii</sup>

#### August 25, 2006 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

• Discussed CAB's action and various related issues identified. The LATC voted to reconvene the Education Subcommittee in order to fully address all issues that were identified as a result of the proposed changes.<sup>xxxiii</sup>

# November 8, 2006 – Education Subcommittee

- Met to discuss the renewed charges from the LATC, review existing reports and documentation, and develop a plan of action. Staff was tasked with: 1) incorporating revisions to the Report, 2) updating CCR 2620 Education and Training Credits to reflect the discussion, 3) providing curriculum data for accredited degrees in architecture and civil engineering and documenting data to compare the two, and 3) revising the charts outlining education and experience credits given to architects and landscape architects, and drafting narrative explaining the differences.
- Finalize the Issues and Recommendations Report to proceed with preparing a draft report for the LATC and CAB to approve for forwarding to the DCA and the Legislature.xxxiv

# January 16, 2007 – Education Subcommittee

- Held a teleconference and reviewed additional information illustrating the parity of educational requirements to architects and civil engineers.
- Expanded the information substantiating the recommendations and began a review of CCR 2620.
- Remaining agenda items to review: curriculum comparison for landscape architects with those of architects and civil engineers, completion of a review and proposed changes to CCR 2620, and a table of contents for the report to the Legislature were postponed.xxxv

# February 27, 2007 – Education Subcommittee

- Finalized recommendations to the LATC.
- Reconfirmed that education is a critical qualification in combination with work experience and examination.
- Recommendations were to: 1) maintain the educational credit requirement, 2) continue one year of educational credit for an associate degree in landscape architecture, 3) continue four years of educational credit for foreign education equivalent to an accredited master or bachelor degree in landscape architecture in the United States, 4) maintain two years of educational credit for an approved extension certificate in landscape architecture, 5) institute one year of educational credit for an accredited degree in architecture, 6) not grant educational credit for a degree in civil engineering, and 7) not grant experience credit for foreign/international experience.<sup>xxxvi</sup>

#### May 4, 2007 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

• Approved the Subcommittee's recommended response and recommendations.xxxvii

#### June 15, 2007 - California Architects Board

• The parity issue and the recommendations were presented and approved by CAB. The full report to DCA and to the Legislature, containing the approved recommendations, will be presented for approval once complete.xxxviii

# NOTES

#### NOTES

xiii See endnote 12.

xiv Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) member board jurisdictions; Arizona State Board of Landscape Architects; Florida Board of Landscape Architecture; Hawaii Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors & Landscape Architects; Nevada State Board of Landscape Architects; New Mexico Board of Landscape Architects; New York State Board for Landscape Architects; Oregon State Landscape Architects Board; Texas Board of Architectural Examiners and Washington Department of Licensing, Landscape Architecture Division - 2005 Survey Results; Examination/Licensure Eligibility Requirements. (6/05, C), Vol. 2, tab #20

\*\* Accrediting Boards for Architecture, Civil Engineering and Planning - 2005 Description, course outlines, number of years and units required to earn an accredited Planning degree in all seven California accredited planning degree programs. (12/05, D.1), Vol. 2, tab #17

xvi Comparison of Curriculum for Accredited Degrees in Architecture and Civil Engineering (2/07, C.4)Vol. 2, tab #27

<sup>xvii</sup> Transcripts and Course Requirements for Three Accredited Undergraduate Landscape Architecture Degree Programs. (12/05, D.2), Vol. 2, #28

xviii 2005 Survey Results; Examination/Licensure Eligibility Requirements, see endnote 17.

xix Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) - 2005 Information provided from the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) regarding member board jurisdictions allowance of early eligibility to take the multiple-choice sections of the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination (LARE) (12/05, D.3), Vol. 2, tab #29

<sup>xx</sup> Comparison of Education, Experience and Exam results of last 100 California Landscape Architects covering 11/2003 - 12/2004. (3/05, G), Vol. 2, tab #32

xxi Final Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart and Reciprocity Candidate Tracking Chart. (12/05, C), Vol. 2, tab #33

<sup>xxii</sup>2005 Outline of Landscape Architecture Eligibility Requirements (AZ, CA, FL, HI, NV, NM, NY, OR, TX, and WA) – Detailed Comparison of Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects). (3/05, D.3), Vol. 2. tab #24

xxiii California Community Colleges; Mesa, Modesto Junior, Southwestern and West Valley - 2005 Description, course outline and units required to earn an Associate Degree in Landscape Architecture in California. (3/05, E), Vol. 2, tab #35

xxiv Detailed Comparison of Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects), see end note 22

xxv Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects): Snapshot, see endnote 13

xxvi Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects): Snapshot, see endnote 13

xxvii American Society of Landscape Architects, Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge Study Report, published October 28, 2004, All Rights Reserved. Vol. 1, tab #8

xxviii Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards, performed by Thompson Prometric, Job Analysis 2006. Vol. 3, tab #37

xxix 1996 Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee Findings and Recommendations, Vol. 1, tab #5

xxx California Department of Consumer Affairs, Office of Examination Resources, Validation Report Landscape Architects Technical Committee, December 2006, Vol. 3, tab #60fr

xxxi Landscape Architects Technical Committee, May 9, 2006, Summary Report, Vol. 3, tab #46

xxxii California Architects Board's June 7, 2006, Minutes, Vol. 3, tab #47

xxxiii Landscape Architects Technical Committee's August 25, 2006, Summary Report-Final, Vol. 3, tab #48

xxxiv Education Subcommittee's November 8, 2006, Meeting Minutes, Vol. 3, tab#59

xxxv Education Subcommittee's teleconference January 16, 2007, Summary Report-Draft, Vol. 3, tab#50

xxxvi Education Subcommittee's February 27, 2007, Summary Report-Draft, Vol. 3, tab#51

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2003 Sunset Review Report response. Vol. 1, tab #4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>II</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee, "Landscape Architects Practice Act with Rules and Regulations 2007", includes amendments through October 3, 2007. Vol. 3, tab #56

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>III</sup> Professional Engineers Act (Business and Professions Code Section 6700-6799), includes amendments made during the 2009 legislative session (Effective January 1, 2010, unless otherwise noted), Vol. 3, #55

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>iv</sup> 2004 Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee Recommendations. Vol. 1, tab #5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>v</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee, "Landscape Architects Practice Act with Rules and Regulations 2007", includes amendments through October 3, 2007. Vol. 3, tab #56

vi California Architects Board, "Architects Practice Act"; effective January 1, 2009. Vol. 3, tab #57

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>vii</sup> http://www.cslb.ca.gov/Contractors, accessed November 2008, © 2008 State of California, Contractors State Licensing Board. Vol. 3, tab #39
<sup>viii</sup> See endnote 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>ix</sup> See endnote 5.

<sup>×</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee's April 20, 2009, meeting agenda item C.3-C.4, Vol. 3, tab #58

xi See endnote 5.

x<sup>ii</sup> 2005 Outline of Landscape Architecture Eligibility Requirements (AZ, CA, FL, HI, NV, NM, NY, OR, TX, and WA) – Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects): Snapshot. (3/05, D.1), Vol. 2, tab #24

<sup>xxxvii</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee's May 4, 2007, Summary Report-Final, Vol. 3, tab#52 <sup>xxxviii</sup> California Architects Board's June 15, 2007, Minutes, Vol. 3, tab#53 Degrees Accepted by CLARB Jurisdictions for Initial Licensure

(as of	1/12/16)	
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		(as of 1/12/16)		
Jurisdiction	Accredited Architecture Degree	Accredited Engineering Degree	Any Bachelors Degree Accepted	Non Accredited LA Degree Accepted
	Accepted	Accepted		
Alberta	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Arizona	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Arkansas	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
British Columbia	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Colorado	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Connecticut	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Florida	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Georgia	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Hawaii	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Idaho	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Iowa	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Louisiana	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Maine	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Maryland	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Mississippi	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Montana	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Nebraska	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Nevada	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
New Hampshire	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
New Mexico	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
New York	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Oklahoma	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Ontario	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Oregon	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Pennsylvania	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
South Carolina	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Utah	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Virginia	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Washington	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience
Delaware	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	No	Yes, with experience
Rhode Island	Yes, with experience	Yes, with experience	No	Yes, with experience
California	Yes, with experience	No	No	Yes, with experience
Alaska	No	No	No	Yes, with experience
Illinois	No	No	No	Yes, with experience
New Jersey	No	No	No	Yes, with experience
Alabama	No	No	No	No
Indiana	No	No	No	No
Kansas	No	No	No	No
Kentucky	No	No	No	No
Massachusetts	No	No	No	No
Michigan	No	No	No	No
Minnesota	No	No	No	No
Missouri	No	No	No	No
North Carolina	No	No	No	No
Ohio	No	No	No	No
Puerto Rico	No	No	No	No
South Dakota	No	No	No	No
Tennessee	No	No	No	No
Texas	No	No	No	No
West Virginia	No	No	No	No
Wisconsin	No	No	No	No
Wyoming	No	No	No	No

# Agenda Item H

# DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD TO ADOPT ORIGINALLY PROPOSED LANGUAGE OR APPROVE MODIFIED TEXT TO AMEND RECIPROCITY REQUIREMENTS OF TITLE 16, CCR SECTION 2615 (FORM OF EXAMINATIONS)

In December 2012, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) received a letter regarding California's current reciprocity requirements. As a result, at its May 2013 meeting, the LATC began discussing the issue of reciprocity with other jurisdictions and subsequent Strategic Plans included objectives to review this matter.

The primary issue with reciprocity is that the Committee has received requests for reciprocal licensure from individuals licensed in jurisdictions where a degree in landscape architecture or architecture was not a requirement for initial licensure, as it is in California.

At the March 20, 2014 LATC meeting, legal counsel advised the Committee that a regulatory amendment would be necessary to allow reciprocity for applicants who have not met California's current education requirements.

Staff researched reciprocity requirements in other states and found that 26 states accept any baccalaureate degree when combined with experience (ranging from 3 to 7 years); and 28 allow initial/reciprocal licensure on the basis of experience alone, with an average of 8 years required (see attachments 1, 2 and 3).

At the February 10, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee discussed the data presented and the LATC's current six-year education and training/experience requirements that candidates must complete for licensure. The Committee also noted that candidates can qualify for the examination with an associate degree in landscape architecture (one year of educational credit) and five years training/experience. Once a candidate has successfully passed the examinations (national and California Supplemental Examination [CSE]), he/she is deemed to be competent for entry level practice. During the discussion, LATC noted that licensed professionals continue to learn and gain expertise with each year of practice. Its determination was that a substantial number of years of post-licensure experience in another state would demonstrate an individual's competence to practice safely, even though they may not have met California's educational experience requirements. The Committee suggested a regulatory amendment to allow reciprocity to individuals who may not meet California's education requirement but are licensed in another jurisdiction, have 10 years of practice experience, and have passed the CSE. LATC directed staff to review the reciprocity requirements of Arizona and New York and draft proposed regulatory language for the Committee's consideration.

Research showed that Arizona allows reciprocity if the applicant's education, experience, and examination are "substantially identical" to the requirements that existed in Arizona at the time they were originally licensed. New York allows reciprocity to an applicant who holds a current

license, has passed the written examination given in the jurisdiction in which they are licensed, and met New York's requirements at the time their license was issued in the other jurisdiction. Both Arizona and New York also accept 10 years of licensed experience in lieu of meeting their degree and experience requirements.

Based on the LATC's request, staff prepared proposed regulatory language to amend California Code of Regulations (CCR) section 2615 (see attachment 4). The proposed amendment includes provisions that require a candidate for reciprocal licensure to either submit verifiable documentation of education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application **or** submit verifiable documentation that the candidate has been actively engaged as a licensed landscape architect in another jurisdiction for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

At the November 17, 2015 LATC meeting, the Committee approved proposed regulatory language for CCR section 2615. Staff prepared and submitted the initial rulemaking package to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) (see attachments 5 and 6) and the Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations was published by OAL on August 12, 2016, thereby beginning the 45-day public comment period. On September 27, 2016, a public hearing was held and the public comment period officially ended.

During the public comment period, 296 comments were received (see attachment 7); of which, 291 were substantially similar, expressing concern that borrowing precedent from Arizona and New York is out of context because these states have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California, including varying degrees and combinations of experience. Specifically, the commenters believe that requiring reciprocity applicants to verify 10 years of post-licensure experience is excessive. They offered proposed language that would allow reciprocity if the "candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application; or, candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, possesses a bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 or the last 5 years; or, candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years." These comments were provided for the LATC's review and consideration. As part of the formal rulemaking process under the Administrative Procedure Act, agencies are required to respond to any comments received during the public comment period as part of the rulemaking file.

At its November 4, 2016 meeting, the LATC discussed the proposed regulation and heard from several members of the public in the audience who expressed opposition to the amount (10 years) of post-licensure experience being proposed. After discussion, the LATC agreed to agendize this topic for its next meeting with the intent of allowing sufficient time to consider the submitted comments, and determine whether changes to the proposed language are warranted.

After the November 4, 2016 LATC meeting, staff verified that both Arizona and New York accept any baccalaureate degree combined with additional years of experience for initial license and reciprocity candidates and also accept 10 years of licensed experience in lieu of meeting their examination requirements.

At today's meeting, the Committee is asked to consider the information presented and determine if changes should be made to the attached proposed regulatory language. Reports on examination

requirements and preparation, completed by the LATC and the Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards (CLARB), are provided as additional information for the Committee's review (see attachments 8, 9 and 10).

# ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Requirements for Initial Licensure
- 2. Landscape Architects Initial Licensure and State Specific Reciprocity Requirements
- 3. National Landscape Architects Eligibility and Reciprocity Requirements
- 4. Proposed Regulatory Language to Amend CCR Section 2615 (Form of Examinations)
- 5. Notice of Proposed Changes in the Regulations
- 6. Initial Statement of Reasons
- 7. Public Comments Received During Public Comment Period
- 8. Education Subcommittee Final Report: The Evaluation of Education and Experience Requirements to Examine for Licensure (January 2010)
- 9. CLARB Determinants of Success Research Study October 2011
- 10. CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Council Certification

# Requirements for Initial Licensure

IrainingLAAB-accredited degreeN/A (degree only)ID, MS, UT1AL, FL, LA, WV (MLA)1AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA (18 MO), HI	Education	Years of	States
1         AL, FL, LA, WV (MLA)           1         AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA (18 MO), HI           2         (MLA), IL, KY, ME, MD, MA, MT, NV, NM, PA, RI, SC, SD, TX, WV (BLA), WI           3         HI (BLA), IN, IA, KS (MLA), MN (MLA), MO, NH, OH, OK, OR, TN, VT, VA, WA, WY           4         KS (BLA), MN (BLA), NJ, NY, NC           Non-accredited B.L.A. or M.L.A.         1           2         HI (MLA), LA, RI           3         CA, CO, FL, HI (BLA), ME, MT           4         AR, IA, MD, NM, OR, VA           5         AZ, MS, NH, SC           6         DE, NY           9         AL           board determined         CT, GA, ID, IL, NV, NJ, OK, PA, UT, WA           Related 4-year degree         2           3         CO, FL, NE, NV           4         AR, MD, MT, OR           5         CA (NAAB), HI, ME, MS, NH, NM, SC           6         DE, VA           7         NY, WA           board determined         AZ, CT, GA, ID, IA, OK, PA, UT           Any 4-year degree         3           4         LA, MT           5         CO, FL, HI, ME, MS           6         MD, OR, VA           7         SC, WA           6         M	Education	Training	States
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$ \begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$			AL, AR, CA, CO, CT, DE, GA (18 MO), HI
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Non-accredited B.L.A. or M.L.A.1NE $2$ HI (MLA), LA, RI $3$ CA, CO, FL, HI (BLA), ME, MT $4$ AR, IA, MD, NM, OR, VA $5$ AZ, MS, NH, SC $6$ DE, NY $9$ ALboard determinedCT, GA, ID, IL, NV, NJ, OK, PA, UT, WARelated 4-year degree $2$ $2$ RI $3$ CO, FL, NE, NV $4$ AR, MD, MT, OR $5$ CA(NAAB), HI, ME, MS, NH, NM, SC $6$ DE, VA $7$ NY, WAboard determinedAZ, CT, GA, ID, IA, OK, PA, UTAny 4-year degree $3$ $4$ LA, MT $5$ CO, FL, HI, ME, MS $6$ MD, OR, VA $7$ SC, WA $A$ , UT			
M.L.A.2HI (MLA), LA, RI3CA, CO, FL, HI (BLA), ME, MT4AR, IA, MD, NM, OR, VA5AZ, MS, NH, SC6DE, NY9ALboard determinedCT, GA, ID, IL, NV, NJ, OK, PA, UT, WARelated 4-year degree23CO, FL, NE, NV4AR, MD, MT, OR5CA(NAAB), HI, ME, MS, NH, NM, SC6DE, VA7NY, WAboard determinedAZ, CT, GA, ID, IA, OK, PA, UTAny 4-year degree34LA, MT5CO, FL, HI, ME, MS6MD, OR, VA7SC, WA6MD, OR, VA7SC, WAboard determinedAZ, AR, CT, GA, ID, IA, NV, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, UTExtension certificate in44CA		4	
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Any 4-year degree       3       NE         4       LA, MT         5       CO, FL, HI, ME, MS         6       MD, OR, VA         7       SC, WA         board determined       AZ, AR, CT, GA, ID, IA, NV, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, UT         Extension certificate in       4		7	NY, WA
4       LA, MT         5       CO, FL, HI, ME, MS         6       MD, OR, VA         7       SC, WA         board determined       AZ, AR, CT, GA, ID, IA, NV, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, UT         Extension certificate in       4		board determined	AZ, CT, GA, ID, IA, OK, PA, UT
5       CO, FL, HI, ME, MS         6       MD, OR, VA         7       SC, WA         board determined       AZ, AR, CT, GA, ID, IA, NV, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, UT         Extension certificate in       4	Any 4-year degree	3	NE
6     MD, OR, VA       7     SC, WA       board determined     AZ, AR, CT, GA, ID, IA, NV, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, UT       Extension certificate in     4		4	LA, MT
7     SC, WA       board determined     AZ, AR, CT, GA, ID, IA, NV, NH, NM, NY, OK, PA, UT		5	CO, FL, HI, ME, MS
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Board determined     PA, UT       Extension certificate in     4		7	SC, WA
		board determined	
		4	
AA/AS in LA 4 NV		4	NV
5 CA		5	СА
Any AA/AS 6 MT	Any AA/AS	6	MT
N/A (training only) AL, AZ, AR, CO, CT, FL, HI, ID, IA, LA, ME,			
Average = 8 years MD, MA, MI, MS, MT, NV, NM, NY, OK, OR,		Average $= 8$ years	
PA, RI, UT, VY, VA, WA, WV			

# Requirements for CLARB Certification

Education	Years of Training
LAAB-accredited degree	3
Non-accredited B.L.A. or M.L.A.	4
NAAB-accredited B.Arch. or M. Arch.	4
ABET-accredited degree in Civil Engineering	4
Any Bachelor's degree	6

		Init	tial Licensure			Reciprocity
С	Required Years ombined Training and Educational Experience	Credit for Years of Education	Credit for Years of Training	Allow Education Only	Allow Years of Training Only	State Specific Requirements for Reciprocity
AL	6	4 -5	1 - 2	No	Yes, 8	Must offer reciprocity with AL
AK	8 - 12	1 - 6	2 - 12	No	No	Course in arctic engineering and accepts CLARB certification
AZ	8	4 - 5	3 - 4	No	Yes, 8	Accepts CLARB certification
AR	6 - 8	4	2 - 4	No	Yes, 7	Accepts CLARB certification
CA	6	1 - 4	2 - 5	No	No	
CO	6	1 - 4	2 - 6	No	Yes, 6	
CT	6 - 8	4	2 - 8	No	Yes, 8	CLARB certification required
DE	6	2 - 4	2 - 4	No	No	CLARB certification required
DC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
FL	5 - 6	4	1 - 6	No	Yes, 7	
GA	5.5	4	1.5	Yes, BA plus MA in LA	No	Must offer reciprocity with GA
HI	6 - 12	4	2 - 12	No	Yes, 12	
ID	4 - 8	4	8	LA degree	Yes, 8	Accepts CLARB certification
IL	6	4	2	No	No	Accepts CLARB certification
IN	7	4	3	No	Yes, 8 prior to 2003	Accepts CLARB certification
IA	7 - 8	4	3 - 4	No	Yes, 10	
KS	8	4 - 5	3 - 4	No	Yes, 8 prior to 1993	
KY	6	4	2	No	Yes, 7 prior to 1994	
LA	5 - 6	2 - 4	1 - 4	No	Yes, 6	No provision for reciprocity
ME	6 - 12	3 - 4	2 - 12	No	Yes, 12	Accepts CLARB certification
MD	6 - 8	2 - 4	2 - 8	No	Yes, 8	Must offer reciprocity with MD
MA	6	4	2 - 6	No	Yes, 6	Must offer reciprocity with MA
MI	7	1 - 5	6 - 7	No	Yes, 7	CLARB certification required
MN	8	4 - 5	3 - 4	No	No	CLARB certification required
MS	4 - 7	2 - 4	5 - 7	Yes, BA or MA		Accepts CLARB certification
MO	7	4	3	No	No	
MT	2 - 8	2 - 5	2 - 8	No	Yes, 8	
NE	5 - 7	4	1 - 3	No	No	CLARB certification required
NV	6 - 8	2 - 4	2 - 4	No	Yes, 6	
NH	7 - 8	3 - 4	3 - 5	No	No	Accepts CLARB certification
NJ	8	4	4	No	No	
NM	6 - 10	4	2 - 10	No	Yes, 10	
NY	8	2 - 4	4 - 12	No	Yes, 12	
NC	8 - 10	4	4 - 10	No	No	
ND	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	A CLADD C'C C
OH	7	4	3	No	No Yes, at the board's	Accepts CLARB certification
OK	7	4	3	No	discretion	Must offer reciprocity with OK
OR	7 - 10	4	3 - 6	No	Yes, 11	
PA	6 - 7	1 - 5	1 - 6	No	Yes, 8	
RI	6	4	2	No	Yes, 6	
SC	6 - 9	4	2 - 5	No	No	
SD	5	4	1	No	No	CLARB certification required
TN	7	4	3	No	No	CLARB certification required
TX	6	4	2	No	No	Accepts CLARB certification
UT	4 - 8	4 - 5	8	Yes, BA or MA		
VT	7	3 - 4	3 - 9	No	Yes, 9	Accepts CLARB certification
VA	6 - 8	3 - 4	3 - 6	No	Yes, 8	Accepts CLARB certification
WA	7	2 - 4	3 - 8	No	Yes, 8	
WV	4 - 6	4 - 5	1 - 2	No	Yes, 10	Accepts CLARB certification
WI	6 - 7	2 - 4	2 - 5	No	No	
WY	7	4	3	No	No	Accepts CLARB certification

#### Landscape Architects - Initial Licensure and State Specific Reciprocity Requirements

# National Landscape Architects - Eligibility and Reciprocity Requirements

State - Acroynym	Initial Education/Experience Requirements	<b>Reciprocity Requirements</b>	Education Experience Required for Purposes of Reciprocity
Alabama - AL	6 years combined education and experience which may include up to 5 years credit for education. In lieu of education, 8 years experience if that experience began prior to August 1, 2012.	Passed a test prepared by CLARB and is from a state with similar qualifications for licensure that also offers reciprocity with AL.	Yes, unless 8 years of practice experience was gained or began prior to August 1, 2012.
Alaska - AK	8 to 12 years combined education and experience, plus a course in arctic engineering.	Licensed in a state that the board determines meets the requirements of law or, have a CLARB certificate. Must also complete an artic engineering course.	Yes
Arizona - AZ	8 years of active education or experience or both (not more than 5 years credit for education).	Must meet the mimimum experience requirements or have CLARB certification. In lieu of meeting education, training and examination requirments, applicants may submit proof of licensure for at least 10 of the last 15 years.	No
Arkansas - AR	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience; or a degree in a field related to LA plus 4 years experience; or 7 years experience satisfactory to the board.	Holds a current, valid license issued under standards equivalent to AR at the time of original licensure. May submit a valid CLARB certificate.	No
California - CA	6 years combined education and experience. Minimum one year education and minimum one year experience under landscape architect post graduation. Multiple pathways.	Licensed in another jurisdiction and meets initial eligiblity requirements for California candidates.	Yes
Colorado - CO	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience or 6 years practical experience or a combination of education and experience to meet the 6 year requirement. Educational credit is given for non-accredited programs.	Holds a current, valid license in another jurisdiction with eligibility requirements substantially equivalent to CO.	No
Connecticut - CT	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years of experience or 8 years experience.	CLARB certification or licensure in another state with standards substantially similar or higher than CT.	No
Delaware - DE	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience or 2 years coursework in LA from an accredited school plus 4 years experience.	Proof of licensure in good standing in another state or territory and passage of a uniform national licensing exam for landscape architecture.	Yes
District of Columbia - DC	N/A	N/A	N/A
Florida - FL	Accredited degree in LA plus 1 year of experience, or 7 years experience and/or education credit.	Licensure by Endorsement if the applicant has passed a licensing exam substantially equivalent to that used by FL or who holds a valid LA license in a state or territory with substantially identical criteria to the requirements in FL at the time of issuance.	No
Georgia - GA	BA/BS degree in LA plus 18 months of training or post graduate degree in LA.	Legally registered/licensed by another jurisdiction where licensure requirements are substantially equivalent to GA and where the same privilege is extended to GA licensees.	Yes
Hawaii - HI	MA in LA plus 2 years experience or undergraduate degree in LA plus 3 years experience or undergraduate degree in pre-LA or Arts and Sciences plus 5 years experience, or 12 years experience. Applicants with 15 years experience do not have to pass the L.A.R.E.	Current licensure in a jurisdiction where the requirements for licensure at the time the license was issued are satisfactory to the Board. Must pass the national licensing exam and the HI supplemental exam.	No
Idaho - ID	Graduation from a college or school of LA approved by the board or 8 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially equivalent to ID or CLARB certification	No

Illinois - IL	Approved professional degree in LA plus 2 years experience.	Licensure in another state which has substantially equivalent requirements and/or CLARB certification.	Yes
Indiana - IN	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years of experience or, before January 2003, at least 8 years experience.	Licensed in another jurisdiction with substantially equivalent requirements as IN and/or CLARB certification.	Yes, unless 8 years of practice experience was gained before January 2003.
Iowa - IA	4 year accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience, 4 year non-accredited degree in LA plus 4 years experience, or 10 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially equivalent to IA.	No
Kansas - KS	Accredited 5 year degree in LA plus 3 years experience or accredited 4 year degree in LA plus 4 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially equivalent to KS.	Yes, unless licensed in their home state before January 1993, may use 8 years experience in lieu of education.
Kentucky - KY	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience.	Licensed in a jurisdiction where the requirements at the time of licensing were equal to those required in KY at the time of application.	Yes
Louisiana - LA	Professional degree from an accredited school or a degree which the commission has declared to be substantially equivalent plus at least 1 year experience, or 6 years experience.	No provision for reciprocity.	No
Maine - ME	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience other than as a principal or 5 years as a principal, or non-accredited degree plus 3 years experience other than a principal or 5 years experience as a principal, or bachelors degree in a non-related field plus 5 years experience, or 3 years experience under the supervision of a licensed LA plus 5 years experience as a principal, or 12 years experience other than as a principal at least 6 of which was under the supervision of a licensed LA.	Current and valid license from another jurisdiction where the requirements for licensure are equivalent to the requirements in ME or CLARB certification issued after examination.	No
Maryland - MD	Accredited degree plus 2 years experience, or design-related degree plus 4 years experience, or non-related degree plus 6 years experience, or 8 years experience.	Licensed in another jurisdiction with substantially equivalent requirements as MD and which offers reciprocity to MD licensees.	No
Massachusetts - MA	Accredited degree and 2 years experience or, 6 years experience	Licensed in another jurisdication whose requirements are at least substantially equivalent to MA provided the jurisdication extends the same privilege to MA licensees.	No
Michigan - MI	7 years of education and/or work experience. BS/BA degree equals 4 years of the 7 year requirement; MA equals 5 years of the 7 year requirement.	Must meet the mimimum experience requirements or have CLARB certification.	No
Minnesota - MN	5 year accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience or, 4 year accredited degree in LA plus 4 years experience or, related degree plus MA/Ph.d. in LA plus 3 years experience.	CLARB certification.	Yes
Mississippi - MS	Accredited degree in LA or one that is accepted by a CLARB recognized accreditation body. In lieu of education, 7 years experience in LA suitable to the board. A degree in a curriculum other than LA qualifies for 2 years credit toward the 7 year requirement.	Licensed by another jurisdiction recognized by CLARB and/or CLARB certification. An applicant without CLARB certification must meet the education and/or experience requirements.	No
Missouri - MO	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience.	Must meet the mimimum education and experience requirements.	Yes
Montana - MT	Accredited MA degree in LA plus 2 years experience or, non-accredited MA degree in LA and 3 years experience or, BA/BS degree plus 4 years experience or AA degree plus 6 years experience, or 8 years experience.	Verification of licensure in another jurisdiction disclosing the laws and regulations in effect at the time of licensure, verification from CLARB of having passed all sections of the LARE. The board determines whether the education and experience requirements for original licensure are substantially equivalent to those in MT.	No

Nebraska - NE	Accredited degree in LA or, non-accredited degree plus 1 year experience or, any bachelors degree plus 3 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction and has CLARB certification.	Yes
Nevada - NV	Accredited or approved BA/MA degree in LA plus 2 years experience or, an AA in LA or BA in a related field plus 4 years experience or, an accredited BA in architecture or civil engineering plus 3 years experience or, any combination of education and experience the Board deems acceptable. A MA degree in a related field counts as 1 year of experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction and actively engaged in the practice of LA for 2 or more years or fulfilled the education and experience requirements of NV.	No
New Hampshire - NH	Accredited degree in LA and 3 years experience or, non-accredited degree in LA or related field and 5 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction whose requirements are substantially equivalent to those in NH or, CLARB certification accompanied by verification of licensure in the other jurisdiction.	Yes
New Jersey - NJ	Accredited or approved degree in LA plus 4 years experience of which at least 2 years must have been full time.	Licensure in another jurisdiction where the standards for licensing met the standards in NJ at the time of initial licensure, and passed the national examination or holds CLARB certification.	Yes
New Mexico - NM	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience or, non-accredited degree in LA plus 4 years experience or, BA or MA in a related field plus 5 years experience, or 10 years practical experience in LA at least 1 of which must have been under the direct supervision of a licensed LA (each year of completed study in an accredited LA program counts as 1 year experience and a baccalaureate degree in any field counts as 2 year experience toward the 10 year requirement).		No
New York - NY	Accredited or approved degree in LA plus experience to equal at least 8 years total or, 12 years experience in LA. Each complete year of study satisfactory to the board counts as 2 years toward the 12 year requirement, not to exceed 8 years of credit.	Licensure in another jurisdiction provided the applicant's qualification met the requirements in NY at the time of initial licensure.	No
North Carolina - NC	Accredited degree in LA plus 4 years experience or, 10 years education and experience in any combination in LA.	Licensure in a jurisdiction whose requirements are deemed equal or equivalent to NC. Applicant must provide proof of education, experience and examination.	Yes
North Dakota - ND	N/A	N/A	N/A
Ohio - OH	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction whose qualifications at the time of licensure were substantially equal to the requirements in OH and CLARB certification.	Yes
Oklahoma - OK	Accredited or approved degree in LA plus 3 years experience. The board may accept "broad experience" in LA as meeting the educational requirements.	Licensure in another jurisdiction with requirements substantially equivalent to OK and where reciprocity is granted for OK licensees.	No
Oregon - OR	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience or, non-accredited in LA or related field plus 4 years experience or, degree in any field plus 6 years experience or, 11 years experience.	Must meet the same requirements as OR applicants.	No
Pennsylvania - PA	Accredited or approved degree in LA plus 2 years experience or, accredited or approved degree in LA plus 1 year of graduate school in LA plus 1 year experience or, 1 year of study in an approved program in LA plus 6 years of combined education and experience or, 8 years experience actual experience in LA. The board waives the examination requirements for individuals with a degree in LA and 10 years experience and for individuals with 15 years experience in LA.	Must meet the education and experience requirements and hold a current license in LA in another jurisdiction.	No

Rhode Island - RI	Accredited BS/MA degree in LA or, at the discretion of the board, a BS/MA degree in a field related to LA or completion of a non-accredited program, plus 2 years experience in LA or 1 year experience in LA plus 1 year experience in a related field. In lieu of a degree, 6 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction with equal standards to those in RI and that grants equal rights to RI licensees, provided that the applicant passed a comparable examination and demonstrates comparable education and experience.	No
South Carolina - SC	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience or, non-accredited degree in LA or a related field plus 5 years experience.	Licensure in another jurisdiction with substantially equivalent requirements to those in SC at the time of initial licensure.	Yes
South Dakota - SD	Accredited degree in LA and completion of a council record from CLARB. Experience requirements are those required by CLARB.	Must meet the mimimum education and experience requirements or have CLARB certification.	Yes
Tennessee - TN	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience.	Comity - must have accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience, current CLARB certification and be licensed in another jurisdiction.	Yes
Texas - TX	Professional degree from a program accredited by the LAAB plus 2 years experience.	Licensed in another jurisdiction with requirements substantially equivalent to those in TX, or where the jurisdiction has entered into an agreement with the Board that has been approved by the Governor of TX. Applicants must have passed the LARE or an equivalent exam approved by CLARB as conforming to CLARB's standards or as being acceptable in lieu of the LARE, and have 2 years of post licensure experience or have CLARB certification.	Yes
Utah - UT	Degree in LA or no less than 8 years experience. Each year of education counts as 1 year of experience.	No provisions for reciprocity cited in law or rules.	No
Vermont - VT	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience or 9 years experience under a licensed LA. Up to 1 year of that experience may be under the supervision of an architect, professional engineer or land surveyor. Credits from an accredited degree program may be substituted for no more than 3 of the 9 year requirement.	Licensure in another jurisdiction with substantially equal requirements as VT or CLARB certification.	No
Virginia - VA	Accredited degree in LA plus 3 years experience or, non-accredited degree in LA plus 4 years experience or, any bachelors degree plus 6 years experience or, 8 years experience.	Licensed in a jurisdiction whose requirements were at least as rigorous as those in VA at the time of original licensure (must have passed an examination) or CLARB certification.	No
Washington - WA	Accredited degree in LA or an equivalent degree in LA as determined by the board plus 3 years experience, or 8 years LA experience, 6 of which must have been under the supervision of a licensed LA. Up to 2 years of experience may be granted for postsecondary education courses in LA if the courses are equivalent to those offered in accredited degree programs.	Licensure in another jurisdiction if the applicant's qualifications and experience are equivalent to the requirements of WA.	No
West Virginia - WV	Accredited degree in LA plus 2 years experience, or accredited graduate degree in LA plus 1 year experience, or, prior to December 31, 2006, 10 years experience in LA, 6 of which must have been under the supervision of a licensed LA or a person having similar qualifications as a LA. After January 1, 2007, 10 years of experience under the supervision of a licensed LA or a person having similar qualifications.	Licensure in another jurisdiction with substantially equivalent requirements to those in W.VA., or CLARB certification.	No
Wisconsin - WI	Accredited degree in LA or an equivalent degree plus 2 years experience, or 7 years training and experience in LA including at least 2 years of coursework in LA or an area related to LA and 4 years practical experience.	Licensed in another jurisdiction with similar requirements to those in WI.	Yes
Wyoming – WY	Accredited degree plus 3 years experience.	Licensed in a jurisdiction with substantially equal requirements to those in WY or CLARB certification.	Yes

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

Proposed language to amend California Code of Regulations section 2615 as follows:

#### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(a)(1) A candidate who has a combination of six years of education and training experience as specified in section 2620 shall be eligible and may apply for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), a candidate who has a Board-approved-degree in landscape architecture in accordance with section 2620(a)(1) or an extension certificate in landscape architecture from a Board-approved school in accordance with section 2620(a)(3) shall be eligible and may apply for Sections 1 and 2 of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). Such candidates shall not be eligible for Sections 3 and 4 of the LARE until the candidate has a combination of six years of education and training experience as specified in section 2620.

A candidate's score on the LARE shall not be recognized in this State if at the time the candidate took the LARE, the candidate was not eligible in accordance with California laws and regulations for the examination or sections thereof.

(b) A candidate shall be deemed eligible and may apply for the California Supplemental Examination upon passing all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(c) All candidates applying for licensure as a landscape architect shall pass all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination or a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California, as determined by the Board, and the California Supplemental Examination subject to the following provisions:

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

(A) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants

(1) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of Canforma applicants at the time of application; or
 (B) Candidate holds a valid license in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 10 of the last 15 years.
 (2) A candidate who is not a licensed landscape architect and who has received credit from a U.S.

jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico for a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California shall be entitled to receive credit for the corresponding sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination, as determined by the Board, and shall be eligible for licensure upon passing any remaining sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination and the California Supplemental Examination.

Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Sections 5650 and 5651, Business and Professions Code.

# STATE OF CALIFORNIA – DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES IN THE REGULATIONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Architects Board (Board) is proposing to take the action described in the Informative Digest. Any person interested may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the action proposed at a hearing to be held at:

# California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, California 95834 Tuesday, September 27, 2016 10:00 a.m.

Written comments, including those sent by mail, facsimile, or e-mail to the addresses listed under <u>Contact Person</u> in this Notice, must be received by the Board at its office no later than 5:00 p.m. on **September 27, 2016** or must be received by the Board at the hearing. The Board, upon its own motion or at the instance of any interested party, may thereafter adopt the proposal substantially as described below or may modify such proposals if such modifications are sufficiently related to the original text. With the exception of technical or grammatical changes, the full text of any modified proposal will be available for 15 days prior to its adoption from the person designated in this Notice as the contact person and will be mailed to those persons who submit written or oral testimony related to this proposal or who have requested notification of any changes to the proposal.

<u>Authority and Reference</u>: As a result of legislative reorganization, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), established on January 1, 1998, replaced the former Board of Landscape Architects and was placed under the purview of the Board. Pursuant to the authority vested by section 5630 of the Business and Professions Code (BPC) and to implement, interpret, or make specific section 5650 of the BPC, the Board is considering changes to Division 26 of Title 16 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) as follows:

# **INFORMATIVE DIGEST**

A. <u>Informative Digest</u>

# Amend Title 16 CCR Section 2615 – Form of Examinations

BPC section 5650 requires candidates for licensure to have a combination of six years education and training in landscape architecture to qualify for the licensing examination. BPC section 5651 requires candidates to pass a written examination as a means of ascertaining their professional qualifications to practice, prior to receiving a license.

BPC section 5651 allows the Board to waive the written examination for candidates currently licensed in a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico who have passed a

written examination equivalent to that which is required in California at the time of application, have submitted proof of job experience equivalent to that required of Californian applicants at the time of application, and have passed the California Supplemental Examination (CSE) if, at the time of application, it is required of California applicants.

CCR section 2615(c)(1) allows candidates licensed in a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board, to be eligible for licensure upon passing the CSE.

This proposal would amend CCR section 2615(c)(1) by adding the provision that candidates applying for California licensure based on licensure in another jurisdiction must submit verifiable documentation that they possess both education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants or, if they do not meet the education requirement, that they hold a current license in good standing in another jurisdiction where they have been actively engaged in the profession for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

# B. Policy Statement Overview/Anticipated Benefits of Proposal

This proposed regulation expands opportunities to become licensed in California while still protecting the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers because it allows candidates who are licensed and have extensive experience practicing in another jurisdiction but do not meet the education requirements of California candidates to obtain California licensure.

# C. <u>Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations</u>

After conducting a review for any regulations that would relate to or affect this area, the Board has evaluated this regulatory proposal and it is neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

# FISCAL IMPACT ESTIMATES

Fiscal Impact on Public Agencies Including Costs or Savings to State Agencies or Cost/Savings in Federal Funding to the State: None

# Nondiscretionary Costs/Savings to Local Agencies: None

Local Mandate: None

Cost to Any Local Agency or School District for Which Government Code Sections 17500-17630 Require Reimbursement: None

# Business Impact:

The Board has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would have no significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

The following studies/relevant data were relied upon in making the above determination: NA

# Cost Impact on Representative Private Person or Business:

The Board is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

# Effect on Housing Costs: None

# EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS

The Board has determined that the proposed regulation would not affect small businesses as it only affects landscape architect applicants.

# RESULTS OF ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ANALYSIS:

# Impact on Jobs/Businesses:

The Board has determined that this regulatory proposal will not have any impact on the creation of jobs or new businesses or the elimination of jobs or existing businesses or the expansion of businesses in the State of California.

#### Benefits of Regulation:

The benefit of the regulation is that it will continue to protect the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers by expanding opportunities for licensure in California to applicants currently licensed in other jurisdictions with extensive experience in landscape architecture but who do not meet the educational requirement of California's laws and regulations.

# CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

The Board must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered to the regulation or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposal described in this Notice, or would be more costeffective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

Any interested person may present statements or arguments orally or in writing relevant to the above determinations at the above-mentioned hearing.

# **INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND INFORMATION**

The Board has prepared an initial statement of the reasons for the proposed action and has available all the information upon which the proposal is based.

#### TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Copies of the exact language of the proposed regulations, and any document incorporated by reference, and of the initial statement of reasons, and all of the information upon which the proposal is based, may be obtained at the hearing or prior to the hearing upon request from the California Architects Board, Landscape Architects Technical Committee at 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105, Sacramento, California 95834 or by telephoning the contact person listed below.

# AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS AND RULEMAKING FILE

All the information upon which the proposed regulations are based is contained in the rulemaking file which is available for public inspection by contacting the person named below.

You may obtain a copy of the final statement of reasons once it has been prepared, by making a written request to the contact person named below (or by accessing the website listed below).

#### CONTACT PERSON

Inquiries or comments concerning the proposed rulemaking action may be addressed to:

Name:	Kourtney Nation
Address:	2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105
	Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.:	(916) 575-7237
Fax No.:	(916) 575-7285
E-Mail Address:	kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The backup contact person is:

Name:	Trish Rodriguez
Address:	2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105
	Sacramento, CA 95834
Telephone No.:	(916) 575-7231
Fax No.:	(916) 575-7285
E-Mail Address:	trish.rodriguez@dca.ca.gov

Website Access: Materials regarding this proposal can be found at www.latc.ca.gov.

# CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

# Hearing Date: September 27, 2016

# Subject Matter of Proposed Regulation: Form of Examinations

Section Affected: California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615

As a result of legislative reorganization, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), established on January 1, 1998, replaced the former Board of Landscape Architects and was placed under the purview of the California Architects Board (Board). Business and Professions Code (BPC) section 5630 authorizes the Board to adopt, amend, or repeal rules and regulations that are reasonably necessary in order to carry out the provisions under the Landscape Architects Practice Act.

#### 1. PURPOSE

BPC section 5650 requires candidates for licensure to have a combination of six years education and training in landscape architecture to qualify for the licensing examination. BPC section 5651 requires candidates to pass a written examination as a means of ascertaining their professional qualifications to practice, prior to receiving a license.

BPC section 5651 allows the Board to waive the written examination for candidates currently licensed in a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico who have passed a written examination equivalent to that which is required in California at the time of application, have submitted proof of job experience equivalent to that required of Californian applicants at the time of application, and have passed the California Supplemental Examination (CSE) if, at the time of application, it is required of California applicants.

Currently, CCR section 2615(c)(1) allows candidates licensed in a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board, to be eligible for licensure upon passing the CSE.

The problem being addressed is that the LATC receives applications for reciprocal licensure from individuals licensed in jurisdictions where additional years of experience could be substituted for education in meeting the prerequisites for taking the licensing examination. Under current California laws and regulations, these individuals are precluded from licensure here because they do not meet the education requirements of this state, even though they have been practicing in other jurisdictions and thus have additional years of training.

This proposal would amend CCR section 2615(c)(1) by adding provisions that candidates applying for California licensure based on licensure in another jurisdiction must submit verifiable documentation that they have education and experience equivalent to that required of

California applicants or, if they do not meet the education experience requirement, that they hold a current license in good standing in another jurisdiction where they have been actively engaged in the profession for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

# FACTUAL BASIS/RATIONALE

The LATC has received and continues to receive reciprocal licensure requests from candidates licensed in other jurisdictions, many for several years, who do not meet the educational requirements of BPC section 5650. In 2013, LATC began discussing the issue of equitable reciprocal licensure with other jurisdictions and reviewing the education, training and examination requirements of other states.

Research reveals that education and/or experience is required by all states to qualify for the licensing examination. Only 4 states allow candidates to take the licensing examination upon completion of an undergraduate or graduate degree in landscape architecture with no experience requirement; 31 states allow candidates to take the examination on the basis of experience alone, with a range of 6 to 12 years required; 5 states have specific provisions that allow reciprocity only if their licensees are granted reciprocity in return; and, 6 states grant reciprocity on the basis of having a Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards' (CLARB) certification (which certifies education and/or experience, and passage of the licensing examination).

At its November 2013 meeting, LATC discussed the fact that BPC section 5650 requires a combination of six years education **and** training as a prerequisite for licensure in California. Therefore, the law precludes licensing in California for candidates licensed in jurisdictions where education was not a component of initial licensure, even though they may have been practicing safely and competently for many years.

LATC asked legal counsel if there is a way to make reciprocity requirements for education less prescriptive to allow more flexibility in evaluating the qualifications of candidates licensed in other states. At the March 2014 LATC meeting, Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) legal counsel advised that a regulatory change would be needed to consider reciprocity for applicants who have not met California's education requirement.

At its February 2015 meeting, LATC directed staff to provide the reciprocity requirements of Arizona and New York, states with similar licensing populations as California. LATC also discussed the current combination six year education and training requirements candidates must complete prior to taking the licensing examination and noted that candidates can qualify for the examination with an associate degree in landscape architecture (1 year of educational credit) and 5 years training/experience. Once a candidate has successfully passed the examination, he/she is deemed to be minimally competent for entry level practice. During the discussion, LATC expressed the belief that licensed professionals continue to learn and gain expertise with each year of practice. Their opinion was that a substantial number of years of post-licensure experience would demonstrate an individual's competence to practice safely, even though they may not have met California's minimum educational experience requirements.

At its November 2015 meeting, LATC reviewed Arizona's and New York's reciprocity standards. Arizona allows reciprocity if the applicant's education, experience and examination were "substantially identical" to the requirements that existed in Arizona at the time they were originally licensed. Arizona allows candidates to test, without education, if they have 8 years of experience. New York grants reciprocity to applicants who hold a current license, have passed the written examination given in the jurisdiction in which they were licensed, and met New York's requirements at the time their license was issued in the other jurisdiction. New York also allows candidates to test, without education, if they have 12 years of experience. Both New York and Arizona accept 10 years of licensed experience for the purpose of reciprocity in lieu of meeting their degree and experience requirements.

Before making a decision on whether to consider years of licensed experience in lieu of education for reciprocity candidates, the LATC discussed the importance of recent and current practice as they relate to competency in offering skills that are up to date with changes in the profession. One way to ensure that practitioners maintain their knowledge and skills is to require periodic license renewal. In California, BPC section 5680 mandates that licenses be renewed every two years and CCR section 2624.1 specifies that licenses that have been expired for more than five years, cannot be renewed.

After discussion and based on the information provided above, LATC voted to approve an amendment to CCR section 2615(c)(1) to add provisions that candidates applying for California licensure based on licensure in another jurisdiction must submit verifiable documentation that they either possess both education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants or, if they do not meet the education requirement, that they hold a current license in good standing in another jurisdiction where they have been actively engaged in the profession for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

# UNDERLYING DATA

- 1. LATC Strategic Plans 2013/14, 2014/15 and 2015/16
- 2. Summary Report LATC Meeting, November 17, 2015
- 3. Summary Report LATC Meeting, May 13, 2015
- 4. Summary Report LATC Meeting, February 10, 2015
- 5. Summary Report LATC Meeting, March 20, 2014
- 6. Summary Report LATC Meeting, November 7, 2013
- 7. Arizona Administrative Code, Title 4, Section R4-30-203 (Waiver of Examination)
- New York Education Law, Article 148, Section 7324 (Requirements for a professional license)
- 9. Landscape Architects Initial Licensure and State Specific Eligibility Requirements
- 10. National Landscape Architects Eligibility and Reciprocity Requirements

# **BUSINESS IMPACT**

This regulation will not have a significant adverse economic impact on directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with business in other states, because it affects only candidates for examination and licensure.

# ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This regulatory proposal will have the following effects:

- It will not create or eliminate jobs within the State of California because it only affects candidates for examination and licensure.
- It will not create new business or eliminate existing businesses within the State of California because it only affects candidates for examination and licensure.
- It will not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California because it only affects candidates for examination and licensure.
- This regulatory proposal will continue to protect the health and welfare of California residents because it allows individuals who have extensive experience practicing in another jurisdiction to obtain California licensure.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect worker safety because it is not related to worker safety in any manner.
- This regulatory proposal does not affect the state's environment because it is not related to the environment in any manner.

# SPECIFIC TECHNOLOGIES OR EQUIPMENT

This regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

# **CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES**

No reasonable alternative to the regulation would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.



**Construction Engineering** 

Espert Witness Services

9-17-16

California Architects Board 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834-9673 Initial Statement of Reasons

Attn: Landscape Architects Technical Committee Subject: Business and Professional Code (BPC) 5650 Affecting California Code of Regulations (CCR). Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 General Provision 2615 Form of Examinations (c)(1) Hearing Date: September 27, 2016

Dear Committee Members;

I present the following for your consideration at the referenced hearing regarding changes to CCR Section 2615(c)(1). The focus of these change are about educational requirements, experience requirements and reciprocity.

I am a California Registered Engineer since 1981. I received my Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering by attending classes at my local junior college and the final 2 years at Sacramento State University. I have owned and operated 2 separate State of California Civil engineering firms. The first one was sold in 2015 to an employee who gained an engineering license through a degree in architecture and the second one is still in operation. Thru the second firm I work with a corporation in Houston that operates engineering branches in 32 separate states. I hold engineering licenses in all of those states and 4 provinces in Canada. All of those licenses except California were applied for thru reciprocity. I readily acknowledge that Landscape Architecture is a different discipline than Civil Engineering and only speak here to what I consider to be common to the two disciplines.

I am currently 67 years old and have 35 years of experience in the practice of engineering. This experience has provided me with a thorough knowledge of issues regarding licensure reciprocity, the value of education in engineering subjects versus the value of obtaining knowledge thru work experience. I also have a fundamental understanding of the economic and legal issue involving free trade, protectionism, interstate commerce, and Federal and NAFTA regulations governing these issues.

I have reviewed the **California Architect Board's, Landscape Architects Technical Committee, <u>Initial Statement of Reasons.</u>** This document is well stated and clear. The Factual Basis/Rational is just that, factual and rational. I am not criticizing in anyway the findings of this document, I am just providing here what I believe is a more compelling and important view of what needs to be considered at the hearing stage.



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2

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To summarize the language in the purpose statement of this document, essentially the purpose of the hearing and legislative change is to;

 Add provisions that candidates applying for California licensure based on licensure in another jurisdiction, (reciprocity), have education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants.

The solution is to;

 Add provisions to waive California education requirements and allow reciprocity applicants that have been engaged in in the industry in good standing for 10 years to take the California Supplemental Exam and thereby become a California Landscape Architect.

To be clear the **problem today** is that there is no pathway to the California Landscape Architect License without with some form of approved formal college education. In fact if the reciprocity applicant gets the initial exam waived due to having passed the test elsewhere he/she is currently faced with this in order to take the CSE:

- (1)(A) Candidates shall possess at least two years of training/practice credit to be eligible for the examination.
  - (B) At least one of the two years of training/practice credit shall be under the direct supervision of a landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction, and shall be gained in one of the following forms:
  - 1. After graduation from an educational institution specified in subdivisions (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.
  - After completion of education experience specified in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8) of this section. ((a)(7) and (8) refer to college extension programs.)

This essentially doubles down the education requirements. The exam and education required here is supposed to be on "more complicated settings for the conduct of architectural practice in the state specific to California". My observation of this additional education and exam is that the bulk of it is a repeat of the material covered in the initial statewide approved Licensed Landscape Architecture Exam. Granted that large population and seismic events are unique to a small handful of states and should be considered, however all of the supplemental state exams I have taken for my reciprocity licenses have focused on state and local regulations, ethics, climate and seismic variations that are not common in other states. All of the supplemental exam knowledge could be obtained **thru on line courses or purchased self-study material** and easily learned in weeks, not months or a year. In my opinion the current requirement, "candidates shall possess at least two years of training/practice credit" has been hijacked in order to direct all applicants to a California Institution of higher education with the attendant financial benefits to the universities, supply and demand benefits for current licensed landscape architects and exclusionary and financial effects that it has on the hard working talented young aspiring landscape architects doing the bulk of the work. Furthermore since when have the words training/practice meant



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education requirements, where I come from first you learn the material, (schooling) then you train (take what you learned and perfect it to a standard of quality) and then practice, meaning do the work as your profession on a daily basis. This is an exclusionary tactic that should not have been be allowed when the requirement was penned back in the day. We have an opportunity to fix that now. We owe it to the citizens of California, and the working men and women in the landscape architecture industry to take the time and effort to do it right. This takes me to the proposed solution that we are considering. 10 years is a long period of time after completing 4 years of college education and/or 3 to 12 years of essentially apprenticeship before licensure. That is 16 years before obtaining a reciprocity license in California. The other thing the solution does not take into consideration is a 4 year bachelor's degree in another discipline. To be fair, there should be at least 3 paths to licensure;

- 1. college education in the discipline + experience
- 2. college education in any discipline + experience
- 3. experience

6 years total Longer time than item 1, maybe 8 years Longer time than items 1 and 2, maybe 10 years (not 16 years)

The current state of affairs is Item 1 at 6 years, the proposed is item 3 at 16 to 22 years depending experience requirements of the original state.

College education with a degree signifies that an individual has 2 years of general education and 2 years of education in a specific subject; however, far more importantly it signifies that the student is capable of accomplishing a major adult task and can endeavor to learn anything they take an interest in. Some individuals simply do not have the time or the money to attend college; however, they do have the ability to learn anything they want. College educated people should understand that that degree does not make them any better or worse than any other human being, it simply means that they may have taken a different path to where they now stand equally beside another person. In my own practice of engineering working with many, many engineers I have learned that college education or the institution they came from has little to do with their ability rise up and do outstanding work within the field. They are good at it because they have a passion for what they do and self-educate beyond their college work. The idea that we are elevating the quality and workmanship of the California Landscape Industry by allowing only college educated or non-college educated individuals after 16 years of practice to obtain a California Landscape license is preposterous.

Typically within the engineering and other professional disciplines the three paths to licensure I listed above are available within the states and through reciprocity. I believe that these three paths are in keeping with Federal and NAFTA intent to provide fair and equal treatment so that professionals can work travel, move and reside where they choose within the region.

I urge you to consider the following language that would result in reasonable and fair approach to amending CCR Section 2615(c)(1), (the changes are in bold underline):



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- (1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction. Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California. Supplemental Examination. Provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:
  - (A) Candidate possess education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application:

<u>Or</u>

(B) <u>Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing</u>, possesses a <u>Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution</u>, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 of the last 5 years

Or

# (C) <u>Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been</u> practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years

This language provides for three separate paths and reasonable amounts of experience. This hearing and the work being done on this issue is important. Please get it right. I ask that this change be approved at your next committee meeting.

In conclusion I would like to point out my reason for taking time here to offer this plea. As you might expect, I do have a horse in this race. The old adage, follow the money and you will understand what you are being pressured to do, is true here. As I see it, in the name of public safety and quality of life Californian's are being asked to spend more money on the product and bolster the coffers of our colleges that provide landscape architecture education at the expense of outsiders that apply for reciprocity and individuals without college education that earned landscape architect licenses outside the state. Excluded individuals with a four year degree in who have practiced engineering and been practicing landscape architecture for over 10 years should be able to apply for the license. The future of our children and grandchildren are at stake. Furthermore, as a lifetime 67 year old California resident and business man I am part of a generation that has perpetrated the constant erosion of ethics, fairness, and opportunity that once existed here. College educations have become affordable to the privileged few, our colleges have become businesses that prey on those that can and cannot afford them and our businesses have learned how to profit from exclusionary tactics of the less fortunate. I see here an opportunity to combat this trend and do the right thing for the youth of our State.



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5

Please just ignore the rhetoric here and focus on the purpose of the hearing and consider the changed language I have proposed.

Best Regards Joe Turner, RCE



Elizabeth Turner 1837 Wright Street Santa Rosa, CA 95404 September 17, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Board and LATC Members:

I am writing to you as a third generation Californian who cares deeply about my state. I am very concerned regarding some of your proposed actions. It has been announced you will be holding a hearing on this matter on September 27, 2016; so, I have decided to share my thoughts with all of you.

As a tax paying resident of the state of California, I would prefer to see a more inclusive set of requirements for CA licensure in the field of landscape architecture. I would like to see your requirements include more varying types of approaches for entry into this field. The regulations you propose continue to severely limit the types of approach one might take to enter this field. These proposed regulations will create an additional 10 year requirement and look more like you are trying to keep even qualified people out. The only benefit these proposed regulations seem to have, for anyone, are for people already holding a CA state landscape architect license and a very limited number of educational institutions in the state of CA. Even people with no knowledge of economic theory do understand the effects and affects of artificial manipulation of the supply and demand curve.

I do understand, and support, the need for industry standards and regulations; having run the business end, (i.e. bookkeeping, financing, HR, etc.), of my husband's engineering firm for several years. I just think the requirements you are proposing, for reciprocity and to even qualify to take the examination, are onerous and unnecessary. In my opinion, if people do not have the knowledge the state requires of them to pass an examination, then she or he should not be allowed to practice in the field. As to how a person acquires the knowledge to think, or feel, he or she is prepared to take the examination , that should allow for many approaches.

Being political appointees to a board or committee asked to oversee rules, regulations, and laws, governing any industry or profession is a huge responsibility. In the case of the Architects Board and the LATC, I understand this does involve safety of the general public, good stewardship of our land and our economy. I do understand that the regulations you adopt have a very real impact on people's lives, both in your industry and as members of the general public. It would be my guess, and it is just a guess, that possibly all of you have obtained your success through some degree of higher education. I came from a family where formal education is highly valued. My grandmother was one of the first women to graduate from normal school in San Francisco. She took the boat from Elk, now usually called Greenwood, once a week. She taught school, public and private, for 70 years of her life. She lived to be 93. I have been the recipient of higher education, for which I am grateful. I submit to you that not every intelligent, hard working person in our great state or country can avail themselves of this opportunity for a myriad of reasons . I am asking you not to burden an already cumbersome system with undue regulation.

Elizabeth Sumer



September 26, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

# Re: Public Comment and Support for Revised Language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615.

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee:

I am writing to express the APLD California Chapter's support for the Revised Language to amend California Code of Regulations section 2615 Form of Examinations. We believe that in order to address the current environmental crisis in California, a diverse and wellqualified body of landscape professionals is needed. For this reason, we support the proposal of Dustin Maxam and other out-of-state registered landscape architects' alternative to the Committee's Proposed Regulatory Language amendment to § 2615.

The revised language will expand pathways to Landscape Architecture Licensure in California. Primarily, the proposed language further aligns the California Landscape Architects Practice Act with those in the 50 States, and is inclusive to licensed individuals with diverse combinations of education and experience.

The revised language takes important small steps toward correcting California's existing barriers to the legal, ethical, and responsible practice of landscape design in our state. We recognize the positive change the LATC has started by addressing these issues, and thank you for the opportunity to comment on this improved language. We ask that you please accept the proposed language for approval at your next meeting.

Sincerely,

Mary Fisher, APLD Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) APLD California Chapter President

Dustin Maxam, RLA 325 Carrillo Street, Santa Rosa, CA 95401 707-569-6739 dmaxam@EBAgroup.com File #: 4021 (2012 Reciprocity Application)

September 27, 2016

Members of the Committee and Staff California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I applaud you for taking steps to correct the inequity in the current system. The existing regulatory language is exclusionary to professional level Landscape architects who gained licensure out of state and do not meet the precise education requirement of California's first time candidates. As a result there are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to these existing discriminative regulations. These out-of-state licensed individuals, having passed the national exam, are by definition competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public – the primary concern of licensure.

In California (CA) a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Landscape Architects Registration Exam (LARE). Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.

The current Business and Professions Code (BPC) and California Code of Regulations (CCR) are extremely narrow in the Path to Landscape Architect Licensure when compared to the Paths available to licensees in most other States as well as to the paths of Licensure for California Architects and Civil Engineers. California's education requirement essentially cuts off whole swaths of potential candidates from ever being able to gain licensure. The fact that existing regulations allow architecture in place of landscape architecture education further illustrates how the governing regulations arbitrarily deem the education of one allied discipline more capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of Californians over another.

*Please refer to Appendix A of this letter for a summary of the existing regulatory background preceding the proposed change.* 

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee's (LATC) proposed regulatory change to amend California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615, Form of Examinations is

a misguided step toward addressing the inequities created from increasingly restrictive policies over time. These progressively constraining licensure requirements are illustrated by the fact that many currently practicing CA Licensed Landscape Architects would not qualify for licensure under today's policies. These professionals became licensed under the previous Landscape Architect's Board (LAB) and have varied educational backgrounds, which are no longer deemed acceptable by the LATC. The fact that these California licensed individuals are currently competently practicing and contributing to the profession is proof not only that there are many successful ways to obtain the knowledge and experience to pass the national landscape architecture registration exams (such as the LARE), but that they are not compromising the public safety, the primary concern of the LATC.

Per the LATC Notice and Initial Statement of Reasons, the purpose of the proposed regulation change is to expand "opportunities to become licensed in California while still protecting the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers." The LATC would do this by allowing "candidates who are licensed and have extensive experience practicing in another jurisdiction but do not meet the education requirements of California candidates to obtain California licensure."

However, the proposal is a misstep because it only appears to expand "opportunities to become licensed" and when implemented would only benefit a few individuals. These individuals would already be established out of state, hold senior or principal positions, and be nearing the ends of their careers. It would do little to address the majority of licensed candidates who do not meet California's initial licensure requirements due to existing exclusionary education requirements. These education requirements are <u>not</u> shared by the majority of other States or by California's licensure pathways for Architects and Civil Engineers (who offer licensure to those with and without discipline specific education). The proposed change would do little for those individuals who unfortunately, like most people (myself included), did not even know Landscape Architecture (LA) existed when in college and as a result possess a bachelor's degree in a subject not accepted by the LATC.

# **Semantics**

Licensure requirements for Reciprocity are difficult to convey, partly because experience gained before and after licensure is treated differently. With this in mind the following analysis categorizes landscape architecture experience as either:

- 1. Pre licensure, meaning experienced gained before licensure and used to satisfy a state's requirements for initial licensure.
- 2. Post (gaining) licensure, meaning experienced acquired after initial licensure and while holding a valid license and practicing or offering services.

In addition, in the context of reciprocity between states, licensee, licensed, and licensure are assumed to be equivalent to registrant, registered, and registration in the field of landscape architecture – as is the industry standard practice.

# The LATC's Proposed Regulatory Language Relies on Precedent Taken out of Context

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615, Form of Examinations would allow reciprocity to Candidates who hold "a valid license in good standing, and [have] been practicing or offering professional services for at least 10 of the last 15 years." This language borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however **this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California;** these states allow:

- 1. Licensure for candidates with varying degrees and combinations of experience, while California fails to recognize education except Landscape Architecture & Architecture.
- 2. Licensure for candidates with experience only, while California fails to recognize experience only pathways.

The following code excerpts, from New York and Arizona, and commentary will demonstrate how the LATC has mistakenly applied precedent to its own regulations.

# Precedent Borrowed from New York Education Law, Article 148 Section 7324. Requirements for a Professional License

(3.) In lieu of degree, experience and examination requirements specified in subparagraphs (2), (3) and (4) of subdivision one of this section, ten years of lawful practice of landscape architecture outside the state satisfactory to the board may be accepted by the department upon the passing of a practical examination satisfactory to the board.

# Precedent <u>Not</u> Borrowed from New York Education Law, Article 148 Section 7324. Requirements for a Professional License

(4.) On recommendation of the board, the department may exempt from examination an applicant who holds a license or certificate to practice landscape architecture issued to him upon examination by a legally constituted board of examiners in any other state or political subdivision of the United States, <u>provided the applicant's qualifications met the requirements in this state at the time such license was issued</u>.

It is clear that borrowing precedent from New York's paragraph (3.) for the 10 years licensed experience is <u>taken out of context</u> because paragraph (4.) allows licensure by alternate pathways (not available to CA applicants), as described below:

(2.) In lieu of degree and experience requirements specified in subparagraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision one of this section, twelve years of practical experience in landscape architecture of a grade and character satisfactory to the board may be accepted by the department provided that each complete year of study satisfactory to the department may at the discretion of the board be accepted in lieu of two years of experience but not to exceed eight years toward the required total of twelve years. Eight years of such experience satisfactory to the board may be accepted by the department for admission to that portion of the examination related to fundamental landscape architecture theory.

# According to the New York State Office of the Professions, the Department upon review accepts education toward their 12 year education and/or experience requirement as follows:

Units assigned to each educational category below are the maximum that the Department may grant. After evaluating the degree or courses you successfully completed, the Department may grant less than the maximum number of units. Credit will not be awarded for multiple categories; the highest professional education level attained determines the maximum credit to be awarded. If you completed:

- A. Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) accredited undergraduate program and graduated with a degree from a:
  - 4-year program 8 units
  - 5-year program 9 units

NOTE: Partial credit will be considered for incomplete degree-granting LAAB accredited programs based on review of transcripts (2 units per year for a maximum of 6 units).

- B. A graduate degree in landscape architecture AND an LAAB accredited undergraduate program and graduated with a degree from a:
  - 4-year program 9 units
  - 5-year program 10 units
- C. A 4-year non-landscape architecture degree AND a degree from an LAAB accredited graduate program. - 8 units
- D. A degree in landscape architecture from an undergraduate or graduate curriculum that is NOT ASLA accredited - 7 units (maximum)

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An Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) accredited civil engineering program or National
Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) accredited architecture program
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- 6 units (maximum)
- E. A 2-year landscape architecture-related technical program, you will be awarded one unit for each year successfully completed (or the equivalent in course credit) - 4 units (maximum)
- F. A 2-year landscape architecture-related technical program, you will be awarded one unit for each year successfully completed (or the equivalent in course credit) - 4 units (maximum)
- G. A non-landscape architecture program (other than above) and have earned: An Associate's Degree - 2 units A Bachelor's Degree or higher - 4 units
  - H. A certificate of study or individual courses in landscape architecture, design or technology - 0 units
- Source: http://www.op.nysed.gov/prof/larch/larchlic.htm

Using New York as precedent, in fact, <u>supports accepting both</u> 'non-landscape architecture' degrees and experience only toward the combination of experience needed for licensure. However, this is not what the LATC is proposing. In my personal scenario, I could be given 4 units for a 'non-landscape architecture' Bachelor's degree and using 8 years work experience under a licensed landscape architect would be eligible for New York Licensure by meeting its 12 Year requirement.

To further illustrate how New York's paragraph (C.), borrowed by the LATC, is taken out of context: An individual with experience only would be eligible, in New York, for licensure upon demonstrating 12 years (including pre-licensure) experience per paragraph (4.). Why would a candidate want to demonstrate 10 years lawful practice per paragraph (3.) <u>in addition</u> to 6-12 years pre-licensure experience required for licensure in other states? The answer is simple: New York's board uses this method to allow licensure, in lieu of degree and experience requirements, for unforeseen circumstances such as individuals licensed under currently non-existent regulations that would not meet the initial experience requirements of paragraph (4.).

The following code excerpt, from Arizona, will demonstrate how the LATC again has mistakenly applied precedent to its own regulations.

# Precedent Borrowed from Arizona Administrative Code, Title 4, Section R4-30-203. Waiver of Examination

- (A.) The Board shall grant a waiver of the professional examination requirement in A.R.S. § 32-122.01 and R4-30-201 to an applicant for professional registration who holds a valid professional or registration, or license...
  - (2.) The applicant submits verifiable documentation to the Board that the applicant has been actively engaged as a professional or occupational registrant, certificant, or licensee in another state or jurisdiction for at least 10 years in the

category for which registration, certification, or licensure is sought. For purposes of this subsection, "actively engaged as a professional registrant" means that the applicant holds a valid professional or occupational registration, certification, or license in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

# Precedent <u>Not</u> Borrowed from Arizona Administrative Code, Title 4, Section R4-30-203. Waiver of Examination

- (A.) The Board shall grant a waiver of the professional examination requirement in A.R.S. § 32-122.01 and R4-30-201 to an applicant for professional registration who holds a valid professional or registration, or license...
  - (1.) The applicant submits verifiable documentation to the Board that the education, experience, and examination requirements under which the applicant was registered in the original state or jurisdiction were substantially identical to those existing in Arizona at the time of the applicant's original registration, certification, or licensure; or

As you can see the LATC again borrows precedent from paragraph (2.), but fails to account for paragraph (1.) which allows for licensure with 8 years experience only as outlined in:

# A.R.S. § 32-122.01 Qualifications for professional registration

- 2. Be actively engaged in education or experience, or both, in the profession for which registration is sought for at least eight years.
- Source: https://www.azleg.gov/FormatDocument.asp?inDoc=/ars/32/00122-01.htm&Title=32&DocType=ARS

To further illustrate this inconsistency, **A.A.C. Section R4-30-203** also allows grants reciprocity to individuals with CLARB Council Records per:

(B.) The Board shall grant a waiver of the professional examination requirement in A.R.S. § 32-122.01 and R4-30-201 to an applicant for professional registration who submits verifiable documentation to the Board that the applicant holds one of the following professional records, issued by a national registration body, and is registered in good standing in another state or jurisdiction. The Board recognizes the following national registration body records: 3. Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards Council Record and Certification.

Individuals may obtain CLARB Council Certification with "any bachelor's degree" and 3 years experience per CLARB Certification Standards (2.2) thus demonstrating how Arizona allows reciprocity candidates with bachelor's degrees other than landscape architecture to gain licensure. Like New York, using Arizona as precedent, in fact, <u>supports accepting both</u> 'non-landscape architecture' degrees and experience only toward the combination of experience needed for licensure. However, this not what the LATC is proposing.

Please refer to Appendix B of this letter for a copy of the CLARB Standards of Eligibility.

The way the LATC is adopting these States' as precedent to amend CCR § 2615 is dramatically different from the context in which they were created and implemented. The LATC's proposed language requires candidates to demonstrate 10 years of lawful practice in conjunction with 6 to 12 years pre-licensure experience gained for initial licensure in another state. The proposed regulation change essentially results in a requirement of 16-22 years of experience and is incongruent with every other state.

# The below chart illustrates the experience required by borrowing precedent out of context:

			The LATC's Proposed Reciprocity Requirement:		
Pre-Licen	sure Experience On	ly Required by other States	Post-Licensure Experience Required	Total Years of	
(for l	(for Initial, first time, Licensure by Examination)		(Professional Practice, After Becoming Licensed)	Experience Required	
6	Years	- Most lenient	10 Years	16	
8	Years (AZ)**	-Average	10 Years	18**	
12	Years (NY)	- Most conservative	10 Years	22	

\*\*Thirty-one states grant licensure to candidates on the basis of examination and experience alone, with an average of eight years of experience required.

Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure (there are four states that allow licensure with only a degree in landscape architecture and passing the LARE). The majority of states (thirty one) allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. In these states persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years of experience prior to examination. The minimum experience requirement is 6 years and the longest is 12 years. As illustrated in the above chart the current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity.

Please consider that the LATC's proposed experience only pathway averaging 18 years, for reciprocity, is double the experience requirements of the California Architects and Civil Engineers I work alongside every day. To become a licensed Architect in California requires a combination of 8 years education and work experience (The Architect's Board deems a multitude of combinations of time acceptable: including a high school diploma and experience <u>or</u> 1 yr of education credit for any 'other four year accredited degree' and the remainder credit for working under a licensed Architect and a Contractor, Engineer, or Landscape Architect). Also, please consider that it is less stringent to become a Licensed Civil Engineer in California than a Landscape Architect (the BPELSG outlines 3 years of experience to become an EIT and then 6 years to become a PE; a total of 9 years of experience with no degree). Reciprocity (comity) is granted to out of State applicants, with no engineering degree and proper experience, by simply retaking the FE Exam.

The LATC's proposed change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals and will do little to accomplish its intended purpose of creating "opportunities to become licensed in California while still protecting the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers."

# The LATC's Proposed Regulatory Language Would Not Accomplish its Intended Purpose

Per the LATC, the purpose of the proposed regulation change is to expand "opportunities to become licensed in California while still protecting the health, safety, and welfare of California consumers." However, the LATC's proposal will not accomplish its intended purpose because it would only allow licensed candidates whose experience is so extensive that they would have already been eligible for Reciprocity in California at the time they gained initial licensure in another state. This is because Senate Bill 821 amended BPC, Section 5651, effective January 1,

2010, "requiring both California initial and reciprocity candidates to qualify for licensure by the same standard of experience [including education]." Thus anyone with 10 years licensed experience (today, or in the near future) previously had an opportunity to gain CA licensure.

# Please see Appendix A for additional background information.

In my personal experience, while I could currently gain licensure in both states upon which the precedent is based (NY and AZ) I would still not be eligible for Reciprocity in California under the proposed change. I would need to gain an additional 5 years professional experience - I became a Registered Landscape Architect in the State of Nevada in 2011. In Nevada I was able to take the LARE by demonstrating the proper work experience and by having an accepted degree in a related subject to Landscape Architecture. I have a Bachelor's Degree in Geography, from the University of California, which covered coursework in the physical and environmental sciences, spatial mapping and analysis, urban planning, and many other overlapping subjects.

In addition, the LATC's proposed regulation change essentially equates the minimum education requirement for CA initial licensure candidates (a 2 year Associates degree in Landscape Architecture) to 10 years licensed experience, as that is the only eligibility difference between CA initial licensure candidates and reciprocity candidates. I agree with the Committee's past assertion "that a substantial number of years of post-licensure experience would demonstrate an individual's competence to practice safely, even though they may not have met California's minimum educational experience requirements." However, the proposal's equation of 10 years of licensed experience equaling a two year degree in landscape architecture is unreasonable, lacks logic, and is unintentionally exclusionary. This again illustrates how the proposed language is unable to accomplish its intended purpose.

# Our Proposed REVISED Regulatory Language

Great effort and thoughtful consideration have gone into the preparation of the following <u>'Revised</u> Regulatory Language' to present a reasonable and more equitable alternative to the change to California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615, Form of Examinations. The authors of the following have consulted or attempted to consult LATC staff, LATC appointed members, CA Architects Board staff, the Office of Administrative Law staff, CLARB, and private legal counsel.

I believe I have worked diligently, in the spirit of collaboration, with LATC staff in order to prevent introducing any language that would result in eambiguity, require interpretation, or be burdensome. Along that vein, I spoke off the record with LATC Program Manager, Trish Rodriguez, and made every attempt to create an alternative that can be acceptable to all parties and move swiftly through review by the LATC, approval by the California Architects Board (CAB), and be implemented as soon as possible.

I along with other past reciprocity applicants and hundreds of concerned CA residents request the following revised language, to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615, be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

# § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

(A) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application; or

(B) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, possesses a Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 of the last 5 years; or

(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

Our Proposed Revised Language adds one intermediary pathway (B) to grant reciprocity to those licensed candidates possessing an accredited bachelor's degree and 2 years post licensure experience; and retains the LATC's proposed 'experience only' pathway as (C) which has been modified to grant reciprocity to licensed candidates possessing 6 years post licensure experience rather than 10 years. Both options (B) and (C) are based on defensible precedent and logic as detailed below.

# Precedent for Our Proposed REVISED Regulatory Language

Washington, Oregon, Nevada, and Arizona are our neighbors and share interstate commerce, clients, and climates. In addition, Texas is a significant partner in commerce and the State with the most similar population, size, and economy. Therefore these States seem like the most logical sources of precedent.

# Precedent for Revised (B) Option Reciprocity for Licensees with a Bachelor's Degree & Experience

Landscape architecture is a broad profession drawing from many different disciplines. Work undertaken by landscape architects bridges the gaps between planners and residents, architects and engineers, contractors and owners, as well as the bottom line and the public's benefit. Because landscape architecture is such a vast field, overlapping many other disciplines, it makes sense to license those with diverse varying backgrounds in order to bring a more comprehensive breadth of knowledge to the profession.

As a landscape architect I work with a multitude of consultants and interested parties every day; my diverse background of nearly 5 years Civil Engineering experience, over 9 years (pre and post licensure) Landscape Architecture experience, and my unique education all allow me to bridge gaps between disciplines and facilitate creative problem solving that occurs when multiple disciplines work together. It is hard for colleagues to believe that, under the current and proposed regulations, I am more qualified to begin the process of Civil Engineering licensure than Landscape Architecture in CA.

The following supports a reciprocity option based on holding any Bachelor's degree and 2 years professional (post licensure) practice experience:

The State of Nevada (NV) grants Reciprocity to those who are licensed in another jurisdiction, **actively engaged in the practice of LA for 2 or more years**, <u>or</u> who fulfil the (pre-licensure) education and experience requirements of NV. Nevada statute accepts not only degrees in landscape architecture, but also bachelor's degrees in related fields, as well as architecture and civil engineering. In addition, the State accepts CLARB council records which as previously described create a licensure pathway for those with any bachelor's degree. In NV, matching our proposed Revised Regulatory Language, those who meet the pre-licensure eligibility requirements are not subject to the 2 years of professional practice for reciprocity:

### N.A.C § 623A.222 Eligibility based on reciprocity

- - (1) Been actively engaged in full-time practice as a registered landscape architect for 2 or more years; or
  - (2) Fulfilled the requirements for education and work experience as set forth in NAC 623A.220.

#### N.A.C § 623A.220 Eligibility based on combination of education and experience

- 1. Except as otherwise provided in NAC 623A.222 and 623A.226, an applicant for a certificate of registration must: (a) Have 6 years of education and experience in landscape architecture:
- 2. The Board will accept the following combinations of education and experience to fulfill the requirements contained in paragraph (a) of subsection 1:

(c) A bachelor's degree in architecture or civil engineering from an institution that is accredited by an accrediting body approved by the Board and 3 years of postgraduate work experience under the direct supervision of a landscape architect who is registered in this State, any other state in the United States, any province of Canada or any other jurisdiction approved by the Board. A master's degree in architecture or civil engineering will be deemed equivalent to 1 year of postgraduate work experience.

(d) Any other combination of education and experience which is deemed by the Board to be equivalent to the requirements set forth in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c).

While the State of Texas (TX) has similar restrictive initial licensure education requirements, as CA, they set precedent by offering additional paths to licensure specific to reciprocity applicants. In TX reciprocity applicants, who do not meet the requirements of initial licensure, must have passed the LARE or an equivalent exam and **have 2 years of post licensure experience** <u>or</u> have a CLARB certification. Though Texas' pre-licensure education requirements are similar to CA, Texas accepts CLARB council records and therefore allows a licensure pathway for any bachelor's degree (as previously explained). In Texas, matching our proposed Revised Regulatory Language, those who meet the pre-licensure eligibility requirements are not subject to the 2 years of professional practice for reciprocity:

#### T.A.C § 3.22 Registration by Reciprocal Transfer

(a) A person may apply for landscape architectural registration by reciprocal transfer if the person holds a landscape architectural registration that is active and in good standing in another jurisdiction and the other jurisdiction:
(1) has licensing or registration requirements substantially equivalent to Texas registration requirements; or
(2) has entered into a reciprocity agreement with the Board that has been approved by the Governor of Texas.
(b) In order to obtain landscape architectural registration by reciprocal transfer, an Applicant must

(b) in order to obtain landscape architectural registration by reciprocal transfer, an Applicant must demonstrate the following:

(1) the Applicant has:

(A) successfully completed the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE) or another landscape architectural registration examination which the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) has approved as conforming to CLARB's examination standards or as being acceptable in lieu of the LARE; and (B) acquired at least two (2) years of acceptable landscape architectural experience following registration in another jurisdiction; or

(2) the Applicant currently holds a Council Certificate from CLARB that is in good standing.

In addition, Oregon accepts degrees in related fields with experience for initial licensure and de facto allows the same requirements for reciprocity. The States of Washington and Arizona accept candidates with any bachelor's degree and experience by accepting CLARB Certificates or using their own standards (§ W.A.C. 38-13-050). Also, because these States do not require the additional 2 years post-licensure experience for reciprocity our Revised Language is more conservative, yet still closer in precedent than the LATC's proposal.

Furthermore, based on my verification of LATC Staff's prior analysis, approximately 29 States grant reciprocity to those with degree's other than Landscape Architecture this is done either explicitly in their licensure requirements or by their acceptance of CLARB certificates.

From the perspective of the LATC, **the most problematic State** for this reciprocity solution is Nebraska, which allows those with any bachelor's the shortest pre-licensure experience requirement of 3 years. Our revised (B) option will offset this shortfall by requiring 2 years of post-licensure experience and will essentially match the California 5 year experience requirement for CA initial applicants with 1 year education credit (meeting the LATC's minimum standard).

One other concern mentioned by the LATC was how those with unaccredited degrees or unrecognized foreign degrees, not accepted under the proposed (A) option (the education in landscape architecture path), will apply for reciprocity. This can be answered simply; reciprocity applicants have already been screened by other states and I was unable to find an example of one that accepts unaccredited or unrecognized bachelor's degrees in any subject. Therefore those candidates, in this rare instance, will need to apply for reciprocity under the revised (C) option because those degrees cannot be verified.

Using Texas and Nevada precedent, and with the majority of States accepting bachelor's degrees and experience, the LATC should accept our Revised (B) Option for reciprocity applicants as it is more effective at achieving the goal of expanding pathways to licensure and it is more equitable to college educated licensed individuals.

# Precedent for Revised (C) Option **Reciprocity for Licensees with Experience Only**

Pre LATC research "31 states allow candidates to take the examination [and gain licensure] on the basis of experience alone, with a range of 6 to 12 years required." Not a single state grants licensure to candidates with zero experience; the only exception is a few states that allow examination upon completion of a degree in landscape architecture. In addition, California Architecture and Engineering licensing boards offer examples of pathways to licensure for noncollege educated individuals. The LATC falls under the domain of the CA Architects Board and it only make sense that CAB would serve as precedent for its own Committee.

Our revised (C) option allows licensure eligibility to out of state licensed professionals if a Candidate had been practicing or offering services for at least 6 of the last 10 years. The basis of this rationale is that 6 years professional (licensed) experience would make up the difference between the states with the shortest and longest requirements for <u>experience only</u> initial licensure.

- Six years is the shortest initial experience only requirement
- <u>Twelve years is the longest initial experience only requirement</u> Six year difference

It is reasonable to argue that those individuals licensed in another state with the shortest prelicensure experience of six years and who also possess <u>an additional</u> six years post-licensure professional practice will be as qualified, if not more so, than a CA initial candidate with an Associate's Degree in LA, four years of experience as a landscape contractor, and only one year experience under the supervision of a licensed landscape architect, as is currently allowed in CA.

Under our revised (C) option: 6 years pre + 6 years post-licensure = 12 total years of experience.

The current minimum standard for Licensure in California is examination with an associate degree in landscape architecture (1 year of educational credit) and 5 years training/experience. Once a candidate has demonstrated this and successfully passed the examinations, "he/she is deemed to be minimally competent for entry level practice." **Therefore, another equation can be established:** 

- Twelve years of pre and post licensed experience for reciprocity
- <u>Five years training/experience required for CA initial licensure</u> Seven years of additional experience

In effect this seven years of additional experience (1 pre + 6 post-licensure) equals the missing variable of 1 year of educational credit, such as an associate's degree in LA. We can examine this even more detail by considering the following.

At San Diego Mesa College, a school that recently hosted and presented to the LATC, to earn a 2 year Associates degree in landscape architecture requires 9 classes totaling 31 (lower division, undergraduate) Units. Students earn credit for educational classes and work on the basis of the 'Carnegie Unit.' California's Title V code, section 55002 defines a semester unit of credit as equal to a minimum of three hours of work per week for a semester. While semester lengths vary, the "Carnegie definition is based upon a minimum length of 16 weeks" and the "unit of credit equates to three hours of student work per week (1 hour lecture plus 2 hours of homework or 3 hours of lab) for the 16 weeks."

San Diego Mesa College		Approx. No. of	Estimated	Estimated	Estimated Study/	Total Min.
Units	Course Required for the Major	Weeks	Lecture Time	Lab Time	Homework	Hours
2	ARCH 100 - Graphic Design Communication I	16	0	6	0	96
3	ARCH 135 - Tree Identification	16	1.5	4.5	3	144
3	ARCH 136 - Shrubs, Vines, Groundcover Identification	16	1.5	4.5	3	144
5	ARCH 155 - Environmental Design I: Creating Exterior Spaces	16	3	6	6	240
5	ARCH 190 - Environmental Design II: Urban and Community Design	16	3	6	6	240
2	ARCH 220 - Graphic Design Communication I	16	0	6	0	96
2	ARCH 221 - Graphic Design Communication II	16	0	6	0	96
5	ARCH 230 - Sustainability in the Built Environment	16	3	6	6	240
4	ARCH 250 - Site Design, Topography and Grading	16	1.5	7.5	3	192
Total Units:					Total	
31	**Lecture & Lab times defined by CA Title V code, section 55002			Hours:	1488	

# The following chart summarizes the units needed for an Associate's Degree in Landscape Architecture, excluding general education breadth requirements.

The total hours of lecture, lab, and homework sum to 1,488 hours – this the defined amount of time needed to acquire the knowledge specific to a Landscape Architecture associate's degree.

From the perspective of the LATC, the most problematic concern is how does an individual acquire this knowledge without defined study? The answer is yet again very simple, the knowledge is acquired exponentially over time. The fundamental skills and knowledge are learned by exposure and mentoring early on – with more abstract knowledge gained as one's career responsibilities and experience grows. This was the method used for passing along a profession's skills, knowledge, and ethics for the majority of our history. It is a tried and true model for producing great minds and talented individuals, some of whom founded the discipline of Landscape Architecture.

To look at this concept in more depth: if one year of full time professional practice is 2,080 hours (the accepted standard). Seven years of experience, as previously calculated, multiplied by 2,080 working hours per year is 14,560 hours of professional experience. Now we have the opportunity to look at a new equation, by creating a ratio of the education hours to the experience hours:

- 1,488 hours of study for an AA degree
- / 14,560 hours of professional experience 10%

We see that the education hours are equal to about 10% of the time required for the reciprocity candidates experience requirement. If we extrapolate this to a typical work day (10% of 8 hrs), we see that equates to about 45 mins. As a licensed professional I believe that I easily spend 45 mins a day researching, learning, practicing and acquiring the skills listed in the Mesa College chart. In addition, this learning is directly related to practice at the highest levels of our

profession – not undergraduate fundamentals; it is also in addition to the 5 years already accounted for.

So, under our revised (C) option for reciprocity, a licensed professional's twelve years of pre and post-licensure experience will more than make up for any deficiency resulting between different states' initial licensure requirements for experience only candidates. This is a more than reasonable and adequate amount of time to gain the knowledge found in a landscape architecture associate's degree program.

Precedent for using experience only as a path to licensure, without formal education, is readily available from the majority of States. **Precedent can be borrowed from the LATC's own examples of New York and Arizona**, as well as Nevada, Oregon, and Washington – all states that allow licensure on the basis of experience only (with NY and OR having the longest requirements of 12 and 11 years). **The LATC should accept our Revised (B) Option for reciprocity applicants as is for more effective** at achieving the goal of expanding pathways to licensure, is more equitable to licensed individuals with experience only, and more closely matches the precedent set by the California Architects Board for its licensees.

# Our Proposed REVISED Regulatory Language is a More Effective Reasonable Alternative

The California Architects Board and the Landscape Architects Technical Committee must consider reasonable alternatives to the proposed regulation. It is my objective, with the help of my colleagues and the public, to demonstrate that our **proposed revised language for the regulation** is:

- 1. More effective at carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed.
- 2. Is as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons.
- 3. Is more cost-effective to private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

I believe it is a disservice to the public to exclude those capable of contributing to the profession, simply because of arbitrary requirements that have been proven not to be necessary in California and the majority of other jurisdictions. As stated, by the LATC, the purpose of amending § 2615 is to expand opportunities to become licensed in California while still protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public. I have demonstrated how this can be accomplished with precedent and logic. Allowing multiple paths to reciprocal licensure is a more effective way of carrying out the purpose of the LATC's proposed language change because it is inclusive of more individuals with diverse backgrounds. Allowing licensure for these individuals will increase our professions collective knowledge base, stimulate innovation, and increase the number of licensed landscape architects – all clear benefits to the public.

Landscape Architects, such as myself, are needed in order to draw attention to and mitigate unintentional practices limiting fair competition and causing loss of benefit to the public and consumers. It has been mentioned in previous LATC meeting summary reports there is a concern that allowing reciprocity for those who recently gained licensure in other states, and who do not meet the requirements for initial licensure (i.e. education in Landscape Architecture), will somehow subvert the California process. This sentiment, along with the proposed reciprocity requirement of 10 years professional experience, is a clear indication of the power the Committee wields to limit competition and benefit institutions of higher learning. It is also evidence of the pressing need for licensees with different backgrounds to be part of California's professional practice and licensing regulations.

Our revised regulatory language for § 2615 is as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons because individuals seeking reciprocity to California will no longer have to submit verifiable documentation that they have education equivalent to that required of California initial applicants. The LATC's proposed language essential continues to exclude qualified candidates by equating 10 years professional practice to the education obtained from a two year degree in landscape architecture. This regulatory proposal is unreasonable, lacks defensible logic, and is unintentionally exclusionary. Our revised regulatory language is far less burdensome to affected parties and will continue to protect the health and welfare of California residents. Our revised language accomplishes this while also allowing "individuals who have extensive experience practicing in another jurisdiction to obtain California licensure."

While I'm in no way discounting the importance of higher education, we do live in a society where it is simply not obtainable, financially or otherwise, for all individuals to earn a degree, extension certificate, or even a second degree in the 'proper' major. I implore you to continue on the path of reducing this burden by bringing Landscape Architecture Licensure closer to those requirements adopted by our State's Architects and Engineers whose disciplines have had much more time to evolve regulations that protect the public and are inclusive to all our Citizens.

Our revised regulatory language is more cost-effective to private persons and equally effective at implementing the statutory policy because reciprocity candidates are already experienced, licensed, and established in their careers and therefore should not have to bear undue expense and time pursuing education they, by licensure and examination definition, have already acquired. At this point in my career with financial obligations and a family it no longer makes sense or is feasible to spend \$23,000 and countless hours driving to gain an Extension Certificate or \$65,000 on an Online Master's Degree from a private art university (currently the only landscape architecture education options available to working professionals) to learn what I already know and have demonstrated knowledge of by passing the LARE and engaging in professional practice.

# Our Proposed Regulatory Language Also Takes Into Account The Following

# **Business Impact**

While there is no anticipated fiscal impact to Public Agencies our revised language considers the impacts to business and private persons not addressed by the LATC. We live in a time where "roughly 10,000 Baby Boomers will turn 65" every day for the next 13 years. California businesses will benefit from this regulation because they will be able to attract qualified individuals from other states in order to compensate for the loss of landscape architects leaving the field for retirement.

Source: http://www.pewresearch.org/daily-number/baby-boomers-retire/

### **Economic Impact Assessment**

Our revised language will encourage the creation of new businesses within the State of California because it will allow qualified out-of-state licensed landscape architects who are living and working in California to gain licensure and start businesses of their own. It will also allow for the expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California because, as is my personal case, the multidisciplinary firm I work for can begin offering Landscape Architectural services to its California clients if I am able to gain CA licensure.

# **Consideration of Alternatives**

I have presented the case for a more "reasonable alternative to the regulation" and have demonstrated that our revised regulatory language for § 2615 Form of Examinations would be more effective at "carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed" and "would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation."

# Closing

My colleagues and I are members of the public directly affected by the Committee's Proposed Regulatory Language amendment to § 2615. We have presented a more equitable and reasonable alternative that must be considered. I have strived to work in partnership with as many affected parties as possible and I am dismayed by the LATC's lack of public outreach in the form of meetings or mailers to those directly affected. I am sure reciprocity is a minor issue on the LATC's plate, but I believe more discussion with those affected was warranted as evidenced by the public's response to this important issue.

I am concerned that over the years I have observed that the LATC and its members have had an understandably very close relationship with California colleges and universities. I would like to see more diversity of backgrounds appointed to the Committee in order ensure a fair regulatory environment for our small but important discipline. I urge you to consider the benefit to the public, the potential gain to the profession, the value to the industry and not just the potential loss in revenue to Institutions' degree and extension certificate programs.

I am a Registered Landscape Architect in the State of Nevada who lives and works in California; as a lifelong native Californian it is my goal to become a Licensed Landscape Architect here. I would like the proposed Regulations to be equitable to all reciprocity candidates and truly widen the path to licensure. With nearly 10 years of experience in Landscape Architecture, and significant experience in Civil Engineering and Planning, I know I am a valuable asset to the industry and our clients. I am as qualified as my California licensed counterparts and I should not be barred from obtaining licensure due to these existing discriminatory regulations.

I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination

provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

(A) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application; or

(B) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, possesses a Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 of the last 5 years; or

(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

With all things considered I commend the LATC's effort to widen the path to licensure; it is clearly time to incorporate all the incredible talent and synergy available to the profession by broadening the acceptable reciprocity requirements for out of state licensed landscape architects. I respectfully request that you adopt our revised proposed language, approve it at your next meeting, and implement the change as soon as possible.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

T. Mafin

Dustin T. Maxam, RLA Nevada #862

325 Carrillo Street Santa Rosa, CA 95401 707-569-6739

### **Appendix A**

### **Regulatory Background**

Currently many landscape architects who are licensed or registered out of state and who apply for reciprocity per California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615, Form of Examinations, (c)(1) are ineligible for California Licensure even though they meet the following prescribed requirements.

#### 2615 Form of Examinations

(a)(1) A candidate who has a combination of six years of education and training experience as specified in section 2620 shall be eligible and may apply for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), a candidate who has a Board-approved degree in landscape architecture in accordance with section 2620(a)(1) or an extension certificate in landscape architecture from a Board-approved school in accordance with section 2620(a)(3) shall be eligible and may apply for Sections 1 and 2 of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). Such candidates shall not be eligible for Sections 3 and 4 of the LARE until the candidate has a combination of six years of education and training experience as specified in section 2620.

A candidate's score on the LARE shall not be recognized in this State if at the time the candidate took the LARE, the candidate was not eligible in accordance with California laws and regulations for the examination or sections thereof. (b) A candidate shall be deemed eligible and may apply for the California Supplemental Examination upon passing all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(c) All candidates applying for licensure as a landscape architect shall pass all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination or a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California, as determined by the Board, and the California Supplemental Examination subject to the following provisions:

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination.

(2) A candidate who is not a licensed landscape architect and who has received credit from a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico for a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California shall be entitled to receive credit for the corresponding sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination, as determined by the Board, and shall be eligible for licensure upon passing any remaining sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination and the California Supplemental Examination.

This is because BPC section 5651 which waived this examination requirement specified in section 5650 (which requires candidates for licensure to have a combination of six years education and training in landscape architecture to qualify for the licensing examination) was amended by Senate Bill 821, effective January 2010, changing Business and Professions Code Section 5651 (b)(1), to requiring reciprocity candidates to qualify for licensure by submitting proof of job experience equivalent to California first time (initial) applicants, thus creating an exclusionary loophole with § 2620, Education and Training Credits.

#### 5651. Examination of Applicants

(a) The board shall by means of examination, ascertain the professional qualifications of all applicants for licenses to practice landscape architecture in this state and shall issue a license to every person whom it finds to be qualified on payment of the initial license fee prescribed by this chapter.

(b) The examination shall consist of a written examination. The written examination may be waived by the board if the applicant meets both of the following requirements:

(1) Is currently licensed by a United States jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico, has passed a written examination equivalent to that which is required in California at the time of application and has submitted proof of job experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application.

(2) Has passed the California supplemental examination if, at the time of application, it is required of all California applicants.

This loophole occurs because the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) interprets the job experience of § 5651 under § 2620 (c)(1)(b) which requires one year of 'training/ practice credit' to be gained after satisfying the education requirement which excludes those

with other forms of education. It is interesting to point out that the experience requirement of (c)(1)(A) can be obtained under the supervision of a person licensed in any jurisdiction who may not be compliant with the education requirements.

2620 Education and Training Credits

The Board's evaluation of a candidate's training and educational experience is based on the following table: [Table omitted for brevity, see http://www.latc.ca.gov/laws\_regs/pa\_all.shtml#2620.]

(b) Education Credits

(1) Candidates shall possess at least one year of educational credit to be eligible for the examination.

(2) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be defined as one of the following:

(A) Bachelor of Landscape Architecture.

(B) Bachelor of Science in landscape architecture.

(C) Bachelor of Arts in landscape architecture.

(D) Masters degree in landscape architecture.

(3) The maximum credit which may be granted for a degree or combination of degrees from an approved school shall be four years of educational credit.

(4) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be deemed to be approved by the Board if the landscape architectural curriculum has been approved by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) as specified in its publication: "Accreditation Standards And Procedures" dated February 6, 2010 or the Board determines that the program has a curriculum equivalent to a curriculum having LAAB accreditation.

(5) For purposes of subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), "partial completion" shall mean that the candidate completed at least 80 percent of the total units required for completion of the 4-year degree or extension certificate program.

(6) Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), no credit shall be granted for academic units obtained without earning a degree or extension certificate under categories of subdivisions (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.

(7) A candidate enrolled in a degree program where credit earned is based on work experience courses (e.g., internship or co-op program) shall not receive more than the maximum credit allowed for degrees under subdivisions (a)(1), (2) or (3) of this section.

(8) Except as specified in subdivision (a)(5) and (6) of this section, candidates with multiple degrees shall not be able to accumulate credit for more than one degree.

(9) The Board shall not grant more than four years of credit for any degree or certificate or any combination thereof for qualifying educational experience.

(c) Training Credits

(1)(A) Candidates shall possess at least two years of training/practice credit to be eligible for the examination. (B) At least one of the two years of training/practice credit shall be under the direct supervision of a landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction, and shall be gained in one of the following forms:

#### 1. After graduation from an educational institution specified in subdivisions (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.

2. After completion of education experience specified in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8) of this section.

(C) A candidate shall be deemed to have met the provisions of subdivision (c)(1)(B) if he or she possesses a degree from a school specified in subdivision (a)(1) and has at least two years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor or possesses a certificate from a school specified in subdivision (a)(3) and has at least four years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor.

(2) Candidates shall be at least 18 years of age or a high school graduate before they shall be eligible to receive credit for work experience.

(3) A year of training/practice experience shall consist of 1500 hours of qualifying employment. Training/practice experience may be accrued on the basis of part-time employment. Employment in excess of 40 hours per week shall not be considered.

(d) Miscellaneous Information

(1) Independent, non-licensed practice or experience, regardless of claimed coordination, liaison, or supervision of licensed professionals shall not be considered.

(2) The Board shall retain inactive applications for a five (5) year period. Thereafter, the Board shall purge these records unless otherwise notified by the candidate. A candidate who wishes to reapply to the Board, shall be required to reobtain the required documents to allow the Board to determine their current eligibility

# Appendix B

# **CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Council Certification**



# Standards of Eligibility for Council Certification

Certification by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards is formal recognition that the Certificate holder's education, experience, examination and professional conduct meet or exceed CLARB's Certification standards. These standards are approved by CLARB's member boards and are recommended nationally as the minimum standards for licensure.

Certificate records consist of verified documentation of the qualifications of the Certificate holder and carry CLARB's recommendation to all registration boards that the individual be granted reciprocal registration without further examination.

# 1. CLARB Certification Standards

To be granted CLARB Certification, an applicant must demonstrate through current, verified documentation that he/she satisfies all of the following requirements in accordance with the evaluation criteria listed in Sections 2, 3, and 4.

**Note:** Any applicant who does not satisfy the Certification standards listed in Section 1 may be issued a Certificate if he/she has sufficient other qualifications which, while not considered to be equal to the Certification requirements, are accepted in lieu of these requirements. Alternative qualifications are identified in Sections 2, 3, and 4.

- Education: A first professional degree in landscape architecture from a program which has been accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). (See Section 2.)
- Experience: 3 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect. (See Section 3.)
- Examination: Successful completion of the CLARB registration examination where the examination administration and grading were conducted in accordance with CLARB's standards in effect at the time. (See Section 4.)
- Licensure: Current licensure by a CLARB member board.
- Professional Conduct: History of acceptable professional conduct as verified by employers, landscape architects, and member boards. Applicants may be denied Certification if, in the practice of landscape architecture, they have violated the law or if they have intentionally provided erroneous information on their application for Certification.

# 2. Education

- 2.1 A first professional degree in landscape architecture from a program which has been accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) or the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Accreditation Council is required.
- 2.2 In lieu of the degree specified in 2.1 above, satisfaction of 5.0 years of education credit as follows:

	Activity	Percent Allowed	Maximum Credit
2.2.1	Non-accredited B.L.A. or M.L.A.	100%	4 years
2.2.2	NAAB-accredited B.Arch. or M. Arch.	100%	4 years
2.2.3	ABET-accredited degree in Civil Engineering	100%	4 years
2.2.4	Any Bachelor's degree	100%	2 years
2.2.5	Diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect	100%	3 years
2.2.6	Diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect if the applicant was licensed prior to January 1, 1991.	100%	5 years

# 2.3 Evaluation Criteria

- 2.3.1 Degrees listed in 2.2.1 2.2.4 cannot be combined to satisfy the education credit requirement.
- 2.3.2 The work experience applied as education credit may not also be used to satisfy experience requirements.
- 2.3.3 Any degree awarded less than two years prior to the accreditation of the program will be accepted as an accredited degree.
- 2.3.4 Any degree awarded after a program has ceased to be accredited will not be accepted as an accredited degree.

# 3. Experience

- 3.1 Three (3) years diversified experience directly related to landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect is required.
- 3.2 In lieu of 2.0 years of the experience in 3.1 above, 2.0 years of experience credit as follows:

	Activity	Percent Allowed	Maximum Credit
3.2.1	Diversified experience in landscape architecture practicing as a principal	100%	N/A
3.2.2	Diversified experience directly related to landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a civil engineer, architect or credentialed planner	100%	2 years
3.2.3	Teaching in an LAAB-accredited program	50%	1 year
3.2.4	Experience in landscape architecture directly related to on-site construction, maintenance or installation procedures	50%	1 year
3.2.5	Non-diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, civil engineer, architect or credentialed planner	50%	1 year

### 3.3 Evaluation Criteria

- 3.3.1 Every applicant for Certification must have at least one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture (acquired after the satisfaction of the education requirement) under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect; or
- 3.3.2 Applicants who have acquired six (6.0) years of diversified experience in landscape architecture after the satisfaction of the education requirement practicing as a principal shall be deemed to have satisfied the experience requirement.
- 3.3.3 Work experience in category 3.1 above will only receive credit as follows:
  - 3.3.3.1 If it is at least 35 hours per week for at least 2 continuous months--<u>100%</u>
    3.3.3.2 If it is at least 20 hours per week for at least 4 continuous months--<u>50%</u>
- 3.3.4 Work experience in any alternative category will receive the credit indicated only when the experience is at least 35 hours per week and at least 2 continuous months in duration.

- 3.3.5 No experience credit may be earned prior to satisfaction of the education requirement.
- 3.3.6 Experience received outside the United States or Canada is limited to 1 year maximum.
- 3.3.7 No additional education or experience credit will be awarded for obtaining more than one degree.

### 4. Examination

**Note:** For candidates not licensed by January 1, 2008, any sections of the exam completed prior to 1992 will no longer be accepted for transition credit towards satisfaction of the examination standard for CLARB Certification.

- 4.1 Successful completion of the CLARB registration examination where the examination administration and grading were conducted in accordance with CLARB's standards in effect at the time is required.
- 4.2 In lieu of passing the CLARB registration examination, satisfaction of one of the following (4.2.1. 4.2.6):
  - 4.2.1 For applicants initially licensed without successfully completing a written examination, satisfaction of both 4.2.1.1 and 4.2.1.2:
    - 4.2.1.1 10 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture; at least 7 years of which
      - must occur after licensure
    - 4.2.1.2 Successful completion of the CLARB Reciprocity Validation Examination between the years of 1997 to 1999.
  - 4.2.2 Successful completion of written examination prepared by a member board prior to 1970 and 10 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture after licensure.
  - 4.2.3 Successful completion of a written examination prepared by a member board between the years 1970 to 1975.
  - 4.2.4 Successful completion of the British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects' written examination, 5 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture after licensure and satisfaction of the education and experience requirements.
  - 4.2.5 Successful completion of the California P.E.L.A., satisfaction of the licensure, education and experience requirements, as well as successful completion of L.A.R.E. Sections D & E.
  - 4.2.6 For applicants initially licensed in British Columbia or Ontario without successfully completing the L.A.R.E., satisfaction of 4.2.6.1 and 4.2.6.2 as follows:
    - 4.2.6.1 10 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture; at least 7 years of which must occur after licensure.
    - 4.2.6.2 Successful completion of the CLARB Reciprocity Validation Examination between the years 1997 to 1999.

# 5. Requirements for Maintaining a CLARB Council Record/Certificate

- A CLARB Certificate holder must maintain registration in good standing with a CLARB member board. If the Certificate holder fails to maintain registration with at least one CLARB member board, the Certificate will be revoked until such time as a verification of current registration from a member board is received.
- The CLARB Council Record/Certificate is valid for one year from the date of the initial application and must be updated annually with a completed annual activity report and payment of the annual renewal fee.
- Failure to renew the CLARB Council Record/Certificate will cause the Record/Certificate to become inactive and ineligible for transmittal.

# 6. Revocation of CLARB Certification

- The Council may revoke a landscape architect's Certification when a member board revokes the landscape architect's registration or when a member board or court issues findings of fact regarding the professional conduct of a Certificate holder that indicate a breach of the CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Certification.
- The Council may suspend a landscape architect's Certification when a member board suspends the landscape architect's registration, issues findings of fact regarding the professional conduct of a Certificate holder that indicate a breach of the CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Certification or when the landscape architect fails to satisfy the other requirements for listed in the CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Certification. The suspension will remain in effect until such time as the cause for suspension has been removed, corrected, or otherwise remedied.
- Such matters shall be inserted in the Council Record of the individual in question for the information of member boards who may consider the individual for registration and rely upon information in the Council Record or the recommendation of the Council Certificate.

# Nation, Kourtney@DCA

From:	Stephanie Landregan <landregan@att.net></landregan@att.net>
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 2:58 PM
To:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Subject:	Amend Title 16 CCR Section 2615 - Form of Examinations
Follow Up Flag:	Follow up
Flag Status:	Completed

Dear Ms. Nation,

I am in complete support of the change to Title 16 CCR Section 2615, by adding the provision that candidates applying for California licensure based on licensure in another jurisdiction must submit verifiable documentation that they possess both education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants or, if they do not meet the education requirement, that they hold a current license in good standing in another jurisdiction where they have been actively engaged in the profession for at least 10 of the last 15 years.

My question is this, this will apply to good standing in Canada and the US or will foreign licensure count?

Thank you for that clarification.

All my best,

Stephanie Landregan, FASLA CA Licensed Landscape Architect #4093 *Wild by Design* phone: 818.967.8095

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's Architects and Civil Engineers who are entrusted with responsibilities as critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare. I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation will require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an
  additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already licensed
  and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public the primary concern of licensure.
- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam. Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.
- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and
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- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

# I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

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sincerely, Austin 240	A	60	
Printed Name 2230 Oak FI,11	9-3-16	Santa Rosa	CA
Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

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Sincerely,	Cameron Otto	\$	an	1	
	Printed Name 2230 Dak Hill	9-3-16	Senta Rosa	CA	
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Signature

City

Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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# emailed 9/15/16

### Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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	Printed Name 17 San Ramon DV.	9/10/16	Signature	CA	95973
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Sincerely Zip Code Street Address (optional) City State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Alfairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

emailed 9/15/16

emailed 9/15/16

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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# emailed 9/15/14

### Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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1011 MIDU Street Address (optional)

ANDREN BRINSON

19/16 Date

State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

Signature

City

24160

Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

11

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Date

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City

Zip Code

emarka 9/15/16

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Street Address (optional)

Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

State

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# Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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emailed 9/15/16

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# Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Sincerely, TEPHANIE Printed Name Signature 95928 016 HICO Street Address (optional) Date City State **Zip Code** 

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emailed 9/15/16

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STEPHEN D. HONE	YWIT	12	Shut	Cull	1
Printed Name 2550 LAKEWEST DR S	ste so	Signature CHICO	0	CA	95926
Street Address (optional)	Date 9/7/14	City		State	Zip Code
	Printed Name 2550 LAKEWEST DR	Printed Name 2550 LAKEWSST OR STE 50 Street Address (optional) Date	Printed Name Signature 2550 LAKEWEET DR STE 50 CHICO	Printed Name Signature Signature Signature Signature CH1Co Street Address (optional) Date City	Printed Name     Signature       2550     LAKEWEST DR STE 50     CHICO     CA       Street Address (optional)     Date     City     State

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Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016.

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TYLER BODNAR Printed Name	al-1 -	Signature		
Street Address (optional)	9/7/16 Date	City	State	Zip Code

Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood

Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

# emailed aliship

# Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our dally lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

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Sincerely, KIMBALL MARIE Signature Printed Name 9-6-16 IAS/AN DAVS Street Address (optional) State

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Sincerely, JASON SCHWENKLEN Signature Her CA 95926 City Zip Code Street Address (optiona State

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Sincerely,	DAIN SANDOVAL		- Alt		
	Printed Name		Signature		1.1.1
		9.6.16	CHICO	cA	95926
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely, **Printed Name** Signature Street Address (optional) State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

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Sincerely,	Alterton		Joseph Harden		
	Printed Name	9/11/10	Concord, CA		
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely Date State (optional) Zip Code

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

## Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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Sincerely,	Kayla C. Pastor		Kap2		
	Printed Name	9-2-16	Santa Rosa	CA	95401
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely, Printed Name Signature L Street Address (optional) Date City State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

## Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

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Sincerely gnature nted Name Street Address (optional) State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood

Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

#### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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Sincerely,	Justin Smac	\$	hot	5	al
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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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9/14/16 Street Address (optional) Date

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Sincerely, ignature Street Address (optiona Date City Zip Code State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

#### California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,	Susan N. Trail		Susan N. Mail		
	Printed Name	alulu	signature Ashnut Park	cA	94928
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

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## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:Nation, Kourtney@DCASent:Friday, September 23, 2016 3:13 PMTo:Townsend, Stacy@DCASubject:FW: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please add to spreadsheet

Kourtney Nation Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Todd Peddicord [mailto:toddpeddicord@hotmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 11:20 AM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov; Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov; Shawn Rohrbacker
Subject: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Attn: Kourtney Nation California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 Latc@dca.ca.gov

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Sincerely, Todd Peddicord 1025 Folsom Ranch Drive, #301 Folsom, CA 95630

TODD PEDDICORD DESIGNS 9 1 6 . 9 9 6 . 7 6 4 1 www.toddpeddicord.com From: Scott Hayes [mailto:shayes236@gmail.com] Sent: Wednesday, September 21, 2016 3:32 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; <u>senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov</u>; <u>Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov</u>; <u>senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov</u>; <u>assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov</u>; Shawn Rohrbacker Subject: Testing for Licensure - Landscape Architects

Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Attn: Kourtney Nation

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

late@dca.ca.gov

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Sincerely,

Scott Hayes

1400 Egbert Ave.

San Francisco, CA 94124

Scott R. Hayes, MLA 530.520.7514 shayes236@gmail.com

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gedy Rohubre Sincerely, Berly Rohrbucker Printed Name 3811 Echa mon Rel Signature s/2.1.4 Ent Devinue 95963 Date City Zip Code Street Address (optional) State

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## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:Nation, Kourtney@DCASent:Friday, September 23, 2016 3:13 PMTo:Townsend, Stacy@DCASubject:FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

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From: Michael Cook [mailto:MCook@riverpartners.org] Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2016 10:39 AM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA; LATC@DCA Cc: 'shawn@meltondg.com'; CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov; Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Mall Ch

Michael Cook, MLA 148 West 3rd Avenue Chico, CA 95926

CC:

California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Department of Consumer Affairs, dca@dca.ca.gov Senator Jim Nielsen, senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman James Gallagher, Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov Senator Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood, assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov Office of the Governor, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

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Sincerely, OAN Printed Name Signature Street Address (optional) Date City State

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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	Printed Name 612 FRAZIER AVE	9-19.16	Signature Sawth Rosa	ral 95	4:24
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CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

State

Zip Code

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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	Printed Name SCII Edaho Dr.	9/14/16	Signature Santa Rosa	CA	95405
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

 From:
 Nation, Kourtney@DCA

 Sent:
 Friday, September 23, 2016 3:12 PM

 To:
 Townsend, Stacy@DCA

 Subject:
 FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please add to spreadsheet

Kourtney Nation

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Paige Gimbal [mailto:pgimbal@gmail.com] Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 12:07 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov; Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov; LATC@DCA; jerry.brown@gov.ca.gov Subject: RE: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

## Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Attn: Kourtney Nation

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

latc@dca.ca.gov

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### WaterCounts Irrigation Consultant

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Office of the Governor, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., jerry.brown@gov.ca.gov

Paige Gimbal Cell: 1-530-864-2454 Skype: pgimbal Email: pgimbal@gmail.com

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Sincerely, arr Signature nted Name 95477 2 Street Address (optional) Date City State **Zip Code** 

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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City

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Signature City State **Zip Code** 

Street Address (optional)

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	Printed Name	+	Signature		
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Sincerely, Printed Name Street Address (optional) State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Signature

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REED

Date

1.1

Zip Code

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City

Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

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Sincerely,	Cassie	Carte		Cas	ue Ce	arte	
	Printed Name	9/	12/16	Santa	ROSA	CA	95407
	Street Address (optional)		Date	City	1 - Martin	State	Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood

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Sincerely,	Brenden McCarter	Rend	40	~>	
	Printed Name	9/23/16	Signature Santa Roca	CA	95404
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Monday, September 26, 2016 10:33 AM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016 -
	Landscape Architects Technical Committee

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

### **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Eric Ginney [mailto:EGinney@esassoc.com] Sent: Sunday, September 25, 2016 2:36 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA; LATC@DCA Cc: CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov; Assemblyman James Gallagher,; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov; Shawn Rohrbacker Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

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I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations: The proposed regulation will require any out-ofstate licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already licensed and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public – the primary concern of licensure. In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam. Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure. Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years' experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals. While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college-educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

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(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

I've had the pleasure and honor to work with unlicensed professionals that far exceed the standard of practice for our State; however the aforementioned inequities in current regulations prohibit their licensure at this time despite their significant experience and even licensure in another state. Please work to address these issues.

Sincerely, Eric Ginney

Eric M. Ginney Floodplain Restoration Program Manager & ESA Central Valley/Sierra Director ESA 2600 Capitol Avenue, Suite 200 Sacramento CA 95816 T 916 564 4500 | F 916 564 4501 C 530 521 9229 eginney@esassoc.com

#### CC:

California Architects Board, <u>cab@dca.ca.gov</u> Department of Consumer Affairs, <u>dca@dca.ca.gov</u> Senator Jim Nielsen, <u>senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov</u> Assemblyman James Gallagher, <u>Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov</u> Senator Mike McGuire, <u>senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov</u> Assemblyman Jim Wood, <u>assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov</u>

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 11:45 AM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Kathy Brenner [mailto:kathy.brenner@yahoo.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:19 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Sincerely,

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 11:45 AM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Reg. Language Hearing TOMORROW

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

Kourtney Nation

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Paula Henson [mailto:terrabellalandscape@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:20 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Reg. Language Hearing TOMORROW

SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Paula Henson <u>Urban Water Group</u> <u>Terra Bella Water</u> 12660 Palms Bl. Los Angeles, CA 90066 310-383-9398



## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:01 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27,
	2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

### **Kourtney Nation**

**Examination Coordinator** 

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Janet Cohen [mailto:janetlenkcohen@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:23 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Janet Cohen

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:00 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Maura Baldwin [mailto:mbaldwin.pdg@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:22 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Maura Baldwin

Maura Baldwin Panoramic Design Group Landscape Architecture

California Landscape Architect #5802 ISA Certified Arborist #WE-9612A

510-367-3028 3060 El Cerrito Plaza #510, El Cerrito, CA 94530 mbaldwin.pdg@gmail.com

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:01 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Examination Coordinator

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From: Francesca Corra [mailto:fcorra@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:37 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; Mary Fisher (president@apldca.org); CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Francesca Corra

4030 Cartwright Ave

Studio City, CA 91604

Francesca Corra www.dirtdivadesigns.com

Immediate Past President - APLD Greater Los Angeles District Vice President - APLD California Chapter Partner <u>www.wealthy-earth.com</u> EPA Certified Irrigation Auditor Follow me on Facebook

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:01 PM
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#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: kvincent333@comcast.net [mailto:kvincent333@comcast.net] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:40 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Katherine A Vincent

kathenne vincent landscape design 211 rheem blvd. orinda, ca 94563 #925 376 6137 katherinevincent/andscapedesign com

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:01 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27,
	2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

#### **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Teri Enright [mailto:teria.enright@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:54 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Subject: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

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I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

§ 2615 Form of Examinations

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Teri A. Enright 7236 Greenhaven Drive #117 Sacramento, CA

APLD B.A. CSUMB A.S. Sustainable Landscape and Irrigation System Design. Ecolandacape Organization

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From: info@livinggardenslandscapedesign.com [mailto:info@livinggardenslandscapedesign.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:48 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sacha McCrae San Clemente, CA 92672 LIVING GARDENS LANDSCAPE DESIGN www.livinggardenslandscapedesign.com info@livinggardenslandscapedesign.com http://www.houzz.com/pro/livinggardenslandscapedesign/living-gardens-landscape-design https://www.facebook.com/pages/Living-Gardens-Landscape-Design/262259303817172

949.218.7459

blease consider the environment before printing this email

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:04 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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From: nina mullen [mailto:nmullen3@yahoo.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:57 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

To <u>kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov</u> CC <u>dmaxam@ebagroup.com</u>, president@apldca.org, cab@dca.ca.gov

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Nina Mullen

### Mullen Designs

510/292-6514 www.mullendesigns.net

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:04 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
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From: sbovshow@gmail.com [mailto:sbovshow@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Shirley Bovshow Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 3:04 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Shirley Bovshow

Woodland Hills CA 91367

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:05 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
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From: alison fleck [mailto:alison@simplyperfectgardens.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 3:29 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Sincerely,

Alison W Fleck

743 Cheryl Dr

Benicia, CA 94510

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:06 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27

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From: mary-lee gilliland [mailto:maryleegilliland@yahoo.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:08 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27

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Sincerely, Mary-Lee S. Gilliland

Associate member, APLD

From: Luv2grow [mailto:luv2grow@sbcglobal.net] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:07 PM Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Cathleen Hudson

CATHLEEN HUDSON LANDSCAPES 831-469-4633 luv2grow@sbcglobal.net www.luv2grow.com http://www.houzz.com/pro/hudlab/ public

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:05 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Jerry [mailto:jerry@edifylandscapedesign.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:08 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

#### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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Jerry J Kohn Edify Landscape Design 818 687 8549

Please consider the environment - think before you print! NOTE: This email and any files transmitted with it are intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed and may contain confidential or other legally privileged information. If you have received this email in error please notify the sender by email, delete and destroy this message and it's attachments. Any unauthorized review, use, disclosure, or distribution is prohibited. EDIFY LANDSCAPE DESIGN HAS PROVIDED THIS INFORMATION FROM OUR RECORDS WITHOUT COMPENSATION OR KNOWLEDGE OF YOUR INTENDED USAGE. THIS INFORMATION WAS ORIGINALLY PREPARED FOR OTHERS AND MAY NOT BE SUITABLE BECAUSE OF: INSUFFICIENCY OR INCOMPLETENESS; OUTDATED CONTENTS; MISINTERPRETATION; MISREPRESENTATION; OR UNINTENDED USAGE; OR NOT IN ACCORD WITH CURRENT PRACTICES OR STANDARDS. EDIFY LANDSCAPE DESIGN MAKES NO WARRANTY, EXPRESSED OR IMPLIED, TO USERS OF THIS INFORMATION.

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:05 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

### **Kourtney Nation**

**Examination Coordinator** 

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Jodie Cook [mailto:jodiepcook@yahoo.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:07 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: CAB@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

 Email To:

 To
 kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

 CC
 dmaxam@ebagroup.com, president@apldca.org, cab@dca.ca.gov

 SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change. Sincerely,

#### Correspondence Unit 137

From: Suzanne Murillo [mailto:suzannemurillo@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 5:49 PM To: Dca@DCA Subject: LATC Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Dear Department of Consumer Affairs:

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives.

There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensing due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensing today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona that is out of context, because these states have a multitude of paths to Landscape Architecture licening not available in California. The State of California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture; however both states upon which the proposed language is based allow licensing for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

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- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Suzanne Murillo

Orinda, CA 94563

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:06 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Robin Salsburg [mailto:rsalsburg@me.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:29 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

#### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

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Sincerely,

Robin Salsburg Aptos, CA 95003

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:06 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

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Examination Coordinator

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### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Joel Berlin [mailto:joelberlin@mac.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:45 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Joel Berlin 11215 Forestview Lane San Diego, CA 92131

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
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To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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From: Natalie Cousins-Robledo [mailto:minanda@me.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 5:38 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

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2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Natalie Cousins-Robledo

Matalie Cousins-Robledo www.minandalandscape.com minanda@mac.com 818.903.5122

Winner 2013 Santa Monica Spring Jubilee Tea Garden Design Competition

2013, 2014 Advocacy Chair, APLD Greater Los Angeles District Follow us on Facebook! <u>http://www.facebook.com/MinandaLandscapeDesign</u>

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:06 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016
Importance:	High

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

**Kourtney Nation** 

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Cheryl Buckwalter [mailto:landscapeliaisons@gmail.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 5:35 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; Garden Design Mary Fisher Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016 Importance: High

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee:

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- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that, if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

### I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination, provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

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Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

×

Cheryl Buckwalter Landscape Liaisons P.O. Box 218 Cool, CA 95614 Office (530) 887-9887 Mobile (916) 207-8787

PLEASE NOTE MY NEW/CURRENT EMAIL ADDRESS:

landscapeliaisons@gmail.com

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:06 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27,
	2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Audrey Newell [mailto:audreynewell@mac.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 4:59 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com; CAB@DCA Cc: president@apldca.org Subject: SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

#### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

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Sincerely,

Audrey Newell

The Foxy Garden

Landscape Design and Maintenance www.thefoxygarden.com

audreynewell@mac.com (415)794-8192

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:08 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Garden Designern's Right to Practice

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

Kourtney Nation Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Lauriercallaway@aol.com [mailto:Lauriercallaway@aol.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 10:44 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Subject: Garden Designern's Right to Practice

- To kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov
- CC dmaxam@ebagroup.com, president@apldca.org, cab@dca.ca.gov
- SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Laurier Callaway APLD

Callaway Garden Design

www.callawaygardendesign.com

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

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Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:08 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Kourtney Nation Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Koby [mailto:kobysgarden@cox.net]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 9:44 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely, Koby W. Hall Lakeside, CA 92040

## Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:07 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

Kourtney Nation

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: allison mcgee [mailto:alleycat44@san.rr.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 9:19 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Allison L McGee, La Jolla, 92037

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Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:07 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

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Examination Coordinator

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#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Jeannie Fitch [mailto:jfitch@gardennest.com]
Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 8:03 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Jeannie Fitch gardennest Residential Landscape

Jeannie Fitch - Owner Garden Nest Residential Landscape (925)-922-0322 www.gardennest.com 11 Miramonte Rd. Orinda, CA 94563 The Board is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Satisfaction Survey</u>. Thank you.

From: Dca@DCA Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:07 AM To: Mayer, Vickie@DCA Subject: FW: public comment: proposed regulatory language hearing September 27, 2016

From: Correspondence Unit - 137

From: Lisa Bellora [mailto:ornamentalgardens@san.rr.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:46 PM To: Dca@DCA Subject: public comment: proposed regulatory language hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Lisa Bellora San Diego, CA 92129

Lisa Bellora A.S. Landscape Design Past-President, APLD San Diego District

Ornamental Gardens by Lisa www.SanDiegoGardenDesign.com ornamentalgardens@san.rr.com





California Architects Board 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7222 (916) 575-7239 Fax <u>cab.ca.gov</u>

#### a CAArchitectsBd

The Board is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Satisfaction Survey</u>. Thank you.

From: Dca@DCA Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:08 AM To: Mayer, Vickie@DCA Subject: FW: URGENT Revised language-Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615

From: Correspondence Unit -137

From: Laura Morton [mailto:lm@lauramortondesign.com] Sent: Monday, September 26, 2016 2:53 PM To: Dca@DCA Subject: URGENT Revised language-Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615

Thankyou for taking the time to read this and support the following.....The hearing is at 10:00am on Tuesday, September 27, and to be included in the public record, your emails must be received by the LATC no later than 5:00pm on Tuesday, September 27.

Email To:

To kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

CC dmaxam@ebagroup.com, president@apldca.org, cab@dca.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Laura Morton-Dunas , APLD

Los Angeles, CA 90069



TUTL CONCEPT EXTERIORS HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE PO ROX 69405 WEST HOLEWOOD CALLEORNIA 90069 PHONE 310 289 1716 FAX 310-289 1717 WWW LAURAMORTONDESIGN.COM



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Signature 01-13-16

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	Printed Name	9/14/16 -	Signature BODEGA	CA	9492
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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's Architects and Civil Engineers who are entrusted with responsibilities as critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare. I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation will require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an
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- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam. Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.
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## I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

#### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

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Sincerely,

Signature Street Address (optional City State Zip Code

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Sincerely,	Ramona	Turner	Ra		
Ī	Printed Name	100 -0		Signature	

Street Address (optional)

Date

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Sincerely, TAYLOR GONZALEZ Printed Name A 9597 HIC Street Address (optional) City State Zip Code

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Printed Name		9/21/16	BILLINCS	MT	59/05
Street Address (optional)		Date	City	State	Zip Code
	Printed Name	Printed Name	Printed Name 9/21/16	Printed Name 9/21/16 Signature	Printed Name 9/21/16 Signature MT

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Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood

Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

September 22, 2016

Attn: Kourtney Nation California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 latc@dca.ca.gov

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Heidi Furby 16181 Schryer Lane Huntington Beach, CA 92649

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Department of Consumer Affairs, dca@dca.ca.gov Senator Jim Nielsen, senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman James Gallagher, Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov Senator Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood, assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov Office of the Governor, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely, Signature 2416 Street Address (optional Date City State

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Sincerely,	Zachary	Starr		/	1L	X	
	Printed Name	Bluch	9/26/2016	1	Signature	A	95966
	Street Address (op	otional)	Date	/	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely,	Nadine G Robinson		nadi 197	In	
	Printed Name 620 8 Posey Lan	9/26/16	Signature Porcici su	CA	95969
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Sincerely,	Jeff Cresswell		Qull	un	_
	Printed Name	9-26-16	Signature Chillo	CA	95926
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely,	AHL NOTHELS	2	Xall	le	
	Printed Name 405 CYPRESS	9.26.16	Signature CHICO	CI	95928
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely, **Printed Name** Signature A Street Address (optional City State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

emailed 9/24/14

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CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

emailed 9/20/16

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Sincerely, Dena Signature **Printed Name** 150 Street Address (optional Date City

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emailed 9/20/10

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# emailed 9/26/16

#### Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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	Printed Name		Signature		
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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umailed 9/20/16

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Sincerely, Signature Printed Name 3060 horntree hico Date Street Address (optional) State Zip Code City 9-26-16

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuIre, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gailagher

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,	CHRISTOPHER	NAKAO	the ste		
	Printed Name	9-22-16	Signature ALHAMBRA	CA	91801
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely, Travis M. Fregoso Printed Name 9/21/16 C centio 310 S. Jef Street Address (optional) City State **Zip Code** 

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

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Sincerely,	Jeff Schwein, AICP CTP		6/./		
	Printed Name 117 Mayors St., Ste. 120	9/16/16	Signature	CA	95928
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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Sincerely	Printed Name		Signature		
	Printed Name	20160921	Chico	CA	95972
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# emailed 9/20/10

# Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Sincerely, Vlicher Sterle Printed Name Signature 9-21-2016 Chiw 95926 Street Address (optional Date City State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen, Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood

Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

#### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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Sincerely, Printed Name Pomona 415928 Street Address (optional) State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

# imailed aproprio

Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely, arturial Signature 959 C CA State Zip Code

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Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

# emailed a/24/16

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CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

unailed a/26/16

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely, Signature Printed Name 16425 ALGONDUN 21/16 CA 12049 TFURNER Date Street Address (optional) City State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Galiagher

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,	Nate Parker		1	Har -	5	
	Printed Name		Signature			
	Street Address (	optional)	Date	City	State	Zio Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood

Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

emailed 9/21/16

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Assemblyman Jim Wood

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Sincerely, F356 GARCINA Printed Name Signature Street Address (optional) Date City State Zip Code CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Department of Consumer Affairs Office of the Governor Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov

Senator Jim Nielsen

Assemblyman James Gallagher

Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

emarled 9/20/110

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	Printed Name /		Signature		
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code
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	Printed Name 508 Moraan wood 1 Ct.	9-22-11	Signature	CA.	95492
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	Printed Name 2328	Stonege	te Ct	Signature	RAAR C	A 95409
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CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,	Jacob Hides		aver the		
	Printed Name 3055 Old Graverstein	+ my 9/21/16	Signature Sebastand	CA	9547>
	Street Address (optional)	Date	City	State	Zip Code

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	Printed Name 3055 0 LD	GRAVENSTELN	1164	Signature SELASZOPOL	CA	95472
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### California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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	Printed Name	9/19/16	Signature	CA	95492
	Street Address (option	nal) Date	City	State	Zip Code

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California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's Architects and Civil Engineers who are entrusted with responsibilities as critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare. I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation will require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an
  additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already licensed
  and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public the primary concern of licensure.
- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam. Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.
- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.
- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

## I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

#### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

(A) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application; or

(B) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, possesses a Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 of the last 5 years; or

(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

a

Date

Sincerely,

**Printed Name** 

Street Address (optional)

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

Signature

City

Office of the Governor Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Zip Code

State

#### Nation, Kourtney@DCA

From: Sent: To: Cc: Subject: John Black <johncblack@mac.com> Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:23 AM Nation, Kourtney@DCA CAB@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing

September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I would like to object to current and proposed language in the regulation of California landscape architects, and request revisions to the regulatory language.

Currently there are members of the public, equally or even more qualified than their California licensed counterparts, who are being barred from obtaining licensure as California landscape architects due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to policies becoming increasingly restrictive over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed regulatory language change borrows precedent from New York and Arizona; however, this precedent is out of context because these states offer paths to licensure not available in California: in particular, both states allow licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience, while California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's licensed architects and civil engineers, who are entrusted with responsibilities critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare.

I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation would require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already licensed and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public – the primary concern of licensure.

- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national exam. Currently a person who is licensed in another state by having passed the same exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.

- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years of experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation would add an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years

needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.

- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

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(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

John Black, ASLA

Palo Alto, CA 94306

Correspondence Unit G76

From: Linda Middleton [<u>mailto:linda@terralindadesign.com</u>] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 11:50 AM To: Dca@DCA Subject: Public Comment Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing Sept 27, 2016

Please see my comments submitted to the LATC regarding proposed regulatory language.

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's Architects and Civil Engineers who are entrusted with responsibilities as critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare.

l oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation will require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already licensed and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public – the primary concern of licensure.

- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam.

- Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.

- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change. Sincerely,

Linda M. Middleton 2335 Westbrook Court Walnut Creek, CA 94598

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 4:49 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

**Examination Coordinator** 

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Bonnie Brock [mailto:bonnie@bbrockdesign.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 3:03 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Brock Palo Alto CA 94303

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 4:49 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Cynthia Tanyan [mailto:design@mozaiclandscapes.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 4:48 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Cynthia Tanyan, Principal, Designer M.S. Ecological Design

mozaiclandscapes

T: 510-494-8500 P.O. Box 394, Sunol, CA 94586 www.mozaiclandscapes.com

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 1:37 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Bryn Knowles [mailto:bryn.knowles@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 1:33 PM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Bryn Knowles

Oakland, CA 94602

*Bryn Knowles Susan Friedman Landscape Architecture San Ramon, CA 415-359-3563* 

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:20 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

Kourtney Nation Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Cindy Chan [mailto:cchan@jarvisarchitects.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 11:12 AM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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Cindy Chan, Oakland, 94618

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 1:37 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Kourtney Nation

**Examination Coordinator** 

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: debbiegliksman@gmail.com [mailto:debbiegliksman@gmail.com] On Behalf Of Deborah Gliksman
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 1:10 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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#### Thank you,

Debbie Gliksman URBAN OASIS LANDSCAPE DESIGN

2604 Manning Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90064

#### www.urbanoasis-la.com

Winner of 2 Association of Professional Landscape Designers 2016 Awards Winner of Association of Professional Landscape Designers 2014 Award Advocacy Co-Chair, APLD Greater Los Angeles District EPA Certified Irrigation Auditor 323-905-4965

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:19 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

## **Kourtney Nation**

Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Liz Tilley [mailto:liztilleydesigns@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 10:42 AM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Sincerely,

Liz Tilley

Oakland 94602

Liz Tilley Designs 415.793.3580

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:18 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Kourtney Nation

Examination Coordinator

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From: Cathy E [mailto:cathy@edgerlandscapedesign.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:56 AM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: Dca@DCA; dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Cathy Edger Novato CA 94947

cathy@edgerlandscapedesign.com www.edgerlandscapedesign.com Bay Friendly Certified Best of Houzz 2015 APLDCA Chapter Secretary

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:17 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

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Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Astrid Gaiser [mailto:astrid@astridgaiser.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:34 AM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Astrid Gaiser 2517 Nedson Court Mountain View, CA 94043

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:13 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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From: julie@thegrassisalwaysgreener.net [mailto:julie@thegrassisalwaysgreener.net]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:17 AM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Julie S. Molinare

Adopt the pace of nature: her secret is patience. ~Ralph Waldo Emerson

Julie Molinare The Grass Is Always Greener Landscape Designs 661-917-3521 Association of Professional Landscape Designers (APLD) APLD LA District 2016 Vice President

Join me!

Website My blog is now linked to my website, take a look! Facebook Be a fan of my business on Facebook Twitter LinkedIn

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:13 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Stephanie Bartron [mailto:stephanie@sbgardendesign.com]
Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 9:05 AM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee

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Sacramento, CA 95834

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Stephanie Bartron, APLD, G3

SB Garden Design, LLC www.sbgardendesign.com o: 323-660-1034 c: 323-691-7519 stephanie@sbgardendesign.com

We write the books that make California green. With G3 (Green Gardens Group): +Los Angeles County's Drought Tolerant Garden Handbook

+San Diego Sustainable Landscape Guidelines

+City of Beverly Hills Garden Handbook

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:13 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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From: Julie [mailto:jul2ingalls@yahoo.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 8:54 AM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

Julie Ingalls

San Carlos, Ca 94070

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Tuesday, September 27, 2016 12:12 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public comment: Proposed Regilatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please print and add to the public comment tracking.

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#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Mary Kaye [mailto:mjk8236@sbcglobal.net] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 8:46 AM To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA Subject: Public comment: Proposed Regilatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

California Architects Board

Landscape Architects Technical Committee

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105

Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am an informed citizen who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture in our daily lives. There are currently members of the public who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's Architects and Civil Engineers who are

entrusted with responsibilities as critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare.

I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation will require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already licensed and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public – the primary concern of licensure.

- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam.

- Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.

- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.

- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

## I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

§ 2615 Form of Examinations

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(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change.

Sincerely,

Mary Kaye, APLD

746 University Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022

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Sincerely,	MATTHEN	EAENSNAW	P.G., C.Hg.	QSD	SENIOR	GEOLD	alst
	Printed Name	A Spur	ional Designation(s) $9/8/16$	Title	12084	CA	95404
	Signature	10	Date	City		State	Zip Code

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Sincerely,	MICHAEL DELMANDWSKI		P.G., C.E.G., C.Hq.		SENIOR HYDROGEOLOGIST		
	Printed Name	Professiona	Designation(s)	Title SANTH POSA	CA	95404	
	Signature		Date	City	State	Zip Code	

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Sincerely,	Jacob Gallegos	6.I.T.	Staff	Geologist	
	Printed Name	Professional Designation(s) 9-8-16	Title Santa Rosa		95404
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	Printed Name	Mi	Professional Designation(s) 9/2/16	Santa Rosa	CA	95404
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Sincerely,

Professional Designation(s) Printed Signature Date City State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

#### Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am a Licensed Professional who understands the importance of Landscape Architecture. There are currently members of the profession who are as qualified as their California licensed counterparts that are being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

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emailed 9/15/16

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	Printed Name	- Fitte	onal Designation(s)	Title	CHICO		95928
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Sincerely, ana Printed Name Professional Designation(s) Title 7/16 Signature Date State

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

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Sincerely,

CIVIL DUIN CASE NGINEER Printed Name Professional Designation(s) Title 95610 10/201 SACRAMENTO Signature Date City State Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

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Sincerely Professional Designation(s tinted Name Zio Code

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Sincerely,	Melanie Holton	n Civil	Engine	wr, P.E.		
1	Printed Name	Professional Designation(s)	116 Title	Dordo Hill	CA	95762
	Signature	Date	City	Real Provides	State	Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

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Sincerely, GA 255-95670 Printed Name Professional Designation(s) Title Signature City Date Zio Code

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Sincerely,	Michael	Harrison	P.E	MANAAAA	Enginee	r
-	Printed Name	Professi	onal Designation(s) 9/15/2016	Title Folson	CA	95630
-	Signature		Date	City	State	Zip Code

CC: California Architects Board, cab@dca.ca.gov Sen. Mike McGuire, senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov Assemblyman Jim Wood Department of Consumer Affairs Senator Jim Nielsen Assemblyman James Gallagher

#### Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:Nation, Kourtney@DCASent:Friday, September 23, 2016 3:14 PMTo:Townsend, Stacy@DCASubject:FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Please add to spreadsheet

Kourtney Nation Examination Coordinator

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 Main Line (916) 575-7237 Direct (916) 575-7285 Fax www.latc.ca.gov

#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee is committed to providing quality customer service. To measure how we are doing, we would appreciate you taking a few minutes to share your thoughts about the service you received using our <u>Customer Service</u> <u>Survey</u>. Thank you

From: Robin Tofanelli-Cook [mailto:robin@nantuckethomeinc.com]
Sent: Thursday, September 22, 2016 1:47 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: shawn; CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov; Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov
Subject: re: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

Attn: Kourtney Nation California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 Latc@dca.ca.gov

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Sincerely, **Robin Cook** Chico, CA

#### Robin Cook Showroom Manager

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www.ShopNantucketHome.com www.NantucketHomeInc.com www.CuratorsOfLifestyle.com

#### Townsend, Stacy@DCA

From:	Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Sent:	Friday, September 23, 2016 3:12 PM
To:	Townsend, Stacy@DCA
Subject:	FW: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing - California Architect's
	Board

Please add to spreadsheet

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#### kourtney.nation@dca.ca.gov

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From: Patrick Race [mailto:patrickrace@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, September 23, 2016 1:12 PM
To: Nation, Kourtney@DCA
Cc: shawn@meltondg.com; CAB@DCA; Dca@DCA; senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov; Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov; senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov; assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov
Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing - California Architect's Board

#### Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

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Sincerely,

Patrick Race, PLA Landscape Architect San Francisco, CA 94103

#### CC:

California Architects Board, <u>cab@dca.ca.gov</u> Department of Consumer Affairs, <u>dca@dca.ca.gov</u> Senator Jim Nielsen, <u>senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov</u> Assemblyman James Gallagher, <u>Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov</u> Senator Mike McGuire, <u>senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov</u> Assemblyman Jim Wood, <u>assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov</u> Office of the Governor, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr.

Attn: Kourtney Nation California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 <u>latc@dca.ca.gov</u>

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  proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California
  reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.
- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for Landscape Architects.

#### I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

#### § 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating.

provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

(A) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application; or

(B) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, possesses a Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 of the last 5 years; or

(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

Sincerely,

Shawn Rohrbacker

RLA Nevada #816 Melton Design Group 309 Wall Street Chico, CA 95928 530.899.1616 shawn@meltondg.com

#### CC:

California Architects Board, <u>cab@dca.ca.gov</u> Department of Consumer Affairs, <u>dca@dca.ca.gov</u> Senator Jim Nielsen, <u>senator.nielsen@senate.ca.gov</u> Assemblyman James Gallagher, <u>Assemblymember.Gallagher@assembly.ca.gov</u> Senator Mike McGuire, <u>senator.mcguire@senate.ca.gov</u> Assemblyman Jim Wood, <u>assemblymember.wood@assembly.ca.gov</u> Office of the Governor, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr. From: Patricia St. John [mailto:patriciastjohn24@gmail.com] Sent: Tuesday, September 27, 2016 8:03 AM To: dmaxam@ebagroup.com Cc: dmaxam@ebagroup.com; president@apldca.org; CAB@DCA Subject: Public Comment: Proposed Regulatory Language Hearing September 27, 2016

27 September 2016

California Architects Board Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834

Dear Landscape Architects Technical Committee,

I am a certified landscape designer as qualified as my California licensed counterparts who is being barred from obtaining licensure due to existing exclusionary regulations. Also, due to increasingly restrictive policies, over time, there are currently CA Licensed Landscape Architects practicing who would not qualify for licensure today.

The Committee's proposed Regulatory Language change, though taking steps in the right direction, borrows precedent from New York and Arizona, however this precedent is out of context because these States have a multitude of paths to licensure not available in California. California fails to recognize education outside of Landscape Architecture, however both States upon which the proposed language is based allow Licensure for individuals with varying degrees and combinations of experience.

The proposed change is also out of step with standards shared by California's Architects and Civil Engineers who are entrusted with responsibilities as critical to ensuring the public's health, safety, and welfare.

I oppose the following inequities in the current and proposed regulations:

- The proposed regulation will require any out-of-state licensed individual, regardless of education or experience, to obtain an
  additional 10 years of post-licensure practice experience to be granted California reciprocity. These individuals are already
  licensed and by definition are competent and capable of ensuring the health, safety, and welfare of public the primary
  concern of licensure.
- In California a person may become a Licensed Landscape Architect if they have earned a 2 year Associates Degree or Certificate in Landscape Architecture along with proper work experience and passing the national Exam.
- Currently a person with a 4 year Bachelor's Degree, regardless of related subject matter, who is licensed in another state by having passed the same Exam and having the same work experience, is not eligible for licensure.
- Nearly all states require experience for initial licensure and the majority of states allow licensure on the basis of examination and experience alone. Persons are generally eligible for out of state licensure upon demonstrating an average of 8 years experience prior to examination. The current proposed regulation will tack on an additional 10 year post-licensure experience requirement for a total (average) of 18 years needed for California reciprocity. This change will continue to marginalize many talented professionals.
- While California Architects and Civil Engineers who are not college educated or who have degrees in related subjects may
  obtain their licensure, candidates for Landscape Architecture are not afforded that privilege. It seems clear that if we deem
  our Architects and Engineers who are not college educated to be as qualified as those who are, the same should hold true for
  Landscape Architects.

# I request the following revised language to amend California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, Section 2615 be implemented and approved by the California Architect's Board:

§ 2615 Form of Examinations

(1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the Board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination provided that the candidate submits verifiable documentation to the Board indicating:

(A) Candidate possesses education and experience equivalent to that required of California applicants at the time of application; or (B) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, possesses a Bachelor's degree from a recognized accredited institution, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 2 of the last 5 years; or

(C) Candidate holds a valid license or registration in good standing, and has been practicing or offering professional services for at least 6 of the last 10 years.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on this important regulatory change. Sincerely,

Patricia St. John, APLD 1635 Le Roy Avenue Berkeley, CA 94709 patriciastjohn24@gmail.com

Attachment H.8



# Landscape Architects Technical Committee

THE EVALUATION OF

# **EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS**

## TO EXAMINE FOR LICENSURE

January 2010

## **Credits and Contact Information**

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee would like to thank the Education Subcommittee volunteers for all their time, effort, and long-term commitment to the report.

Richard Zweifel, Chair Christine Anderson Linda Gates Steve Lang Alexis Slafer

#### Contacting the Landscape Architects Committee and Copies of Report

#### All communication should be addressed to:

2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 • Sacramento, CA 95834 • P (916) 575-7230 • F (916) 575-7285 latc@dca.ca.gov • www.latc.ca.gov

Approved January 2010

## **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	1
List of Recommended Changes as Approved by Landscape Architects	
Technical Committee and California Architects Board	
Other Eligibility Issues Reviewed and Retained	
Intent of Recommendations	
Examples of Impacts	
Background/History	5
History of Statutory and Regulatory Law	
The Practice of Landscape Architects	
Associated Professions	
Architects	
Civil Engineers	
Landscape Contractors	
Landscape Designers	
The Landscape Architects Technical Committee's Actions	
Current Licensure Standard and Recommended Changes	11
Statutory Law	
Regulatory Law	
Education and Experience Requirement Comparison	15
Landscape Architecture Examination	
Comparison with 'Model' Requirements used by CLARB for Examinatio	n Eligibility
Synopsis of Current Paths to Qualify for Exam/Licensure	
Other CLARB Member Boards	
Other Board Requirements for Examination Eligibility	
California Architects Board	
Board of Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors	

California Board for Geologists and Geophysicists

Contractors State Licensing Board

#### Education

Education Equivalences Accredited Universities Extension Certificate Programs Community Colleges Out of State Foreign Education in Landscape Architecture

#### Experience

Types of Experience When is experience gained? How is experience verified? Is an Internship Required? Experience Summary

#### Conclusion

Improving Access to Licensure Growth and Demand in the Profession History of Licensees Chart

#### **Appendices & Notes**

Appendix A--Approved Recommendations and Justification Appendix B—Related Studies October 2004 - Landscape Architects Body of Knowledge (LABOK) December 2006 – DCA Office of Examination Resources, California Validation Report 2006 - Thompson Prometric National Task Analysis Appendix C—Meeting Notes Summaries Notes

25

27

31

#### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (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 as related to public health, safety, and welfare in California and successfully preparing applicants for the examination.

As part of its charge, and with the assistance of LATC staff, the Educational Subcommittee also provides a comparative analysis of several related discipline's eligibility requirements as part of their assessment and basis for recommendations that were then vetted, modified and approved by the LATC and the California Architects Board (CAB):

- ∝ Council of Landscape Architectural Regulatory Boards (CLARB's) national eligibility requirements
- ∝ Eligibility requirements of other design professional boards (CAB and Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors)
- ∝ Eligibility requirements pertaining to the type and duration of training/work experience
- ∝ Curricula of California landscape architectural programs with specific attention to licensing examination subject

#### List of Recommended Changes as Approved by Landscape Architects Technical Committee and California Architects Board

The following are the summary recommendations that were initiated by the Education Subcommittee with subsequent review and approval by the LATC and CAB. They were developed in response to the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee's findings regarding increasing access to landscape architecture licensure.

- ∝ Based on a transcript review of major and support courses, grant credit for partial completion of an accredited landscape architecture degree allowing minimum "education" eligibility for examination
- ∝ Allow early eligibility to begin examination, prior to meeting work experience requirements, for candidates with an accredited degree or approved extension certificate in landscape architecture
- ∞ Develop and implement a candidate education/ experience tracking system and reciprocity candidate tracking system to collect objective data regarding ati d su f examin ti
- ∝ Revise certificate of applicant's experience form to include more specific information regarding the preparation recommended for California examination and licensure

#### Other Eligibility Issues Reviewed and Retained

The LATC thoroughly assessed the full spectrum of education and experience requirements and determined that the following should remain unchanged.

- ∝ Retain the six-year education/experience requirements
- ∞ Retain current reciprocity requirements
- ∝ Not implement a rolling time clock to limit the number of years for a candidate to obtain licensure
- ∞ Not allow licensure with work experience alone
- ∞ Not provide credit for teaching and research experience

As a result of the review, it was determined that further outcome assessment regarding candidate examination success and preparation would be needed to determine if additional modification to the eligibility requirements may be warranted. The Subcommittee recommended that additional candidate tracking procedures be implemented to provide the necessary data.

#### Intent of Recommendations

The LATC anticipates that implementing the recommendations will improve access to qualified individuals interested in becoming landscape architects. Examples of expanded eligibility access include:

- ∝ Applicants who can demonstrate successful completion of a majority of an accredited landscape architecture degree, will be determined to have met the minimum educational access component for examination eligibility

sections of the national licensure examination upon graduation thereby encouraging a clear and continuous th to licens

- ∝ Information guide(s) will identify preparation expectations for licensure success in California for

#### **BACKGROUND/HISTORY**

#### History of Statutory and Regulatory Law

With the roots of the profession in North America dating back to 1860, California became the first U.S. jurisdiction to regulate the practice of landscape architecture in 1953 with the formation of the Board of Landscape Architects (BLA). In 1997, the BLA was sunset by the California Legislature and restructured in 1998 as the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) under the California Architects Board (CAB). Today, 49 states, two Canadian provinces, and Puerto Rico regulate the practice of landscape architecture. California has both a practice act, which precludes unlicensed individuals from practicing landscape architecture, and a title act, which restricts the use to the title "landscape architect" to those who have been licensed by the LATC.

There are currently more than 20,000 licensed landscape architects in the United States. The LATC licenses more than 3,700 landscape architects, who are responsible for the design and planning of millions of dollars worth of public sector, private development, and residential projects.

#### The Practice of Landscape Architects

Landscape architecture is a profession that involves planning and designing the use, allocation and arrangement of land and water resources through the creative application of biological, physical, mathematical, and social processes. Based on environmental, physical, social and economic considerations, landscape architects produce overall guidelines, reports, master plans, conceptual plans, construction contract documents, and construction oversight for landscape projects that create a balance between the needs and wants of people and the limitations of the environment. Specific services include city planning and development, environmental restoration, regional landscape planning, urban/town planning, park and recreation planning, ecological planning and design, landscape design, code research and compliance, cost analysis, and historic preservation. The decisions and performance of landscape architects affect the health, safety, and welfare of the client, as well as that of the public and environment. Therefore, it is essential that landscape architects meet minimum standards of competency.

The LATC's regulation of the practice of landscape architecture protects both direct consumers of landscape architectural services and the public at large – the millions of people who use or visit the spaces designed by landscape architects.<sup>1</sup>

The California Business and Professions Code defines the practice of landscape architecture as:

# § 5615. "Landscape Architect" — Practice of Landscape Architecture

"Landscape architect" means a person who holds a license to practice landscape architecture in this state under the authority of this chapter.

A person who practices landscape architecture within the meaning and intent of this article is a person who offers or performs professional services, for the purpose of landscape preservation, development and enhancement, such as consultation, investigation, reconnaissance, research, planning, design, preparation of drawings, construction documents and specifications, and responsible construction observation. Landscape preservation, development and enhancement is the dominant purpose of services provided by landscape architects. Implementation of that purpose includes: (1) the preservation and aesthetic and functional enhancement of land uses and natural land features; (2) the location and construction of aesthetically pleasing and functional approaches and settings for structures and roadways; and, (3) design for trails and pedestrian walkway systems, plantings, landscape irrigation, landscape lighting, landscape grading and landscape drainage.

Landscape architects perform professional work in planning and design of land for human use and enjoyment. Based on analyses of environmental physical and social characteristics, and economic considerations, they produce overall plans and landscape project designs for integrated land use.

The practice of a landscape architect may, for the purpose of landscape preservation, development and enhancement, 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.

This practice shall include the location, arrangement, and design of those tangible objects and features as are incidental and necessary to the purposes outlined herein. Nothing herein shall preclude a duly licensed landscape architect from planning the development of land areas and elements used thereon or from performing any of the services described in this section in connection with the settings, approaches, or environment for buildings, structures, or facilities, in accordance with the accepted public standards of health, safety, and welfare."<sup>2</sup>

#### **Associated Professions**

#### Architects

Architects are licensed by CAB. They research, plan, design, and administer building projects for clients, applying knowledge of design, construction procedures, zoning and building codes, and building materials. They consult with clients to determine functional and spatial requirements of new structure or renovation, and prepare information regarding design, specifications, materials, color, equipment, estimated costs, and construction time. They also plan the layout of the project and integrate engineering elements.

The California Business and Professions Code defines the practice of architecture as:

#### § 5500.1 Practice of Architecture Defined

"(a) The practice of architecture within the meaning and intent of this chapter is defined as offering or performing, or being in responsible control of, professional services which require the skills of an architect in the planning of sites, and the design, in whole or in part, of buildings, or groups of buildings and structures.

(b) Architects' professional services may include any or all of the following:(1) Investigation, evaluation, consultation, and advice.

(2) Planning, schematic and preliminary studies, designs, working drawings, and specifications.

(3) Coordination of the work of technical and special consultants.

(4) Compliance with generally applicable codes and regulations, and assistance in the governmental review process.

- (5) Technical assistance in the preparation of bid documents and agreements between clients and contractors.
- (6) Contract administration.
- (7) Construction observation."

Under the Landscape Architects Practice Act, a licensed architect is exempt from the provisions of the Landscape Architects Practice Act except that an architect may not use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a landscape architect license as required.

#### Civil Engineers

Civil engineers are licensed by the Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors. They plan, design, and direct civil engineering projects, such as roads, railroads, airports, bridges, harbors, channels, dams, irrigation systems, pipelines, and power plants; analyze reports, maps, drawings, blueprints, tests, and aerial photographs on soil composition, terrain, hydrological characteristics, and other topographical and geologic data to plan and design a project. They calculate costs and determine feasibility of projects based on analysis of collected data, applying knowledge and techniques of engineering, and advanced mathematics.<sup>3</sup>

# The California Business and Professions Code defines the practice of civil engineer as:

#### § 6701. Professional Engineer Defined

"'Professional engineer,' within the meaning and intent of this act, refers to a person engaged in the professional practice of rendering service or creative work requiring education, training and experience in engineering sciences and the application of special knowledge of the mathematical, physical and engineering sciences in such professional or creative work as consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning or design of public or private utilities, structures, machines, processes, circuits, buildings, equipment or projects, and supervision of construction for the purpose of securing compliance with specifications and design for any such work."

#### § 6702. Civil engineer defined

"'Civil engineer' as used in this chapter means a professional engineer in the branch of civil engineering and refers to one who practices or offers to practice civil engineering in any of its phases."

Under the Landscape Architects Practice Act, a licensed professional engineer is exempt from the provisions of the Landscape Architects Practice Act except that a licensed engineer may not use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a landscape architect license as required.

#### Landscape Contractors

Landscape contractors are licensed by the Contractors State License Board, and must install their own designs or the design work of landscape architects. Landscape contractors cannot prepare independent landscape plans they do not install. A landscape contractor constructs, maintains, repairs, installs, or subcontracts the development of landscape systems and facilities for public and private gardens and other areas. In connection therewith, a landscape contractor prepares and grades plots and areas of land for the installation of any architectural, horticultural and decorative treatment or arrangement.

#### California Code of Regulations Title 16, Division 8, Article 3. Classifications: C27 -Landscaping Contractor

"A landscape contractor constructs, maintains, repairs, installs, or subcontracts the development of landscape systems and facilities for public and private gardens and other areas which are designed to aesthetically, architecturally, horticulturally, or functionally improve the grounds within or surrounding a structure or a tract or plot of land. In connection therewith, a landscape contractor prepares and grades plots and areas of land for the installation of any architectural, horticultural and decorative treatment or arrangement."

Under the Landscape Architects Practice Act, a licensed landscape contractor may design systems and facilities for work to be performed and supervised by that landscape contractor. A licensed landscape contractor may not use the title "landscape architect" unless he or she holds a landscape architect license.

#### Landscape Designers

A landscape designer is unlicensed and may only prepare plans, drawings, and specifications for the selection, placement, or use of plants for single-family dwellings; and drawings for the conceptual design and placement of tangible objects and landscape features. Due to limitations provided in the Landscape Architects Practice Act regarding unlicensed practitioners, they may not prepare construction documents, details, or specifications for tangible landscape objects or landscape features or prepare grading and drainage plans for the alteration of sites. Unlicensed individuals may not use the title "landscape architect," "landscape architecture," "landscape architectural," or any other titles, words or abbreviations that would imply or indicate that he or she is a landscape architect.

#### Landscape Architects Technical Committee Actions

During the 1996 Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) review, it was recommended that Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) review the six-year education and experience requirement to determine if it is justified. This review did not occur due to the sunset of the Landscape Architects Board in 1998.

The JLSRC 2004 Recommendations and the 2004 LATC Strategic Plan directed the LATC to identify examination eligibility issues, propose solutions and report to DCA and the Legislature if changes should be made to this requirement. The Strategic Plan further directs the LATC to, if necessary, modify examination eligibility requirements under California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 16, Division 26, Section 2620, and prepare "guidelines" for meeting examination experience requirements.<sup>4</sup>

An Education Subcommittee was formed August 2004 and charged with evaluating California's eligibility requirements for the national Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE) to ensure that applicants have appropriate educational and training/work experience before the examination is taken. Specifically, the Subcommittee's charge was to determine appropriate levels of experience as they relate to: 1) public health, safety and welfare in California, and 2) successfully preparing applicants for the examination. The Subcommittee met between October 8, 2005 and February 27, 2007. After subsequent meetings with the LATC and the California Architects Board (CAB), the recommendations were shared with the California Council of the American Society of Landscape Architects and approved by the LATC on May 4, 2007 and CAB on June 15, 2007. A summary of the meeting notes is included in Appendix C.

# CURRENT LICENSURE STANDARD AND RECOMMENDED CHANGES

#### **Statutory Law**

California Business and Professions Code Section 5650-Examinations-Qualifications, Application, Fee states:

> "Subject to the rules and regulations governing examinations, any person, over the age of 18 years, who has had six years of training and educational experience in actual practice of landscape architectural work shall be entitled to an examination for a certificate to practice landscape architecture. A degree from a school of landscape architecture approved by the board shall be deemed equivalent to four years of training and educational experience in the actual practice of landscape architecture. Before taking the examination, a person shall file an application therefore with the executive officer and pay the application fee fixed by this chapter."

#### **Regulatory Law**

California Code of Regulations are stated below with the impact of the LATC recommended changes in strike-out / <u>underline</u> format:

#### § 2615. Form of Examinations.

(a) (1) A candidate who has a combination of six years of education and training experience as specified in section 2620 shall be eligible and may apply for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(2) Notwithstanding subdivision (a)(1), a candidate who has a Board approved degree in landscape architecture in accordance with section 2620(a)(1) or an extension certificate in landscape architecture from a Board approved school in accordance with section 2620(a)(3) shall be eligible and may apply for the multiple choice sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(b) A candidate shall be deemed eligible and may apply for the California Supplemental Examination upon passing all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination.

(c) All candidates applying for licensure as a landscape architect shall pass all sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination or a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California, as determined by the Board, and the California Supplemental Examination subject to the following provisions:

(a) (1) A candidate who is licensed as a landscape architect in a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico by having passed a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California as determined by the board shall be eligible for licensure upon passing the California Supplemental Examination.

(b) (2) A candidate who is not a licensed landscape architect and who has received credit from a U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico for a written examination substantially equivalent in scope and subject matter required in California shall be entitled to receive credit for the corresponding sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination, as determined by the Board, and shall be eligible for licensure upon passing any remaining sections of the Landscape Architect Registration Examination and the California Supplemental Examination.

# 2620. Education and Training Credits-Operative on January 1, 1997

The Board's evaluation of a candidate's training and educational experience is based on the following table:

Experience Description	Education Max. Credit Allowed	Training and/or Practice Max. Credit Allowed	
(a) Experience Equivalent:			
(1) Degree in landscape architecture from an approved school.	4 years		
(2) Degree in landscape architecture from a non- approved school.	3 years		
(3) Extension certificate in landscape architecture from an approved school.	2 years		
(4) Associate degree in landscape architecture from a city/community college which consists of a least a 2- year curriculum.	1 year		
(5) Extension certificate as specified in subdivision (a)(3) and a degree from a university or college which consists of a 4-year curriculum.	4 years		
(6) Associate degree from a college specified in subdivision (a)(4) and an extension certificate as specified in subdivision (a)(3) of this section.	3 years		
(7) Partial completion of a degree in landscape architecture from an approved school.	<u>1 year</u>		
(8) Partial completion of an extension certificate in landscape architecture from an approved school where the applicant has a degree from a university or college which consists of a four-year curriculum.	<u>1 year</u>		
(9) A degree in architecture which consists of at least a four-year curriculum that has been accredited by the National Architectural Accrediting Board.	<u>1 year</u>		
(710) Self employment as, or employment by, a landscape architect licensed in the jurisdiction where the experience occurred shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		5 years	
(811) Self employment as, or employment by, a licensed architect or registered civil engineer in the jurisdiction where the experience occurred shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		1 year	
(912) Self employment as a California licensed landscape contractor or a licensed landscape contractor in another jurisdiction where the scope of practice for landscape contracting is equivalent to that allowed in this state pursuant to Business and Professions Code Section 7027.5 and Cal. Code Regs. Title 16, Section 832.27 shall be granted credit on a 100% basis.		4 years	

#### (b) Education Credits.

(1) Candidates shall possess at least one year of educational credit to be eligible for the examination.

(2) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be defined as one of the following:

(A) Bachelor of Landscape Architecture.

(B) Bachelor of Science in landscape architecture.

(C) Bachelor of Arts in landscape architecture.

(D) Masters degree in landscape architecture.

(3) The maximum credit which may be granted for a degree or combination of degrees from an approved school shall be four years of educational credit. (4) A degree from a school with a landscape architecture program shall be deemed to be approved by the Board if the landscape architectural curriculum has been approved by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) as specified in its publication: "Accreditation Standards for Programs in Landscape Architecture" dated February 26, 1990 or the Board determines that the program has a curriculum equivalent to a curriculum having LAAB accreditation.

(5) For purposes of subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), "partial completion" shall mean that the candidate completed at least 80 percent of the total units required for completion of the 4-year degree or extension certificate program.

(36) No Except as provided in subdivisions (a)(7) and (8), no credit shall be granted for academic units obtained without earning a degree or extension certificate under categories of subsection (a)(1), (2), (3) or (4) of this section.

(4<u>7</u>) A candidate enrolled in a degree program where credit earned is based on work experience courses (e.g., internship or co-op program) shall not receive more than the maximum credit allowed for degrees under subdivision (a)(1), (2) or (3) of this section.

(58) Except as specified in subdivision (a)(5) and (6) of this section, candidates with multiple degrees shall not be able to accumulate credit for more than one degree.

(69) The Board shall not grant more than four years of credit for any degree or certificate or any combination thereof for qualifying educational experience. (c) Training Credits

(1)(A) Candidates shall possess at least two years of training/practice credit to be eligible for the examination.

(B) At least one of the two years of training/practice credit shall be under the direct supervision of a landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction, and shall be gained in one of the following forms:

<u>1. A</u>after graduation from an educational institution specified in subdivision (a)(1), (2), (3), <u>or</u> (4) or (9) of this section.

<u>2. After completion of education experience specified in subdivision</u> under (a)(7) and (8) of this section.

(C) A candidate shall be deemed to have met the provisions of subdivision (c)(1)(B) if he or she possesses a degree from a school specified in subdivision (a)(1) and has at least two years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor or possesses a certificate from a school specified in subdivision (a)(3) and has at least four years of training/practice credit as a licensed landscape contractor.

(2) Candidates shall be at least 18 years of age or a high school graduate before they shall be eligible to receive credit for work experience.

(3) A year of training/practice experience shall consist of 1500 hours of qualifying employment. Training/practice experience may be accrued on the basis of part-time employment. Employment in excess of 40 hours per week shall not be considered.

(d) Miscellaneous Information

(1) Independent, non-licensed practice or experience, regardless of claimed coordination, liaison, or supervision of licensed professionals shall not be considered.

(2) The Board shall retain inactive applications for a five (5) year period. Thereafter, the Board shall purge these records unless otherwise notified by the candidate. A candidate who wishes to reapply to the Board, shall be required to re-obtain the required documents to allow the Board to determine their current eligibility.<sup>5</sup>

# EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT COMPARISON

In California, the LATC is the governing body over the practice of landscape architecture. In keeping with its highest priority of protection of the public, the LATC has established licensure eligibility and professional qualifications minimums that candidates must meet through a combination of preparation requirements. They include direct experience in the discipline, landscape architectural education and demonstration of knowledge through examination.

#### Landscape Architecture Examination

There are two separate examinations that candidates must successfully complete as a part of the licensure process in California. The first is the Landscape Architects Registration Examination (LARE). The LATC maintains a contract with the Council of Landscape Architects Registration Boards (CLARB) for them to develop, administer and grade the LARE. The LATC is a member of CLARB. CLARB is the sole provider for the LARE that is used by all 48 member boards throughout the United States and Canada.

The second examination is the California Supplemental Examination developed and administered by the LATC. This examination consists of 100 multiple-choice questions designed to assess a candidate's landscape architecture knowledge specific to California. The LARE must be successfully completed in order to be *eligible* for the California Supplemental Examination.

The LARE is an inter-related, multi-section examination consisting of five interdependent sections covering landscape architecture competencies. There are three multiple-choice sections (A,B and D) and two graphic response sections (C and E) that require a drafted solution.

- $\infty$  Section A Project and Construction Administration
- ∝ Section B Inventory, Analysis and Program Development Section C - Site Design
- ∝ Section D Design and Construction Documentation
- ∞ Section E Grading, Drainage and Stormwater Management

As developed by CLARB and employed by the LATC in the execution of its regulatory duties the LARE "is designed to determine whether applicants for landscape architectural licensure possess sufficient knowledge, skills and abilities to provide landscape architectural services without endangering the health, safety and welfare of the public."

In 2004, CLARB computerized all multiple-choice sections and began administering them at centralized testing centers. As an efficiency measure in 2009, the LATC enacted regulatory changes to allow the ability to further contract the administration of the graphic sections of the LARE to CLARB. CLARB now administers all five sections of the LARE for California.

# Comparison with 'Model' Requirements used by CLARB for Examination Eligibility

CLARB member licensing jurisdictions enforce their own eligibility requirements or delegate the responsibility to CLARB, who applies established model law identifying eligibility requirements to evaluate prospective applicants.

- ∝ Hold a four or five year Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board [LAAB] or Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Accreditation Council [LAAC] accredited undergraduate degree in landscape architecture, or a LAAB or LAAC accredited graduate degree program in landscape architecture (or will complete by the exam administration date), or
- ∝ Hold a **National Architectural Accrediting Board** [NAAB] accredited degree in architecture, and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- ∝ Hold a Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology [ABET] accredited degree in engineering, and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- ☞ Hold a non-accredited undergraduate degree in landscape architecture, or a non-accredited graduate degree program in landscape architecture, and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or
- ∞ Hold a bachelor's degree in any subject and have completed (or will complete by the exam administration date) three

the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, or ∞ Have applied to and been approved by a CLARB member board.

A side-by-side examination eligibility comparison between California education and experience requirements used by the LATC and model law used by CLARB was carried out in December 2008. This comparison identified the differences between the two standards. CLARB accepts applicants with no experience if they have an accredited landscape architecture degree. Unaccredited landscape architecture degrees, accredited architecture or civil engineering degrees are all accepted with only one year of experience under a landscape architect. CLARB

also accepts any bachelor degree with three years experience under the direction of a landscape architect. In contrast, along with the recommended educational preparation of an accredited landscape architectural degree (four or five years), the LATC accepts candidates with a variety of other educational preparations including an associate degree with five years experience under the direction of a landscape architect or a certificate from a University of California Extension Program with four years experience under a landscape architect. In California, the UC Extension Program has two landscape architecture programs and four two-year colleges that offer associate degrees in landscape architecture. These programs are somewhat unique to California and provide a significant number of California citizens with access to an education in landscape architecture. The table below identifies the comparison:

LATC			CLARB		
Education	Max Ed Credit		Education + Experience Combinations equals <u>six</u> credits	Education	Education + Experience Combinations equals <u>five</u> credits
Accredited LA Degree	4	А	2 yrs as or under LA	Accredited LA Degree	no experience required
After degree is		B C	1 yr as or under LA 1 yr as or under an Arch 1 yr as or under LA		
awarded, one year training/experience		D	1 yr as or under CE 1 yr as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27 license		
under LA is required except for pattern E.		Е	2 yrs holding C-27 license		
Unaccredited LA Degree (includes approved Foreign degrees)	3	F	3 yrs as or under LA	Unaccredited LA Degree	1 yr under an LA
		G	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch	209.00	, ji andor an 2 t
		Н	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE		
		Ι	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27		
		J	1 yr as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under LA		
		К	1 yr holding C-27 1 yr as or under Arch 1 yr as or under LA		
		L	1 yr holding C-27 1 yr as or under CE		
Approved Extension Certificate in LA	2	М	4 yrs as or under LA	not accepted	
Certificate III LA	-	N	3 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch	not accepted	
		0	3 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE		
		Р	2 yrs as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27		
		Q	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under Arch 1 yr holding C-27		
		R	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under CE 1 yr holding C-27		
		S	1 yr as or under LA 3 yrs holding C-27		
After Certificate is		Т	1 yr as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under Arch		

#### Synopsis of Current Paths to Qualify for Exam/Licensure

awarded, one year training/experience under LA is require except for pattern	e ed	U V	1 yr as or under LA 2 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under CE 4 yrs holding C-27		
Approved Extension Certificate in LA + 4 yr degree in any					
Subject	4	Α	2 yrs as or under LA 1 yr as or under LA	not accepted	
		В	1 yr as or under an Arch		
After Certificate is		С	1 yr as or under LA		
awarded, one year	r	C	1 yr as or under CE		
training/experience	training/experience		1 yr as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27 license		
under LA is require except for pattern		Ε	2 yrs holding C-27 license		
Associate LA	1	w			
Degree		vv	5 yrs as or under LA 4 yrs as or under LA	not accepted	
		Х	1 yr as or under Arch		
		Y	4 yrs as or under LA		
		Ŷ	1 yr as or under CE 4 yrs as or under LA		
		Z	1 holding C-27		
			3 yrs as or under LA		
		AA	2 yrs holding C-27		
			3 yrs as or under LA 1 yr holding C-27		
		BB	1 yr as or under Arch		
			3 yrs as or under LA		
		CC	1 yr holding C-27		
			1 yr as or under CE 2 yrs as or under LA		
		DD	3 yrs holding C-27		
			2 yrs as or under LA		
		EE	2 yrs holding C-27		
			1 yrr as or under Arch 2 yrs as or under LA		
			2 yrs holding C-27		
		FF	1 yr as or under CE		
		GG	1 yr as or under LA		
		00	4 yrs holding C-27 1 yr as or under LA		
			3 yrs holding C-27		
		HH	1 yr as or under Arch		
			1 yr as or under LA 3 yrs holding C-27		
		Ш	1 yr as or under CE		
not accepted				Accredited Arch Degree	1 yr as or under LA
				Accredited CE	
not accepted				Degree	1 yr under LA
not accepted				Any Bachelors Degree	3 yr under LA

## **Other CLARB Member Boards**

In 2002, the LATC discussed the need to review its current eligibility requirements for appropriateness, as well as compare the requirements of other CLARB member jurisdictions and other design profession boards. At that time, staff research revealed that California's requirements were comparable to other licensing jurisdictions. For example, 45 licensing jurisdictions recommended that applicants have a degree in landscape architecture as a primary means of satisfying the educational requirement for the examination. Of those that did not specifically require a degree in landscape architecture, a range of between eight and twelve years of work experience was required.

In addition, the LATC assessed that California candidates are offered flexibility in meeting the educational requirement, as accredited and unaccredited bachelors and masters' degrees, extension certificates, and associate degrees in landscape architecture are recognized. Further, the extension certificate programs allow individuals the opportunity to more easily transition into a landscape architectural career by offering evening course schedules. Candidates are also able to satisfy the experience requirements with self-employment as a licensed landscape contractor, and self-employment, or employment by, a licensed architect or registered civil engineer. Therefore, upon reviewing its requirements, the LATC assessed that they remain appropriate for California, and that a more thorough evaluation should be conducted once data becomes available through the candidate tracking process.

As a part of the examination eligibility review process, the LATC Education Subcommittee evaluated the acceptance of various "related" degrees that are either recognized by other states or were identified by Subcommittee members and/or LATC staff. Consideration of accepting degrees related to landscape architecture was a result of the following: 1) the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) previously raised concerns regarding the fact that, prior to 1997, California applicants could receive educational credit for holding any type of bachelors degree with a four-year curriculum; 2) CAB grants educational credit for designated degrees related to architecture; 3) a review of California's neighboring and the larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions (New York, Florida, Texas, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington) revealed that at least six out of those nine jurisdictions recognize degrees that are related to landscape architecture; and 4) model law used by CLARB to determine eligibility currently allows applicants to sit for the licensing examination with any type of bachelors degree, plus three years of diversified experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

In addition, a survey sent out by LATC staff in May 2005 to the neighboring and larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions confirmed that: 1) many of the states accept various related degrees; 2) a few of the states accept any degree; and 3) most of the states that accept non-landscape architecture degrees accept architecture and civil engineering degrees.

#### **Other Board Requirements for Examination Eligibility**

#### California Architects Board

To be eligible to begin the examination and licensure process, candidates seeking an architect license must provide verification of at least five years of education and/or architectural work experience. Candidates can satisfy the five-year requirement as follows: 1) Providing verification of a three-year, five-year, or six-year professional degree in architecture through a program that is accredited by NAAB or Canadian Architectural Certification Board (CACB).

2) Providing verification of at least five years of educational equivalents. Candidates are granted educational equivalents in various amounts pursuant to the Board's Table of Equivalents:

- ∝ A maximum of four years for a non-accredited professional degree in architecture
- ∝ Various amounts for other degrees and for units earned toward degrees, including: an undergraduate degree in architecture, a degree in a field related to architecture or in another field of study, and, to a limited extent, units earned toward some degrees
- ∝ Work experience under the direct supervision of a licensed architect<sup>6</sup>

## Board for Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors

To obtain a license as an engineer in training and civil engineer, applicants must:

- ∝ Have completed three years of course work in a Boardapproved engineering curriculum (any curriculum approved by the Engineering Accreditation Commission [EAC] of the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology [ABET]) or three years or more of engineering-related work experience anywhere in the world.
- $\infty$  Successfully pass the first division of the examination.
- ∝ The applicant shall be eligible to sit for the first division of the examination after satisfactory completion of three years or more of college or university education in a boardapproved engineering curriculum or after completion of three years or more of board-approved experience.

The applicant for registration as a professional engineer shall comply with all of the following:

- ∝ Furnish evidence of six years or more of qualifying experience in engineering work satisfactory to the board evidencing that the applicant is competent to practice the character of engineering in the branch for which he or she is applying for registration.
- ${\bf \propto}\,$  The applicant must successfully pass the second division of

examination shall successfully pass the first division examination or shall be exempt therefrom.

## Contractors State License Board

To obtain a C-27 landscape contractor's license a candidate must pass the written Law and Business Examination and a specific trade examination if required. Examination eligibility requires candidates to document at least four full years of journey-level or higher experience in the classification for which he or she is applying. This experience must have occurred within the last ten years. The Contractors State License Board may grant up to three years of credit toward the four-year requirement for completed education and/or apprenticeship programs.<sup>7</sup>

# EDUCATION

#### **Education Equivalences**

The LATC determined that in order to best ensure the critical thinking skills necessary to appropriately provide public health and safety protection, landscape architects should continue to be required to have both a formal education and direct experience. Fortunately, in comparison with many other member boards, California provides a number of recognized, as well as non-traditional opportunities to obtain formal education in landscape architecture. The LATC offers candidates flexibility in meeting the educational requirement for a landscape architectural degree by accepting bachelors, masters, or associate degrees, as well as approved extension certificate programs in landscape architecture.

As of January 2010, there are five accredited and four unaccredited landscape architecture bachelor and master degree programs in California. Additionally, there are two LATC approved UC Extension Programs, as well as four associate degree programs in landscape architecture from various community colleges. The following list illustrates the range of opportunities available within California to fulfill the education requirement:

#### Accredited Undergraduate Programs:

- ∝ California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (BLA)
- ∝ California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (BSLA)
- ∝ University of California, Davis (BSLA)

#### Accredited Graduate Programs:

- ∝ California State Polytechnic University, Pomona (MSLA)
- ∝ University of California, Berkeley (MLA)

Unaccredited Undergraduate Programs: ∞ University of California, Berkeley (BLA)

Unaccredited Graduate Programs:

∝ University of Southern California (MLA) (undergoing accreditation candidacy)

∝ New School of Architecture and Design, San Diego (MLA)

University of California Extension Programs:

- ∝ University of California, Berkeley
- ∝ University of California, Los Angeles

#### Associate Degree Programs:

- ∞ Mesa College, San Diego (AS)
- ∞ Mira Costa College, Oceanside (AA)
- ∞ West Valley College, Saratoga (AS)

## Accredited Universities

The Landscape Architecture Accrediting Board (LAAB) recognized by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation, accredits educational programs leading to first professional degrees at the master's or bachelor's level. Therefore, in addition to assessing how well a program meets its own specific and institutional educational mission and objectives, LAAB evaluates all programs against standards that ensure programs contain the essential educational components leading to entrylevel professional competence. These standards are developed by community-of-interest consensus and are regularly reviewed and assessed.

Accreditation has four constituencies: the public, the students, the institution, and the profession. To the public and to students, accreditation assures that the program has been independently reviewed and found to meet professional highereducation standards. It also assists in transfer of credit and acceptance into other programs. To the institutions, accreditation provides a consultative peer review and stimulus to continually improve their educational offerings. To the profession, accreditation provides the opportunity for participation in establishing entry-level skills.

A degree in landscape architecture from an accredited school is granted four years of educational credit towards licensure. Some programs offered by California schools lead to a degree in landscape architecture although they are not accredited. The latter are granted three years of educational credit. The LAAB does not currently review extension or community college programs in landscape architecture.

#### **Extension** Certificate Programs

Candidates for licensure receive credit for University of California Extension Programs that are approved by the LATC. To gain approval, these programs are reviewed by site teams appointed by the LATC. The teams conduct site visits to determine the program's compliance with California Code of Regulations Section 2620.5, Requirements for an Approved Extension Certificate Program.

Candidates who successfully complete an extension program in landscape architecture are granted two years of educational credit. Extension program certificate holders receive four years of educational credit when combined with a four-year degree in any subject, and three years of educational credit when combined with an associate degree in landscape architecture.

#### **Community Colleges**

Candidates with an associate degree in landscape architecture are granted one year of educational credit.

#### Out of State

Candidates' education degrees awarded outside of California are verified via the Accredited Programs in Landscape Architecture list and the Historical List of Programs Accredited by the LAAB.

## Foreign Education in Landscape Architecture

Foreign education transcripts are submitted by the candidate to an approved foreign evaluation service for a general evaluation of the courses equating the degree to an accredited master or bachelor degree in the United States. Foreign education determined equivalent to an accredited master or bachelor degree in landscape architecture in the United States receive four years of educational credit. No credit is provided for unaccredited or other foreign degrees.<sup>8</sup>

## EXPERIENCE

Through its examination eligibility review, the LATC has determined that maintaining flexibility in the combination of formal landscape architecture education with directed work experience, provides the greatest access to licensure *and* preparation for examination.

#### **Types of Experience**

Education and work experience credits are combined to achieve the required total of six years credit towards eligibility to examine for the landscape architect license. There are multiple training/experience variations for a candidate to qualify in California; however, the LATC requires candidates to have completed a minimum of one year education credit and two years of recognized work experience.

One year of training consists of 1,500 hours of qualifying employment. Training received under the following circumstances receives credit as indicated:

- ${\bf \propto}$  Employment by a licensed landscape architect equals up
- ∝ Self-employment as or employment by a registered civil engineer equals up to one year credit
- ∝ Self-employment as a licensed landscape contractor equals up to four years credit<sup>9</sup>

#### When is experience gained?

Candidates must possess a minimum of two years of training credits to be eligible for the examination. At least one year of training must be gained post graduation and under direct supervision of a landscape architect licensed in a United States jurisdiction. There is an exception to this post graduation requirement for candidates qualifying with experience as a selfemployed landscape contractor and holding an extension certificate, master or bachelor degree in landscape architecture.

#### How is experience verified?

Candidates submit a Certification of Applicant's Experience and Qualifications signed under penalty of perjury from each licensed supervisor verifying the candidate's training and experience. The certifying person must have supervised the candidate directly and have knowledge of the candidate's qualifications. The certifying individual must hold a valid license to practice landscape architecture, architecture and/or civil engineering.

## Is an internship required?

There is no internship requirement for landscape architects at this time. The current work experience requirements shall be weighted with the same value as internships required for architects and civil engineers.

# Experience Summary

As with the educational requirement, there are numerous variations of training experience permitted to achieve the minimum requirement. The LATC review and subsequent adjustment of California examination eligibility requirements has determined that at this time, the flexibility in training and education allowances that are provided, recognize a variety of personal and economic circumstances, and thereby offer wide access to licensure while maintaining the necessary assurances for public health, safety and well being.

# CONCLUSION

#### **Improving Access to Licensure**

In 2004, the JLSRC recommended that the Department of Consumer Affairs review the six-year education and experience requirement to determine if it is justified. The LATC formed the Education Subcommittee to research and respond to this request. The results are presented here and suggest opening up entry to the LARE for applicants with partially completed landscape architect degrees and those with accredited degrees in architecture. All recommendations were based on current knowledge. In attempt to improve candidate success and retention rates, the LATC also recommends allowing candidates to sit for the multiple-choice sections of the LARE before acquiring the required experience.

The LATC thoroughly assessed the full spectrum of education and experience requirements and assessed that the following should remain unchanged. Some requirements were determined to be adequate, while others could not be assessed due to insufficient data. To counter this deficiency in the future, the LATC began collecting data and plans to interpret information as it becomes available and determine the best course of action.

- ∝ Retain the six-year education/experience requirements
- ∝ Retain credit for associate degrees in landscape architecture
- ∝ Retain current reciprocity requirements
- ∞ Not implement a rolling time clock to limit the number of years for a candidate to obtain licensure
- ∝ Not allow licensure with work experience alone
- ∝ Not provide credit for teaching and research experience

In addition to specific changes to the LATC education and experience requirements, outcomes of the review include several projects that have been identified for completion in the LATC strategic plan:

- ∝ Development of a tracking system for candidate data that will allow assessments to demonstrate whether experience and type of education reflect on the success of California candidates taking the LARE.
- ∝ Revision of the certificate of applicants experience form to provide both the candidate and the employer a better understanding of the experience required to pass the examinations.
- ∝ Development of criteria and recommend curriculum for an associate degree in landscape architecture.
- ∝ Development of a candidate/educator/employer expectations guide with the intent to improve ination success rat

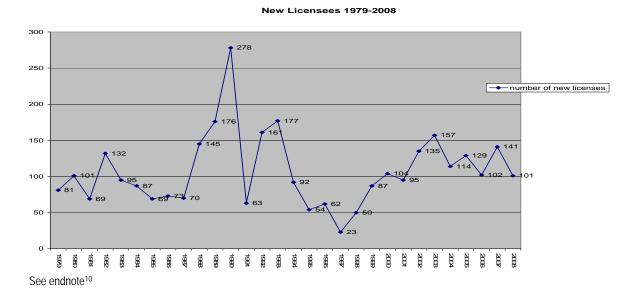
The guide will be used in conjunction with the LATC's strategic and communication plan objectives to communicate and provide outreach to university faculty, students, and practitioners in the field that mentor future licensees. By communicating required criteria, faculty, students and mentors will be able to better focus their efforts and assignments towards candidates' success.

Draft regulatory language incorporating the recommended changes to examination eligibility is prepared. Once the regulatory language is approved by the LATC and CAB, the State's rulemaking process will ensue.

#### Growth and Demand in the Profession

The future holds the promise of new developments and challenges for the ever-broadening practice of landscape architecture. According to the December 11, 2008 of U.S. News & World Report, landscape architecture is projected to grow 18 to 26 percent by 2016 and is listed as one of the top thirty careers in 2009. Outside magazine (May 2008 issue) called landscape architecture one of the 50 best jobs in the United States in 2008.

With environmental concerns becoming increasingly important, landscape architects are being called upon to solve complex problems. Rural concerns are attracting landscape architects to farmland preservation, small town revitalization, landscape preservation, energy resource development, and water conservation. Trends in computer technology have streamlined plan preparation and consultant communication and coordination for the practice.



History of Licensees Chart

In comparison, the total number of licensed landscape architects has continued to increase as indicated.

Year - # of licensees:
∞ 2009 – 3706
∞ 2008 – 3501
∞ 2007 – 3438
∞ 2006 – 3338
∝ 2005 – 3289
∝ 2004 – 3189

Landscape architects who develop strong technical skills, such as computer design; communication skills; and knowledge of environmental codes and regulations will capture the best opportunities. Those with additional training or experience in urban planning increase their prospects for employment in landscape architecture firms that specialize in site planning, as well as landscape design.

The future also promises increased cooperation among landscape architects and other design professionals. As interest in the profession continues to grow, an increasing number of students desire to study the profession. Nearly 60 universities and colleges in the United States and Canada now offer accredited baccalaureate and post-graduate programs in landscape architecture.

During the past decades, landscape architects have responded to the increased demand and professional responsibilities with new skills and expertise. More and more businesses appreciate the profession and the value that it brings to a project. The public praises the balance achieved between the built and natural environments.<sup>11</sup>

# **APPENDICES & NOTES**

A - Approved Recommendations & Justification	
<b>B</b> - Related Studies	40
C – Education Subcommittee Meeting Summaries	
Notes	46

#### Appendix A

Approved Recommendations and Justification - Approved by the California Architects Board (CAB) and the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC)

After reviewing the multiple studies addressed and referenced within this report, the following recommendations were approved by the LATC on May 4, 2007, and received final CAB approval on June 15, 2007.

## 1. Accept Accredited Professional Architecture and Civil Engineering Degrees

The LATC Education Subcommittee discussed the acceptance of various "related" degrees that are either recognized by other states or were identified by Subcommittee members and/or LATC staff. Consideration of accepting degrees related to landscape architecture was a result of the following: 1) the Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee (JLSRC) previously raised concerns regarding the fact that, prior to 1997, California applicants could receive educational credit for holding any type of bachelors degree with a four-year curriculum;<sup>12</sup> 2) CAB grants educational credit for designated degrees related to architecture and unrelated degrees; 3) a review of the neighboring and larger landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions (New York, Florida, Texas, Arizona, Hawaii, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Washington) revealed that at least six out of those nine jurisdictions recognize degrees related to landscape architecture; <sup>13</sup> and 4) CLARB currently allows applicants to sit for the licensing examination with any type of bachelors degree, plus three years of diversified experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect.

In addition, a survey sent out by LATC staff in May 2005 to the landscape architectural licensing jurisdictions<sup>14</sup> listed above confirmed that: 1) many of the states accept various related degrees; 2) a few of the states accept any degree; and 3) most of the states that accept non-landscape architecture degrees accept architecture and civil engineering degrees.

After extensive review of the research material and discussion at the June 17, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee gave preliminary approval to accept accredited bachelor degrees in architecture and civil engineering to satisfy the education requirement for examination eligibility with a caveat of conducting further research on other related degree programs. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the additional research<sup>15</sup> and agreed to recommend acceptance of accredited professional degrees), as those degrees emphasize the acquisition of critical thinking and technical skills that are necessary to address health, safety, and welfare issues and are essential to the practice of landscape architecture. The Subcommittee agreed to recommend one-year of educational credit be granted for completion of these degree programs.

The Subcommittee felt there was not clear and/or comparable rationale for granting similar credit for other related degree programs based on their insufficient curriculum and/or lack of accreditation standards. For example, urban design and horticulture degrees were considered and not

included in this recommendation because they are either non-accredited or the coursework is not specifically related to the practice of landscape architecture. One year of educational credit was agreed upon because the Subcommittee determined the curricula examined for such degree programs did not include sufficient specific exposure to landscape architecture related topics, but did address a certain measure of critical thinking and technical skills that are necessary to address health, safety and welfare issues related to the practice of landscape architecture.

The LATC presented the Final Findings and Recommendations to CAB at its meeting on June 7, 2006. At this meeting, CAB questioned education credit parity between architects and landscape architects. As a result of CAB's parity question, the Education Subcommittee reconvened on November 8, 2006 and agreed to research the parity issue as it pertained to education curriculum for architects and civil engineers. At its February 27, 2007 meeting, the Subcommittee discussed the education curriculum research <sup>16</sup> and decided to revise their earlier recommendation and recommend acceptance of accredited professional degrees in architecture and not in civil engineering. Along with their earlier belief in critical thinking and technical skills, the Subcommittee also believed there were similar curriculum elements in the architectural degree programs in comparison to the landscape architecture programs and that it would warrant educational credit. Accredited professional degrees in architecture would receive one-year of educational credit.

<u>Recommendation:</u>

• The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC accept accredited professional degrees in architecture towards satisfying the education requirement for examination eligibility and that one year of credit be granted for completion of such program.

## 2. <u>Grant Credit for Partial Completion of an Accredited</u> <u>Landscape Architecture Degree</u>

At the March 4, 2005 Education Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that the LATC had previously granted credit for partial completion of accredited and unaccredited degrees in landscape architecture and that CAB currently grants credit for partial completion of various degree programs (i.e., accredited and unaccredited architecture degrees and related degrees with a four-year curriculum). During the June 17, 2005 meeting, some Subcommittee members voiced an interest in granting credit for partial completion of accredited degrees in landscape architecture; however, it was noted that they would need to take a closer look at how credit would be determined. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee examined the issue further <sup>17</sup> and determined that one year of educational credit should be granted for partial completion of an accredited degree in landscape architecture. In addition, the Subcommittee determined that an applicant applying for examination under such circumstances must demonstrate that he/she has completed at least 80% of the total units required for the degree.

In addition to the former regulatory provision granting educational credit for partial completion of degree programs, the Subcommittee recognized that CAB accepts partial completion of various degree programs (i.e., architecture degrees and related degrees) and that granting educational credits would provide an expanded avenue to licensure.

## <u>Recommendation:</u>

• The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC grant credit for partial completion of an accredited degree in landscape architecture, that one year of educational credit be granted for such, and that an applicant demonstrate that he/she has completed at least 80% of the total units required for such degree program.

# 3. <u>Allow Early Eligibility for Examination with an Accredited</u> <u>Degree or Approved Extension Certificate in Landscape</u> <u>Architecture</u>

At the June 17, 2005 Education Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that, under Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) current standards, candidates are allowed to take the multiple-choice sections of the LARE with either an accredited undergraduate or graduate degree in landscape architecture and no work experience. A number of CLARB member jurisdictions follow this standard and allow candidates to sit for the multiple-choice sections of the LARE upon receipt of an accredited degree in landscape architecture (a total of nine states were examined by the Subcommittee and staff, and four states allow candidates to sit for the examination under such circumstances <sup>18</sup>). At the meeting, the Subcommittee indicated that they were open to considering this option for California candidates and directed staff to obtain additional background information from CLARB to assist with a recommendation with respect to this issue. The background information <sup>19</sup> was reviewed and evaluated by two Subcommittee members and a recommendation to allow this option for California candidates was presented to the Subcommittee on December 2. 2005. The Subcommittee discussed the benefits of offering this option to candidates, and in the absence of contrary data relative to pass rates, supported allowing candidates to sit for the multiple-choice sections of the LARE prior to meeting the experience requirement for examination. No quantifiable evidence regarding pass-rate success was found to support either position, but the Subcommittee felt this option would encourage graduates to continue the path to licensure immediately after attaining their accredited degree. At the November 8, 2006 meeting, the Subcommittee agreed to also allow candidates with an approved extension certificate plus four-year degree to qualify for the multiple-choice sections of the examination based on the belief that extension certificate holders are equally qualified for early eligibility as accredited degree holders.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC allow candidates with an accredited degree in landscape architecture or approved extension certificate plus four-year degree to sit for the three multiple-choice sections of the LARE (Sections A, B, and D) prior to meeting training/work experience requirements.
- If this option is approved, the Subcommittee recommends that the LATC closely monitor the success of these candidates on the examination via the proposed Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4).

## 4. <u>Implement a Candidate Education/Experience Tracking</u> <u>System and Reciprocity Candidate Tracking System</u>

At the October 8, 2004 meeting, the Subcommittee directed staff to gather information pertaining to the most recent 100 individuals that became licensed in California and develop a chart to determine if there was a correlation between a candidate's number of attempts to pass each section of the licensing examination and: 1) the landscape architecture program attended; 2) the type of degree earned, and 3) the type of training/work experience earned. This request was made to assist the Subcommittee with its evaluation of California's eligibility requirements for examination. After a review of this information<sup>20</sup>, it was noted by the Subcommittee that candidate data should be tracked on an ongoing basis so that the data is more readily available for future evaluation of eligibility requirements. It was also noted by the Subcommittee that similar information pertaining to reciprocity candidates should be tracked. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee reviewed and approved the final Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart and the Reciprocity Candidate Tracking Chart.<sup>21</sup> The Subcommittee felt the candidate education/experience tracking charts would allow the LATC to analyze existing and future regulatory related decisions. The LATC would like the tracking to begin immediately, excluding candidates' names and social security numbers from the charts.

#### <u>Recommendation:</u>

• The Subcommittee recommends that LATC staff implement a Candidate Education/Experience Tracking System and Reciprocity Candidate Tracking System and collect data by utilizing tracking charts.

#### 5. <u>Revise Certificate of Applicant's Experience Form</u>

As part of the Subcommittee's charge, the eligibility requirements pertaining to the type and duration of training/ work experience were reviewed and discussed. The Subcommittee reviewed the current certificate of applicant's experience form, which is completed by a candidate's supervisor(s) to meet the training/work experience requirement for examination eligibility.

After discussion, the Subcommittee felt that, in an effort to aid candidates/employers with acquiring/providing appropriate knowledge and work experience for success on the examination, the form should be expanded to include a list or description of specific practice categories that are tested on the examination. This modification, as well as the new Candidate/Education/ Employer Brochure, would therefore be important tools in further ensuring success on the examination (discussed under Recommendation 6).

Staff obtained samples of employment verification forms from other regulatory boards, which will assist with revising the LATC's certificate of applicant's experience form that will be developed in the future.

#### **Recommendation:**

• The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC revise the certificate of applicant's experience form to include specific practice categories that are tested on the LARE.

## 6. <u>Develop Candidate/Educator/Employer Information</u>

The Subcommittee discussed the need to create relatively detailed candidate/educator/employer information that discusses preparation for examination/licensure and recommends appropriate work experience in order to be successful on the examination. The brochure would assist candidates, educators and employers to ensure that candidates successfully prepare for examination and licensure as well as understand what is expected for their success. The candidate/educator/employer information would be made available by hardcopy, the LATC's website and email.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC develop Candidate/Educator/Employer Information.
- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC reference CAB's Comprehensive Intern Development Program Handbook when developing such information.

## 7. <u>Retain Six-Year Education/Experience Requirement</u>

At the June 17, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that: 1) the sixyear combined education and experience requirement under Business and Professions Code Section 5650 has been in effect since 1953; 2) a review of the requirements of other states revealed that they have similar requirements with respect to combined education and experience <sup>22</sup>; 3) the traditional route to licensure in California, and in most other states, has been to obtain an accredited degree in landscape architecture and two years of experience under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect; 4) there appear to be no past or present issues with respect to the six-year requirement; and 5) the combination of education and experience appears to provide the greatest protection to the public's health, safety, and welfare.

#### **Recommendation:**

• The Subcommittee recommends that the six-year combined education/experience requirement be retained at this time.

## 8. <u>Retain Existing Credit for Associate Degrees in Landscape</u> <u>Architecture</u>

A thorough review of California associate degree curricula <sup>23</sup> was conducted by the Subcommittee at its March 4, 2005 meeting. Although some discrepancies were noted between the programs with respect to subject areas and required units, it was determined the LATC should not assume the responsibility of reviewing associate degree programs and that the discrepancies were not serious enough to reconsider the one year of educational credit currently granted for completion of such programs. The LATC noted: 1) education is a necessary component of licensure, 2) all criteria for landscape architecture requirements cannot be met solely with experience, and 3) one year of educational credit for an associate degree in landscape architecture provides an additional opportunity for licensure.

In the past, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office requested that LATC examine certification of their landscape architecture programs. The LATC determined as a consequence of the number of programs, variety, and indeterminate curricular approval and oversight, it was not practical

for the LATC to review community college programs for purposes of educational eligibility standards.

At the February 27, 2007 Subcommittee meeting, as part of CAB's parity question and discussion on education credits, the Subcommittee agreed the LATC should monitor the success of candidates receiving educational credit and qualifying for the licensing examination with an associate degree.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC should not take on the responsibility of reviewing associate degree programs at this time.
- The Subcommittee recommends that one year of educational credit continue to be granted for completion of an associate degree in landscape architecture.
- If this option is approved, the Subcommittee recommends that the LATC closely monitor the success of these candidates on the examination via the proposed Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4).

#### 9. <u>Retain Current Reciprocity Requirements</u>

At the June 17, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee reviewed and discussed California, Nevada, Texas and Washington's current requirements for reciprocity <sup>24</sup> to determine if changes to California reciprocity requirements should be considered.

Currently, a reciprocity applicant must: 1) hold a current license in another U.S. jurisdiction, Canadian province, or Puerto Rico; 2) have passed a written examination equivalent to that which is required in California at the time of application; and 3) have passed the California Supplemental Examination if, at the time of application, it is required of all California applicants.

However, it was noted by the Subcommittee that changes to the current requirements could potentially present barriers for out-of-state candidates wanting to gain licensure in California and that, to date, there have not been any issues or problems identified. At the December 2, 2005 meeting, the Subcommittee confirmed its recommendation to retain California's current requirements for reciprocity and institute a reciprocity tracking system as part of Recommendation 4.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC retain its current requirements for reciprocity.
- The Subcommittee instead recommends that LATC staff track reciprocity candidate information via the proposed Reciprocity Candidate Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4) and, once enough data is gathered, bring this issue back for the LATC to reconsider its position.

## 10. Rolling Time Clock for Examination Candidates

At the June 17, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that Texas and Washington have implemented a five-year time limit for candidates to complete the examination process and become licensed. It was also noted that CAB plans to adopt a five-year "rolling time clock" that applies only to examination scores. Finally, it was noted by LATC staff that, presently, most California landscape architectural candidates complete the examination process within a five-year period and that, currently, there does not appear to be a problem with respect to this issue. However, the Subcommittee agreed to recommend a tracking system to monitor this issue as part of Recommendation 4.

#### <u>Recommendations:</u>

- The Subcommittee recommends that the LATC not implement a "rolling time clock" for examination candidates at this time.
- The Subcommittee instead recommends that LATC staff track candidates' number of attempts to pass each section of the LARE via the proposed Candidate Education/ Experience Tracking Chart (discussed under Recommendation 4) at this time and, after two years, gather data from CAB and other CLARB member jurisdictions and have the LATC reassess whether implementing a "rolling time clock" would be appropriate at that time.

#### 11. Eligibility for Examination with Experience Only

At the March 4, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that a limited number of states allow candidates to sit for the examination with specified work experience alone (and no education). Data relative to pass rate differences between candidates with university level education in landscape architecture and those without has not been available. As comparative background, CAB allows architectural candidates to sit for its licensing examinations with work experience alone (and no education).<sup>25</sup> CAB has also recently implemented the national Intern Development Program (IDP) and Comprehensive IDP that require new candidates to obtain appropriate levels of work experience in specified areas of practice. Upon considering this information, reviewing eligibility requirements for the other states that require licensing, and the absence of pass-rate data, the Subcommittee agreed to maintain requiring appropriate educational experience, obtaining appropriate work experience, and then testing for minimal competency through the LARE. The Subcommittee felt that some form of formal education provides basic knowledge of landscape architecture and experience alone was not equivalent to that knowledge.

#### **Recommendations:**

- The Subcommittee recommends that candidates not be allowed to sit for the examination with work experience alone at this time and notes that education of some form is required to succeed.
- The LATC recommends tracking data from reciprocal candidates and LARE success rates, then bringing this matter back for future consideration once enough data is

gathered. In addition, data from other states should be analyzed if it is available.

## 12. Credit for Teaching and/or Research

At the March 4, 2005 Subcommittee meeting, it was noted that a few states accept teaching and/or research experience towards fulfilling examination requirements<sup>26</sup>. However, the Subcommittee felt teaching and/or research experience does not provide the same skills that are acquired while working under a licensed professional. Additionally, teaching and/or research experience varies significantly, thus making it difficult to assess the equivalent relationship to the practice of landscape architecture and the health, safety and welfare of the public.

#### **Recommendation:**

• The Subcommittee recommends that credit not be granted for teaching and/or research experience at this time.

# **APPENDICES & NOTES**

#### **Appendix B**

#### **Related Studies**

#### **October 2004 – Landscape Architects Body of Knowledge**

The Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge (LABOK) study was designed to address the core competencies that help define the landscape architecture profession and the fundamental body of knowledge that should be expected of all graduates from accredited landscape architecture degree programs. The approach used to answer these two questions consisted of several iterative steps that required input from incumbents in the field of landscape architecture. During these steps both detailed knowledge and competency statements identifying the components of the Body of Knowledge for consideration by the academic community or for postgraduation on-the-job learning were developed.

The LABOK Task Force was established in response to these questions raised through the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board's regular review of accreditation standards. The Task Force consisted of representatives of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects (CSLA), the Council of Educators in Landscape Architecture (CELA), the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB), and the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). The Task Force authorized The Chauncey Group International to perform the Body of Knowledge study described in this part of the report. Chauncey Group's role was to facilitate the multiple interactions with landscape architect subject matter experts and/or incumbents in the field.

By building upon the information from the earlier task analysis for landscape architects and input from the Task Force, then augmenting that information through consultation with multiple panels of subject matter experts, the Task Force developed a survey that covered the body of knowledge thoroughly. The distribution of the survey reached the varied groups desired and resulted in a strong indication of the knowledge and competencies that are required upon graduation from a degree program and those that should be developed on the job. It was necessary for each of the contributing organizations to carefully examine the data and make the most efficient use of the information that is available. As suggested in the cover letter to the survey respondents, this information may be used to make curricula determinations, to guide the development of continuing education activities, and to continue strong requirements for licensure through the regulatory bodies. Based on the apparent high agreement among the various subgroup responses and the process used to develop the Body of Knowledge in this study, it is reasonable to conclude that the goals of the study were obtained.<sup>27</sup>

#### 2006 - Thompson Prometric National Task Analysis

The Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards contracted with Thomson Prometric to conduct a job analysis in order to maintain the currency of the Landscape Architects Registration Examination. Job analysis refers to procedures designed to obtain descriptive information about the tasks performed on a job and/or the knowledge, skills, or abilities thought necessary to adequately perform those tasks. The specific type of job information collected for a job analysis is determined by the purpose for which the information will be used. For purposes of developing workplace certification examinations, a job analysis should identify important tasks, knowledge, skills, and/or abilities. The use of job analysis (also known as task analysis, practice analysis, or role delineation) to define the content domain is a critical component in establishing the content validity of certification examinations. Content validity refers to the extent to which the content covered by an examination overlaps with the important components (tasks, knowledge, skills, or abilities) of a job. A well-designed job analysis should include the participation of a representative group of subject-matter experts who reflect the diversity within the job. Diversity refers to regional or job context factors and to subject-matter expert factors such as length and type of experience, gender, and race/ethnicity. Demonstration of content validity is accomplished through the judgments of subject-matter experts. The process is enhanced, when feasible, by the inclusion of large numbers of subject-matter experts who represent the diversity within the relevant areas of expertise. The job analysis involved a multi-method approach that included meetings with subject-matter experts and the conduct of a survey.

On November 12-13, 2004, a panel of landscape architects, selected by CLARB, attended a meeting with the primary purpose of developing an updated survey for distribution in first quarter, 2005. Prior to the meeting, participants received a Job Analysis Procedures Manual and selected information from the 1998 Job Analysis report and the Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge Study. The first topic of discussion at the meeting was a general description of the successful licensee. The group then talked about the places where a licensee might work and gave examples of what they might do. The task force agreed that is was important to keep all approaches to practice in mind when we proceed to design the job analysis tool. The key issue is maintaining health, safety and welfare within the practice. The group then turned their attention to defining the major domains for the survey. Following the identification of the domains, the full group assigned the tasks from the 1998 survey to the new domains. Teams were then recruited to work on specific domains to review, edit, and/or delete the tasks. The next activity was to review the knowledge statements that appeared in the 1998 survey. Each of the task force members was asked to indicate whether the knowledge topic appeared in the 2004 LABOK study. Only those knowledge statements that were not included in the LABOK were added to the survey. The development of the skills list and the background questions completed the work of the group at the meeting.<sup>28</sup>

The contents of the proposed survey were shared with CLARB staff for initial review. Following approval of the components, Thomson Prometric staff created the survey using Web-based software. The survey was shared with the development committee for initial review. Their suggestions were incorporated and the revised survey was presented to a pilot group to take. The responses and individual comments were shared with CLARB staff and final revisions to the survey were made.

In early May, the survey was officially closed and the data analysis begun. Preliminary results were shared with CLARB staff in preparation for the meeting to develop the test specifications. Decisions about the appropriate subgroup analyses were made prior to the meeting.

The completion of the job analysis process consisted of a review of the job analysis results. A committee reviewed the background questions and began the review of the tasks. The respondents were offered opportunities to suggest additional tasks. The whole panel reviewed these and suggested additional examples for current tasks or noted those that are emerging topics. Following the review of the tasks, the committee proceeded to the review of the knowledge statements and the skills.<sup>29</sup>

# December 2006 – Department of Consumer Affairs Office of Examination Resources, California Validation Report

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee requested the Office of Examination Resources conduct a validation study to identify critical job activities performed by landscape architects licensed in California. The occupational analysis is part of the LATC's comprehensive review of the practice of landscape architecture. The purpose of the occupational analysis is to define practice for California licensed landscape architects in terms of actual job tasks that new licensees must be able to perform safely and competently. The result of the occupational analysis serves as a basis for the examination program for landscape architects in California.

OER followed testing standards and guidelines to develop a legally defensible examination outline for landscape architects in California and implemented a content validation strategy to describe the content of the landscape architect profession. OER conducted interviews with California licensed landscape architects, researched the profession, analyzed material prepared by CLARB, facilitated four focus groups California licensees, and sent a questionnaire surveying all California licensed landscape architects.

The initial two focus groups reviewed and refined task and knowledge statements of the landscape architecture profession in California. Based on these specific task and knowledge statements of the profession, Office of Examination Resources was able to develop a comprehensive survey to be sent to landscape architects throughout the state. The third focus group reviewed and approved the survey results and links specific job tasks with knowledge statements in order to construct the examination outline. The final focus group evaluated the examination outline for concurrence and to prepare for the development of examination questions.<sup>30</sup>

## Appendix C

#### **Meeting Note Summaries**

May 9, 2006 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

- Voted on the preliminary approval of the Education Subcommittee's response to the JLSRC recommendations.
- Approved retaining the six-year education/experience requirement.
- Approved maintaining eligibility for examination with current education requirements.
- Approved initiate tracking upon candidacy.
- Suggestions were made to look into accrediting standards and determining how schools are measured in order to clarify subject relationship to examination topics and into education standards as it relates to health, safety and welfare concerns.<sup>31</sup>

#### June 7, 2006 - California Architects Board

- The LATC's recommendations regarding the eligibility requirements for examination were presented to CAB.
- All recommendations were approved under the condition that the LATC review recommendation 1, Accept Accredited Professional Architecture and Civil Engineering Degrees, and provide an analysis to CAB on parity of the requirements to apply for examination between licensure of architects versus landscape architects prior to the recommendations moving forward. As a result of the preliminary approval, Strategic Planning objectives to 1) begin identifying variables that impact LARE pass rates by tracking and maintaining data, and 2) investigating potential reasons for low examination pass rates and develop an appropriate response to issue to the JLSRC were initiated.<sup>32</sup>

#### August 25, 2006 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

• Discussed CAB's action and various related issues identified. The LATC voted to reconvene the Education Subcommittee in order to fully address all issues that were identified as a result of the proposed changes.<sup>33</sup>

#### November 8, 2006 – Education Subcommittee

- Met to discuss the renewed charges from the LATC, review existing reports and documentation, and develop a plan of action. Staff was tasked with: 1) incorporating revisions to the Report, 2) updating CCR 2620 Education and Training Credits to reflect the discussion, 3) providing curriculum data for accredited degrees in architecture and civil engineering and documenting data to compare the two, and 3) revising the charts outlining education and experience credits given to architects and landscape architects, and drafting narrative explaining the differences.
- Finalize the Issues and Recommendations Report to proceed with preparing a draft report for the LATC and CAB to approve for forwarding to the DCA and the Legislature.<sup>34</sup>

## January 16, 2007 – Education Subcommittee

- Held a teleconference and reviewed additional information illustrating the parity of educational requirements to architects and civil engineers.
- Expanded the information substantiating the recommendations and began a review of CCR 2620.
- Remaining agenda items to review: curriculum comparison for landscape architects with those of architects and civil engineers, completion of a review and proposed changes to CCR 2620, and a table of contents for the report to the Legislature were postponed.<sup>35</sup>

#### February 27, 2007 – Education Subcommittee

- Finalized recommendations to the LATC.
- Reconfirmed that education is a critical qualification in combination with work experience and examination.
- Recommendations were to: 1) maintain the educational credit requirement, 2) continue one year of educational credit for an associate degree in landscape architecture, 3) continue four years of educational credit for foreign education equivalent to an accredited master or bachelor degree in landscape architecture in the United States, 4) maintain two years of educational credit for an approved extension certificate in landscape architecture, 5) institute one year of educational credit for an accredited degree in architecture, 6) not grant educational credit for a degree in civil engineering, and 7) not grant experience credit for

#### May 4, 2007 - Landscape Architects Technical Committee

• Approved the Subcommittee's recommended response and recommendations.<sup>37</sup>

#### June 15, 2007 - California Architects Board

• The parity issue and the recommendations were presented and approved by CAB. The full report to DCA and to the Legislature, containing the approved recommendations, will be presented for approval once complete.<sup>38</sup>

# Notes

#### NOTES

<sup>1</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2003 Sunset Review Report response. Vol. 1, tab #4

<sup>4</sup> 2004 Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee Recommendations. Vol. 1, tab #5

<sup>5</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee, "Landscape Architects Practice Act with Rules and Regulations 2007", includes amendments through October 3, 2007. Vol. 3, tab #56

<sup>6</sup> California Architects Board, "Architects Practice Act"; effective January 1, 2009. Vol. 3, tab #57 <sup>7</sup> http://www.cslb.ca.gov/Contractors, accessed November 2008, © 2008 State of California,

Contractors State Licensing Board. Vol. 3, tab #39

<sup>8</sup> See endnote 5.

<sup>10</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee's April 20, 2009, meeting agenda item C.3-C.4, Vol. 3, tab #58

<sup>11</sup> See endnote 5.

<sup>12</sup> 2005 Outline of Landscape Architecture Eligibility Requirements (AZ, CA, FL, HI, NV, NM, NY, OR, TX, and WA) – Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects): Snapshot. (3/05, D.1), Vol. 2, tab #24

<sup>13</sup> See endnote 12.

<sup>14</sup> Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) member board jurisdictions; Arizona State Board of Landscape Architects; Florida Board of Landscape Architecture; Hawaii Board of Professional Engineers, Architects, Surveyors & Landscape Architects; Nevada State Board of Landscape Architects; New Mexico Board of Landscape Architects; New York State Board for Landscape Architects; Oregon State Landscape Architects Board; Texas Board of Architectural Examiners and Washington Department of Licensing, Landscape Architecture Division - 2005 Survey Results; Examination/Licensure Eligibility Requirements. (6/05, C), Vol. 2, tab #20

<sup>15</sup> Accrediting Boards for Architecture, Civil Engineering and Planning - 2005 Description, course outlines, number of years and units required to earn an accredited Planning degree in all seven California accredited planning degree programs. (12/05, D.1), Vol. 2, tab #17

<sup>16</sup> Comparison of Curriculum for Accredited Degrees in Architecture and Civil Engineering (2/07, C.4)Vol. 2, tab #27

<sup>17</sup> Transcripts and Course Requirements for Three Accredited Undergraduate Landscape Architecture Degree Programs. (12/05, D.2), Vol. 2, #28

<sup>18</sup> 2005 Survey Results; Examination/Licensure Eligibility Requirements, see endnote 17.
<sup>19</sup> Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) - 2005 Information provided from the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) regarding member board jurisdictions allowance of early eligibility to take the multiple-choice sections of the

Landscape Architectural Registration Examination (LARE) (12/05, D.3), Vol. 2, tab #29 <sup>20</sup> Comparison of Education, Experience and Exam results of last 100 California Landscape Architects covering 11/2003 - 12/2004. (3/05, G), Vol. 2, tab #32

<sup>21</sup> Final Candidate Education/Experience Tracking Chart and Reciprocity Candidate Tracking Chart. (12/05, C), Vol. 2, tab #33

<sup>22</sup>2005 Outline of Landscape Architecture Eligibility Requirements (AZ, CA, FL, HI, NV, NM, NY, OR, TX, and WA) – Detailed Comparison of Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects). (3/05, D.3), Vol. 2. tab #24

<sup>23</sup> California Community Colleges; Mesa, Modesto Junior, Southwestern and West Valley - 2005 Description, course outline and units required to earn an Associate Degree in Landscape Architecture in California. (3/05, E), Vol. 2, tab #35

<sup>24</sup> Detailed Comparison of Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects), see end note 22

<sup>25</sup> Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects): Snapshot, see endnote 13

<sup>26</sup> Examination/Licensure Requirements (Landscape Architects): Snapshot, see endnote 13

<sup>27</sup> American Society of Landscape Architects, Landscape Architecture Body of Knowledge Study Report, published October 28, 2004, All Rights Reserved. Vol. 1, tab #8

<sup>28</sup> Council of Landscape Architecture Registration Boards, performed by Thompson Prometric, Job Analysis 2006. Vol. 3, tab #37

<sup>29</sup> 1996 Joint Legislative Sunset Review Committee Findings and Recommendations, Vol. 1, tab #5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee, "Landscape Architects Practice Act with Rules and

Regulations 2007", includes amendments through October 3, 2007. Vol. 3, tab #56

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Professional Engineers Act (Business and Professions Code Section 6700-6799), includes amendments made during the 2009 legislative session (Effective January 1, 2010, unless otherwise noted), Vol. 3, #55

<sup>9</sup> See endnote 5.

<sup>30</sup> California Department of Consumer Affairs, Office of Examination Resources, Validation Report Landscape Architects Technical Committee, December 2006, Vol. 3, tab #60fr

<sup>31</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee, May 9, 2006, Summary Report, Vol. 3, tab #46

<sup>32</sup> California Architects Board's June 7, 2006, Minutes, Vol. 3, tab #47

 $^{\rm 33}$  Landscape Architects Technical Committee's August 25, 2006, Summary Report-Final, Vol. 3, tab #48

<sup>34</sup> Education Subcommittee's November 8, 2006, Meeting Minutes, Vol. 3, tab#59

<sup>35</sup> Education Subcommittee's teleconference January 16, 2007, Summary Report-Draft, Vol. 3, tab#50

<sup>36</sup> Education Subcommittee's February 27, 2007, Summary Report-Draft, Vol. 3, tab#51

<sup>37</sup> Landscape Architects Technical Committee's May 4, 2007, Summary Report-Final, Vol. 3, tab#52

<sup>38</sup> California Architects Board's June 15, 2007, Minutes, Vol. 3, tab#53

# Determinants of Success Research Study

Identifying the Factors that Lead to Successful Performance on the Landscape Architect Registration Examination

> A Study Conducted by Professional Testing, Inc. for the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards, October 2011

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# **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

# Purpose of the Project

At this time, there is a lack of quantitative/qualitative data that identifies the determinants of candidate success on the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (L.A.R.E). The principal goal of the research project is to define and, if possible, weigh the determinants for success on the L.A.R.E. and to provide greater insights for the profession and regulatory community on which to base policy, practice, and support decisions.

# **Research Methods**

This study consisted of three phases. During the first phase, the research team interviewed members of three specific stakeholder groups via telephone. The results of the phone interviews were used to develop the survey in phase two of the study. The survey was administered after four separate administrations of the L.A.R.E. over the course of one year. The final stage of the study was the statistical analysis, whereby the data collected from the electronic survey was analyzed to determine what factors best predict successful performance on the L.A.R.E.

Overall, five statistical models were analyzed based on the five areas that were identified as contributing to successful performance on the L.A.R.E.: Education Factors, Work Experience Factors, Preparation Factors, Skills Factors, and Testing Environment Factors

# **Key Findings**

Education and work experience factors seemed to have the greatest impact on candidates' performance on the L.A.R.E. Preparation and skills factors contributed to successful performance on some of the exams, while testing environment factors had little to no impact on candidates' performance.

# **Education Factors**

The level of education obtained by exam candidates positively impacted both Sections A and B of the L.A.R.E. The higher the level of education obtained by exam candidates, the better they did on the Section A and B exams.



For the Section C exam, those who obtained a degree from a program accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) or the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects\* (CSLA) scored much higher (on average, 212.98 points higher) than those who obtained a degree from a nonaccredited program.

Candidates who took college courses in Planting Design or History of Landscape Architecture scored higher on the Section E exam.

# Work Experience Factors

Work experience factors contributed to successful performance on all but the Section C exam. The number of years spent working in landscape architecture had a negative impact on both the Section A and B exams, indicating that the longer one waited to take the Section A or B exams after graduation, the lower the performance on those two exams.

Diversified work experience contributes positively to successful performance on the L.A.R.E. Experience in stormwater management and governmental work experience had a positive impact on the Section A exam, experience in planting design had a positive impact on the Section B exam, experience in institutional projects had a positive impact on the Section D exam, and experience in large-scale residential and land planning had a positive impact on the Section the Section E exam.

# **Preparation Factors**

Sections A, C, and E were impacted by preparation factors. Candidates who studied alone were more successful on the Section A exam, and candidates who split their time studying both alone and in groups performed better on the Section C exam. Those who utilized the ASLA practice problems\*\* scored higher on the Section C exam than those who did not utilize the ASLA practice problems. Lastly, the longer the amount of time spent studying, the better the performance was on the Section E exam. For every one month increase in time spent studying, exam candidates scored on average 69.56 points higher.

\* CSLA accredits programs through LAAC (Landscape Architecture Accreditation Council).

\*\* When the L.A.R.E. was five sections, CLARB provided practice problems for Sections C and E to ASLA for ASLA's exam prep page. These practice problems no longer exist.



# **Skills Factors**

In terms of perceived skill, those who considered themselves "technical thinkers" scored higher on both the Section B and D exams. Those who identified themselves as having good spatial reasoning skills performed higher on the Section B and E exams. More time spent drawing on a computer had a positive impact on the Section C exam, while more time spent designing by hand had a positive impact on the Section E exam.

# **Key Takeaway**

Based on the findings of this study, candidates should consider the following actions to optimize their performance on the L.A.R.E.:

- Obtaining a landscape architecture degree from an LAAB- or CSLAaccredited institution.
- Taking the L.A.R.E. closer to college graduation rather than waiting to gain more years of experience in landscape architecture.
- Gaining *diversified* experience in the years spent working in landscape architecture.
- Increasing study time both alone and in groups.
- Utilizing the ASLA practice problems.
- Spending time drawing on a computer, but designing by hand.

For more information, please contact the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards at 571-432-0332 or info@clarb.org.

\*\* When the L.A.R.E. was five sections, CLARB provided practice problems for Sections C and E to ASLA for ASLA's exam prep page. These practice problems no longer exist.





# Standards of Eligibility for Council Certification

Certification by the Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards is formal recognition that the Certificate holder's education, experience, examination and professional conduct meet or exceed CLARB's Certification standards. These standards are approved by CLARB's member boards and are recommended nationally as the minimum standards for licensure.

Certificate records consist of verified documentation of the qualifications of the Certificate holder and carry CLARB's recommendation to all registration boards that the individual be granted reciprocal registration without further examination.

#### 1. CLARB Certification Standards

To be granted CLARB Certification, an applicant must demonstrate through current, verified documentation that he/she satisfies all of the following requirements in accordance with the evaluation criteria listed in Sections 2, 3, and 4.

**Note:** Any applicant who does not satisfy the Certification standards listed in Section 1 may be issued a Certificate if he/she has sufficient other qualifications which, while not considered to be equal to the Certification requirements, are accepted in lieu of these requirements. Alternative qualifications are identified in Sections 2, 3, and 4.

- Education: A first professional degree in landscape architecture from a program which has been accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). (See Section 2.)
- Experience: 3 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect. (See Section 3.)
- Examination: Successful completion of the CLARB registration examination where the examination administration and grading were conducted in accordance with CLARB's standards in effect at the time. (See Section 4.)
- Licensure: Current licensure by a CLARB member board.
- Professional Conduct: History of acceptable professional conduct as verified by employers, landscape architects, and member boards. Applicants may be denied Certification if, in the practice of landscape architecture, they have violated the law or if they have intentionally provided erroneous information on their application for Certification.

#### 2. Education

- 2.1 A first professional degree in landscape architecture from a program which has been accredited by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB) or the Canadian Society of Landscape Architects Accreditation Council is required.
- 2.2 In lieu of the degree specified in 2.1 above, satisfaction of 5.0 years of education credit as follows:

	Activity	Percent Allowed	Maximum Credit
2.2.1	Non-accredited B.L.A. or M.L.A.	100%	4 years
2.2.2	NAAB-accredited B.Arch. or M. Arch.	100%	4 years
2.2.3	ABET-accredited degree in Civil Engineering	100%	4 years
2.2.4	Any Bachelor's degree	100%	2 years
2.2.5	Diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect	100%	3 years
2.2.6	Diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect if the applicant was licensed prior to January 1, 1991.	100%	5 years

#### 2.3 Evaluation Criteria

- 2.3.1 Degrees listed in 2.2.1 2.2.4 cannot be combined to satisfy the education credit requirement.
- 2.3.2 The work experience applied as education credit may not also be used to satisfy experience requirements.
- 2.3.3 Any degree awarded less than two years prior to the accreditation of the program will be accepted as an accredited degree.
- 2.3.4 Any degree awarded after a program has ceased to be accredited will not be accepted as an accredited degree.

#### 3. Experience

- 3.1 Three (3) years diversified experience directly related to landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect is required.
- 3.2 In lieu of 2.0 years of the experience in 3.1 above, 2.0 years of experience credit as follows:

	Activity	Percent Allowed	Maximum Credit
3.2.1	Diversified experience in landscape architecture practicing as a principal	100%	N/A
3.2.2	Diversified experience directly related to landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a civil engineer, architect or credentialed planner	100%	2 years
3.2.3	Teaching in an LAAB-accredited program	50%	1 year
3.2.4	Experience in landscape architecture directly related to on-site construction, maintenance or installation procedures	50%	1 year
3.2.5	Non-diversified experience in landscape architecture under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect, civil engineer, architect or credentialed planner	50%	1 year

#### 3.3 Evaluation Criteria

- 3.3.1 Every applicant for Certification must have at least one year of diversified experience in landscape architecture (acquired after the satisfaction of the education requirement) under the direct supervision of a licensed landscape architect; or
- 3.3.2 Applicants who have acquired six (6.0) years of diversified experience in landscape architecture after the satisfaction of the education requirement practicing as a principal shall be deemed to have satisfied the experience requirement.
- 3.3.3 Work experience in category 3.1 above will only receive credit as follows:
  - 3.3.3.1 If it is at least 35 hours per week for at least 2 continuous months--<u>100%</u>
    3.3.3.2 If it is at least 20 hours per week for at least 4 continuous months--<u>50%</u>
- 3.3.4 Work experience in any alternative category will receive the credit indicated only when the experience is at least 35 hours per week and at least 2 continuous months in duration.

- 3.3.5 No experience credit may be earned prior to satisfaction of the education requirement.
- 3.3.6 Experience received outside the United States or Canada is limited to 1 year maximum.
- 3.3.7 No additional education or experience credit will be awarded for obtaining more than one degree.

#### 4. Examination

**Note:** For candidates not licensed by January 1, 2008, any sections of the exam completed prior to 1992 will no longer be accepted for transition credit towards satisfaction of the examination standard for CLARB Certification.

- 4.1 Successful completion of the CLARB registration examination where the examination administration and grading were conducted in accordance with CLARB's standards in effect at the time is required.
- 4.2 In lieu of passing the CLARB registration examination, satisfaction of one of the following (4.2.1. 4.2.6):
  - 4.2.1 For applicants initially licensed without successfully completing a written examination, satisfaction of both 4.2.1.1 and 4.2.1.2:
    - 4.2.1.1 10 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture; at least 7 years of which
      - must occur after licensure
    - 4.2.1.2 Successful completion of the CLARB Reciprocity Validation Examination between the years of 1997 to 1999.
  - 4.2.2 Successful completion of written examination prepared by a member board prior to 1970 and 10 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture after licensure.
  - 4.2.3 Successful completion of a written examination prepared by a member board between the years 1970 to 1975.
  - 4.2.4 Successful completion of the British Columbia Society of Landscape Architects' written examination, 5 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture after licensure and satisfaction of the education and experience requirements.
  - 4.2.5 Successful completion of the California P.E.L.A., satisfaction of the licensure, education and experience requirements, as well as successful completion of L.A.R.E. Sections D & E.
  - 4.2.6 For applicants initially licensed in British Columbia or Ontario without successfully completing the L.A.R.E., satisfaction of 4.2.6.1 and 4.2.6.2 as follows:
    - 4.2.6.1 10 years of diversified experience in landscape architecture; at least 7 years of which must occur after licensure.
    - 4.2.6.2 Successful completion of the CLARB Reciprocity Validation Examination between the years 1997 to 1999.

## 5. Requirements for Maintaining a CLARB Council Record/Certificate

- A CLARB Certificate holder must maintain registration in good standing with a CLARB member board. If the Certificate holder fails to maintain registration with at least one CLARB member board, the Certificate will be revoked until such time as a verification of current registration from a member board is received.
- The CLARB Council Record/Certificate is valid for one year from the date of the initial application and must be updated annually with a completed annual activity report and payment of the annual renewal fee.
- Failure to renew the CLARB Council Record/Certificate will cause the Record/Certificate to become inactive and ineligible for transmittal.

## 6. Revocation of CLARB Certification

- The Council may revoke a landscape architect's Certification when a member board revokes the landscape architect's registration or when a member board or court issues findings of fact regarding the professional conduct of a Certificate holder that indicate a breach of the CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Certification.
- The Council may suspend a landscape architect's Certification when a member board suspends the landscape architect's registration, issues findings of fact regarding the professional conduct of a Certificate holder that indicate a breach of the CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Certification or when the landscape architect fails to satisfy the other requirements for listed in the CLARB Standards of Eligibility for Certification. The suspension will remain in effect until such time as the cause for suspension has been removed, corrected, or otherwise remedied.
- Such matters shall be inserted in the Council Record of the individual in question for the information of member boards who may consider the individual for registration and rely upon information in the Council Record or the recommendation of the Council Certificate.

# Agenda Item I

## REVIEW AND POSSIBLE ACTION TO AMEND TITLE 16, CCR SECTION 2620.5 (REQUIREMENTS FOR AN APPROVED EXTENSION CERTIFICATE PROGRAM) AND ADD CCR SECTIONS 2620.2 (EXTENSION CERTIFICATE PROGRAMS – APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL), 2620.3 (SUSPENSION OR WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL), AND 2620.4 (ANNUAL REPORTS)

The University of California, Los Angeles and Berkeley Extension Programs were established in 1976 and 1982 respectively. The former Board of Landscape Architects (BLA) granted educational credit to applicants who had completed either program. In November 1991, the BLA adopted Title 16, California Code of Regulations section (CCR) 2620.5, formally establishing requirements to approve extension certificate programs, based on university accreditation standards from the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board (LAAB). (It should be noted that educational credit is granted for associate degree programs and non-accredited bachelors and masters programs that are not regulated by the Landscape Architects Technical Committee [LATC], but rather governed by the academic institutions within which they are structured.)

In 2009, LAAB implemented changes to its accreditation standards. Prompted by these changes, the LATC drafted updated requirements for an approved extension certificate program and recommended the Board authorize LATC to proceed with a regulatory change to amend CCR 2620.5. At its December 15, 2010 meeting, the Board approved the proposed regulatory language and authorized staff to proceed with the rulemaking file. The regulatory proposal to amend CCR 2620.5 was sent to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) in June 2012 and in July 2013, OAL issued a "Decision of Disapproval of Regulatory Action," citing deficiencies in the file relating to the necessity standard of Government Code section 11349.1 (see attachments I.1 and I.2).

At its August 20, 2013 meeting, the LATC voted to 1) not pursue a resubmission of the existing rulemaking file for CCR 2620.5 to OAL; 2) have staff analyze the proposed modifications to CCR 2620.5 and attempt to provide sufficient justification for each proposed change that will meet OAL standards; and 3) submit a new rulemaking file to OAL once sufficient justification for the proposed changes have been developed.

Subsequent to the August 2013 LATC meeting, staff consulted with Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) legal counsel to identify the best approach to resubmit the rulemaking file. It was determined that a "comprehensive" regulatory package would be necessary to satisfy all of OAL's concerns related to the disapproval of the file. Such a comprehensive package would need to include not only sufficient justification for the existing proposed amendments to CCR 2620.5, but would also need to add new regulations that address (1) the application process for extension certificate programs; (2) annual reporting requirements; (3) denial, suspension, and withdrawal of approval; and (4) appealing denial, suspension and withdrawal of approval actions. Based on legal counsel's recommendation, staff developed new proposed language to address the application and approval processes listed above (see attachment I.3, proposed language to add CCR 2620.2, 2620.3 and 2620.4 provided to LATC on February 10, 2015).

In February 2014 staff met with Christine Anderson, Chair of the University of California Extension Certificate Program Task Force and DCA legal counsel, to discuss justifications for the new regulatory language (CCR 2620.2, 2620.3 and 2620.4) and amendments to existing regulations (CCR 2620.5).

Staff revised the proposed language to clarify the application and review processes, as well as justifications needed to address OAL's concerns. Attachment I.3 is staff and legal counsel's draft proposed regulatory language that was presented for discussion to the LATC at its February 2015 meeting. Areas which need additional research or discussion are captured in comments noted in the right-hand column of the language. New language is indicated in <u>blue underline</u> and deleted language is indicated with <u>red strikethrough</u>. Portions highlighted in <u>yellow</u> in CCR 2620.5 identify new edits made subsequent to LATC's original approval of the proposed language for that section.

At the February 2015 meeting, the Committee approved the appointment of a new working group to assist staff in substantiating recommended standards and procedures in order to obtain OAL approval. Linda Gates and Ms. Anderson, former LATC members and University of California extension program reviewers, were appointed to the working group.

On June 5, 2015, LAAB advised that it was in the process of updating its Standards and Procedures for the Accreditation of Landscape Architecture Programs. The process included a public call for input and commentary that took place in the fall of 2014. LAAB met in the summer of 2015 to draft revisions to the Standards and Procedures. In the fall of 2015, additional public input and comments were solicited and subsequently incorporated into LAAB's revisions.

On October 8, 2015, LATC received a copy of LAAB's proposed revisions which separate Standards from Procedures, into two documents. The Standards include several suggested changes to curriculum requirements. LATC staff began incorporating the proposed changes and drafting new proposed language that included many of LATC's previously submitted modifications to CCR 2620.5. Attachment I.4 is staff's working draft of proposed language to add CCR 2620.2 through 2620.4 and amend 2620.5 that includes LAAB's 2017 curriculum requirements.

LAAB updates its Accreditation Standards every five to six years to reflect current practice in landscape architecture. The new Accreditation Standards took effect in March 2016, making significant changes to curriculum requirements (see attachment I.5, pages 10-11). Specifically, prior curriculum standards encompassed 8 broad subject matter areas of study. The new standards require coursework in 9 subject matter areas with 41 subcategories of study. Due to the nature of the extensive changes, it is uncertain whether the rulemaking documents can be revised in a manner that will meet the necessity standard of the Administrative Procedures Act. The Committee may wish to discuss the possibility of requesting input from the Extension Programs on the impact of LATC not reviewing and approving programs in the future.

Staff asks that LATC review and discuss the proposed language presented in Attachment I.4 to determine if additions, deletions or other modifications or actions are needed. Staff will then proceed with the regulatory process as directed.

# ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. OAL Decision of Disapproval of Regulatory Action, July 17, 2013
- 2. Amendments to CCR 2620.5 disapproved by OAL in July 2013
- 3. Proposed Language to Add CCR 2620.2, 2620.3, and 2620.4 Provided to LATC on February 10, 2015
- 4. Working Draft of Proposed Language to Add CCR 2620.2 through 2620.4 and Amend CCR 2620.5
- 5. LAAB Accreditation Standards March 2016

Attachment I.1 -

# State of California Office of Administrative Law

Regulatory Action: Title 16 California Code of Regulations

**California Architects Board** 

DECISION OF DISAPPROVAL OF

Government Code Section 11349.3

OAL File No. 2013-0531-01S

**REGULATORY ACTION** 

Adopt sections: Amend sections: 2620.5 Repeal sections:

In re:

### SUMMARY OF REGULATORY ACTION

The California Architects Board (Board) proposed this regulatory action to amend title 16, California Code of Regulations, section 2620.5, which is the sole regulation that governs extension certificate programs for landscape architects. One way that an applicant for licensure as a landscape architect can fulfill educational requirements is by successful completion of an extension certificate program that is recognized and approved by the Board pursuant to the provisions of Section 2620.5. The provisions of Section 2620.5 were initially established by the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC), a statutory committee under the purview of the Board, and adopted by the Board to mirror standards established by an organization called the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board in a publication titled *Accreditation Standards and Procedures* (LAAB Standards). The LAAB Standards are used nationally for accrediting college and university degree programs in landscape architecture. The proposed amendments are intended to update Section 2620.5 to conform to updates made to the LAAB Standards published by the Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board on February 6, 2010 (2010 LAAB Standards).

#### DECISION

On May 31, 2013, the Board submitted the above-referenced regulatory action to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for review in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act (APA). On July 15, 2013, the OAL notified the Board of the disapproval of this regulatory action for failure to comply with the necessity standard of Government Code section 11349.1.

#### DISCUSSION

The adoption of regulations by the Board must satisfy requirements established by the part of the APA that governs rulemaking by a state agency. Any regulation adopted by a state agency to implement, interpret, or make specific the law enforced or administered by it, or to govern its

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procedure, is subject to the APA unless a statute expressly exempts the regulation from APA coverage. (Gov. Code, sec. 11346.)

Before any regulation subject to the APA may become effective, the regulation is reviewed by OAL for compliance with the procedural requirements of the APA and for compliance with the standards for administrative regulations in Government Code section 11349.1. Generally, to satisfy APA standards, a regulation must be legally valid, supported by an adequate record, and easy to understand. In this review, OAL is limited to the rulemaking record and may not substitute its judgment for that of the rulemaking agency with regard to the substantive content of the regulation. This review is an independent check on the exercise of rulemaking powers by executive branch agencies intended to improve the quality of regulations that implement, interpret, and make specific statutory law, and to ensure that the public is provided with a meaningful opportunity to comment on regulations before they become effective.

## NECESSITY

OAL must review regulations for compliance with the necessity standard of Government Code section 11349.1, subdivision (a)(1). Government Code section 11349, subdivision (a), defines necessity as follows:

(a) "Necessity" means the record of the rulemaking proceeding demonstrates by substantial evidence the need for a regulation to effectuate the purpose of the statute, court decision, or other provision of law that the regulation implements, interprets, or makes specific, taking into account the totality of the record. For purposes of this standard, evidence includes, but is not limited to, facts, studies, and expert opinion.

To further explain the meaning of substantial evidence in the context of the necessity standard, subdivision (b) of section 10 of title 1 of the California Code of Regulations provides:

(b) In order to meet the "necessity" standard of Government Code section

11349.1, the record of the rulemaking proceeding shall include:

(1) a statement of the specific purpose of each adoption, amendment, or repeal; and

(2) information explaining why each provision of the adopted regulation is required to carry out the described purpose of the provision. Such information shall include, but is not limited to, facts, studies, or expert opinion. When the explanation is based upon policies, conclusions, speculation, or conjecture, the rulemaking record must include, in addition, supporting facts, studies, expert opinion, or other information. An "expert" within the meaning of this section is a person who possesses special skill or knowledge by reason of study or experience which is relevant to the regulation in question.

In order to provide the public with an opportunity to review and comment upon an agency's perceived need for a regulation, the APA requires that the agency describe the need for the regulation in the initial statement of reasons. (Gov. Code, sec. 11346.2, subd. (b).) The initial

statement of reasons must include a statement of the specific purpose for each adoption, amendment, or repeal, and the rationale for the determination by the agency that each regulation is reasonably necessary to carry out the purpose for which it is proposed or, simply restated, "why" a regulation is needed and "how" this regulation fills that need. (Gov. Code, sec. 11346.2, subd. (b)(1).) The initial statement of reasons must be submitted to OAL with the initial notice of the proposed action and made available to the public during the public comment period, along with all the information upon which the proposal is based. (Gov. Code, sec. 11346.2, subd. (b) and sec. 11346.5, subds. (a)(16) and (b).) In this way the public is informed of the basis of the regulatory action and may comment knowledgeably.

The initial statement of reasons in this regulatory action did not describe the need for each amended regulatory provision that deviated from the updated 2010 LAAB Standards of which this regulatory action was based. (Any such deviations from the 2010 LAAB Standards will be referred to as amended regulatory provisions for purposes of this discussion.) The initial statement of reasons states that the provisions of section 2620.5 need to be updated to conform to the 2010 LAAB Standards; however, it needs to provide more than this. The problem, administrative requirement, or other condition or circumstance that each amended regulatory provision is intended to address must be identified. In addition, information must be included that explains why each amended regulatory provision is needed to carry out the described purpose of the regulatory provision.

The initial statement of reasons only provides background information on the development and administration of section 2620.5, including the genesis of section 2620.5 from earlier LAAB standards, followed by a brief statement that the earlier LAAB Standards had been updated and a list of the proposed amendments to section 2620.5 that contain only brief, conclusory statements describing what the proposed amendments are, not why they are needed. Additionally, the Board modified the proposed regulatory text in a 15-day notice of availability that took place from November 30, 2012 to January 9, 2013. But there is no necessity provided for these additional modifications anywhere in the rulemaking record. Furthermore, before this regulatory action is resubmitted to OAL, the Board must draft a statement of reasons to add to the rulemaking record to correct the lack of necessity in the initial statement of reasons. The Board may make additional modifications to the proposed regulatory text in another 15-day notice of availability, which the Board must approve, to clarify issues that become apparent while drafting this statement of reasons. The Board must provide necessity for all of the regulatory amendments to section 2620.5 upon resubmittal of this regulatory action to OAL.

Government Code section 11347.1 requires this statement of reasons, which will provide the necessity missing from the initial statement of reasons and from the rulemaking record, to be made available to the public for at least 15 days prior to the Board's adoption, amendment or repeal of the regulations. Moreover, any comments made in relation to the supplemental statement of reasons or modifications to the text must be summarized and responded to in the final statement of reasons. (Gov. Code, secs. 11346.8, subd. (c) and 11347.1, subd. (d).)

The Board's demonstration of the need for the amended regulatory provisions is basic to a complete understanding of the proposed regulations. Without an adequate showing of necessity for each amended regulatory provision, OAL cannot be certain of what effect the Board intended

Decision of Disapproval OAL File No. 2013-0531-01S

regarding the amended regulatory provisions. OAL must therefore reserve the right upon resubmittal of this regulatory action to conduct a review of these regulations for compliance with all of the substantive standards of Government Code section 11349.1 until such time as an adequate statement of reasons is submitted with the rulemaking record.

#### CONCLUSION

For the reason set forth above, OAL has disapproved this regulatory action. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 323-6809.

Date: July 17, 2013

Richard L. Smith Richard L. Smith

Senior Counsel

FOR: DEBRA M. CORNEZ Director

Original: Douglas McCauley Copy: John Keidel

# CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE PROPOSED LANGUAGE

## (NOTE: THE RULEMAKING FILE THAT PROPOSED THESE AMENDMENTS WAS DISAPPROVED BY THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW IN JULY 2013)

## 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 fouryear educational curriculum and either is approved by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges under 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 <u>administrator director</u> shall be a <u>California licensed</u> landscape architect.
- (h) The <u>program administrator faculty</u> 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, theory art and criticism communication
  - (2) Natural and ,-cultural, and social systems including principles of sustainability
  - (3) Public Policy and regulation
  - (43) Design, planning and management at various scales and applications including but not limited to pedestrian and vehicular circulation, grading drainage and storm water management as a process in shaping the environment
  - (54) <u>Site design and Implementation:</u>Plant materials, methods, technologies, and their application
  - (65) Construction documentation materials and techniques and administration
  - (7) Written, verbal and visual communication
  - (86) Professional practice methods
  - (97) Professional ethics and values and ethics
  - (10) Plants and ecosystems
  - (<u>118</u>) Computer <u>applications</u> systems and <u>other</u> advanced technology

The program's 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, <u>learning outcomes</u>, content, and the methods of evaluating student performance.
- (1) The program clearly identifies where the public health, safety, and welfare issues are addressed.
- (m1) 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.
- (<u>nm</u>) 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.

(3) The program administrator shall be at least .5 time-base.

- (4) The program administrative support shall be 1.0 full-time equivalence.
- (o) The program shall submit an annual report in writing based on the date of the most recent Board approval. The report shall include:

- (1) Verification of continued compliance with minimum requirements;
- (2) Any significant changes such as curriculum, personnel, administration, fiscal support, and physical facilities that have occurred since the last report;
- (3) Current enrollment and demographics; and
- (4) Progress toward complying with the recommendations, if any, from the last <u>approval.</u>

(p) The program title and degree description shall incorporate the term "Landscape <u>Architecture."</u>

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

The Board will either grant or deny an application. When specific minor deficiencies are identified during evaluation of an application, but the institution is substantially in compliance with the requirements of the Code and this Division, a provisional approval to operate may be granted for a period not to exceed 24 months, to permit the institution time to correct those deficiencies identified. A provisional approval to operate shall expire at the end of its stated period and the application shall be deemed denied, unless the deficiencies are corrected prior to its expiration and an approval to operate has been granted before that date or the provisional approval to operate has been extended for a period not to exceed 24 months if the Board is satisfied that the program has made a good faith effort and has the ability to correct the deficiencies.

The Board shall review the program at least every six years for approval.

The Board may rescind an approval during the six-year approval period based on the information received in the program's annual report after providing the school with a written statement of the deficiencies and providing the school with an opportunity to respond to the charges. If an approval is rescinded, the Board may subsequently grant provisional approval in accordance with the guidelines of this section to allow the program to correct deficiencies.

Note: Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 5650, Business and Professions Code.

Attachment I.3 Provided to LATC on February 10, 2015

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

#### California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26

Add Sections 2620.2, 2620.3 and 2620.4 as follows:

§ 2620.2 Extension Certificate Programs – Application for Approval

- (a) An extension certificate program may apply to the Board for approval when it meets the requirements of Section 2620.5. The program shall document how it meets the requirements of Section 2620.5 by submitting a written self-evaluation report to the Board.
- (b) The Board's designee, or designees, shall review the self-evaluation report, conduct a site visit, submit a written report to the Board that contains findings as to whether the program complies with Section 2620.5, and make a recommendation regarding approval.
- (c) The Board shall consider the application, written self-evaluation report, and recommendation regarding approval, and either grant or deny approval. When specific minor deficiencies are identified during evaluation of a program, but the program is in substantial compliance with the requirements of Section 2620.5, a provisional approval to operate may be granted for a period not to exceed 24 months, to permit the program time to correct the deficiencies identified.
- (d) A provisional approval to operate shall expire at the end of its stated period and the application shall be deemed denied, unless the deficiencies are corrected prior to its expiration and an approval to operate has been granted before that date or the provisional approval to operate has been extended for a period not to exceed 24 months if the Board is satisfied that the program has made a good faith effort and has the ability to correct the deficiencies.
- (e) The Board shall review each extension certificate program at least every six years for continuing approval.
- (f) The Board may withdraw approval during the six-year approval period based on the information received in the program's annual report after providing the program with a written statement of the deficiencies noted and giving the program an opportunity to respond to the deficiencies. If approval is withdrawn by the Board in accordance with section 2620.3(b), the Board may subsequently grant provisional approval in accordance with the guidelines of this section to allow the program to correct deficiencies.
- (g) The Board shall have discretion to defer action on an application for approval. The program shall be notified by the Board, in writing, of actions taken regarding an application for

**Comment [D1]:** References to the Board's authority is being researched whether it should say Board or LATC throughout these sections.

**Comment [D2]:** Depending on research conducted on (a), may need to clarify source of recommendation.

**Comment [D3]:** Need to clarify if program is required to submit documents/report to trigger each 6-year review after initial approval.

May need to clarify difference between 6-year review and annual report.

**Comment [D4]:** Consider moving this subsection to 2620.4 as it relates to withdrawal of approval based on annual report.

**Comment [D5]:** How long should the action be deferred? Should be applied consistently for all program reviews.

approval.

#### § 2620.3 Suspension or Withdrawal of Approval

(a) When an approved program fails to maintain the requirements for approval for administrative reasons, including but not limited to failure to submit required reports, approval may be suspended. Before this action is taken, the Board shall send a letter to the program requesting an explanation as to why approval should not be suspended. Suspension of approval for administrative reasons is not subject to appeal.

Students attending a program with suspended approval are considered to be attending an approved program. A program may be suspended for a maximum of 12 months. The Board will begin procedures to withdraw approval to take effect immediately when the maximum period of suspension is reached. If evidence of remedial action is submitted and judged adequate within the 12-month period of suspension, reinstatement of approval shall be granted.

(b) When an approved program fails to comply with approval standards for other than administrative reasons, approval may be withdrawn. Before withdrawing approval, the program will be given the opportunity to explain why approval should not be withdrawn, after which the Board may conduct a site visit and make a final decision.

If the program's parent institution or other programs within the institution are placed on probationary status or have approval withdrawn by their accrediting agencies, the program must notify the Board of the landscape architecture degree program's status.

- (c) Extension certificate programs may appeal denial or withdrawal of approval decisions to the Board. An appeal shall be based on one or more of the following issues:
  - (1) Whether the Board and/or the site visit team conformed to the procedures described in regulation; or
  - (2) <u>Whether the Board and/or the site visit team conformed to the approval requirements</u> specified in Section 2620.5.
- (d) A written notice of appeal shall be signed by the chief administrator of the college or university in which the extension certificate program is located. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days of the Board's notice of decision. Within 60 days of the Board's decision letter, the program administrator must submit a comprehensive written statement of all reasons for appeal. Failure to submit this statement within 60 days will be deemed equivalent to withdrawing the appeal. During the appeal period, the approved status of the program will not change.

#### § 2620.4 Annual Reports

(a) Approved extension certificate programs shall submit to the Board a written report, each year

#### Comment [D6]: Consider restructuring section,

- (a) Board may suspend approval for these reasons.....
- (b) Board may withdraw approval for these reasons...
- (c) Suspension terms and affects on students (d) Program may appeal withdrawal of approval for these reasons...

**Comment [D7]:** May have to specify for what purpose Board is requiring to be notified.

from the date of the most recent Board approval. The report shall include:

- (1) Verification of continued compliance with the requirements of Section 2620.5;
- (2) Any significant changes in areas such as curriculum, personnel, administration, fiscal support, and physical facilities that have occurred since the last report;
- (3) Current enrollment and demographics;
- (4) Progress toward complying with the recommendations, if any, from the last approval, and
- (5) Any substantive change. "Substantive change" is any change that compromises an extension certificate program's ability to meet one or more of the Board's program requirements or that makes the program unable to meet any of the following requirements:
  - (A) The program title and certificate description incorporate the term "Landscape Architecture."
  - (B) The parent institution is accredited by the institutional accrediting body of its region.
  - (C) There is a not a designated program administrator for the program under review.
- (b) The program administrator shall notify the Board if, at any time, the program fails to meet the requirements of Section 2620.4 (a)(1)-(5).

(c) The Board may further evaluate changes to any of the reported items in the annual report.

Note: Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 5650, Business and Professions Code.

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 fouryear educational curriculum and either is approved accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges under 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-The program shall-be have a written statement of the program's which fully and accurately describes its 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 clearly identify where public health, safety, and welfare issues are addressed. 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.

**Comment [D8]:** May need to clarify what is considered significant.

**Comment [D9]:** Does wording limit taking action only based on annual report?

Comment [D10]: May need to clarify.

**Comment [D11]:** Duplicative language above, added "which fully and accurately describes" to first sentence of (b).

- (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 <u>The program shall be have</u> 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 administrator director shall be a California licensed landscape architect.
- (h) The program administrator 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 title and certificate description shall incorporate the term "Landscape Architecture."
- (ij) The program curriculum shall provide instruction that includes public health, safety, and welfare in the following areas related to landscape architecture:
  - (1) History, theory art and criticism communication
  - (2) Natural and cultural, and social systems including principles of sustainability
  - (3) Public policy and regulation
  - (43) Design, planning, and management at various scales and applications, including but not limited to, pedestrian and vehicular circulation, grading, drainage, and storm water management as a process in shaping the environment
  - (54) <u>Site design and implementation</u>: <u>Plant-materials, methods, technologies,</u> and <u>their</u> application
  - (65) Construction documentation materials and techniques and administration
  - (7) Written, verbal, and visual communication
  - (86) Professional practice, values, and ethics-methods
  - (7) Professional ethics and values
  - (109) Plants and ecosystems
  - (810) Computer applications systems and other advanced technology

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

(jk) 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, <u>learning outcomes</u>, content, and the methods of evaluating student performance, and how public health, safety, and welfare issues are addressed.
   (l) The program clearly identifies where the public health, safety, and welfare issues are
- (<u>m</u><sup>1</sup>) The <u>program</u> 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.

(<u>nm</u>) <u>A-The</u> 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.

(3) The program administrator shall be at least half-time(4) The program administrative support shall be full-time.

addressed.

Note: Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 5650, Business and Professions Code.

**Comment [D12]:** Need to specify employment in program and define amount of time.

**Comment [D13]:** Need to specify employment in program and define amount of time.

#### CALIFORNIA ARCHITECTS BOARD LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE WORKING DRAFT OF PROPOSED LANGUAGE

#### California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26

Add Sections 2620.2, 2620.3 and 2620.4 as follows:

§ 2620.2 Extension Certificate Programs – Application for Approval

- (a) An extension certificate program may apply to the Board for approval when it meets the requirements of Section 2620.5. The program shall document how it meets the requirements of Section 2620.5 by submitting a written self-evaluation report to the Board.
- (b) The Board's designee, or designees, shall review the self-evaluation report, conduct a site visit, submit a written report to the Board that contains findings as to whether the program complies with Section 2620.5, and make a recommendation regarding approval.
- (c) The Board shall consider the application, written self-evaluation report, and recommendation regarding approval, and either grant or deny approval. When specific minor deficiencies are identified during evaluation of a program, but the program is in substantial compliance with the requirements of Section 2620.5, a provisional approval to operate may be granted for a period not to exceed 24 months, to permit the program time to correct the deficiencies identified.
- (d) A provisional approval to operate shall expire at the end of its stated period and the application shall be deemed denied, unless the deficiencies are corrected prior to its expiration and an approval to operate has been granted before that date or the provisional approval to operate has been extended for a period not to exceed 24 months if the Board is satisfied that the program has made a good faith effort and has the ability to correct the deficiencies.
- (e) The Board shall review each extension certificate program at least every six years for continuing approval.
- (f) The Board may withdraw approval during the six-year approval period based on the information received in the program's annual report after providing the program with a written statement of the deficiencies noted and giving the program an opportunity to respond to the deficiencies. If approval is withdrawn by the Board in accordance with section 2620.3(b), the Board may subsequently grant provisional approval in accordance with the guidelines of this section to allow the program to correct deficiencies.
- (g) The Board shall have discretion to defer action on an application for approval. The program shall be notified by the Board, in writing, of actions taken regarding an application for

**Comment [D1]:** References to the Board's authority is being researched whether it should say Board or LATC throughout these sections.

**Comment [D2]:** Depending on research conducted on (a), may need to clarify source of recommendation.

**Comment [D3]:** Need to clarify if program is required to submit documents/report to trigger each 6-year review after initial approval. May need to clarify difference between 6-year review and annual report.

**Comment [D4]:** Consider moving this subsection to 2620.4 as it relates to withdrawal of approval based on annual report.

**Comment [D5]:** How long should the action be deferred? Should be applied consistently for all program reviews.

<u>approval.</u>

#### § 2620.3 Suspension or Withdrawal of Approval

(a) When an approved program fails to maintain the requirements for approval for administrative reasons, including but not limited to failure to submit required reports, approval may be suspended. Before this action is taken, the Board shall send a letter to the program requesting an explanation as to why approval should not be suspended. Suspension of approval for administrative reasons is not subject to appeal.

Students attending a program with suspended approval are considered to be attending an approved program. A program may be suspended for a maximum of 12 months. The Board will begin procedures to withdraw approval to take effect immediately when the maximum period of suspension is reached. If evidence of remedial action is submitted and judged adequate within the 12-month period of suspension, reinstatement of approval shall be granted.

(b) When an approved program fails to comply with approval standards for other than administrative reasons, approval may be withdrawn. Before withdrawing approval, the program will be given the opportunity to explain why approval should not be withdrawn, after which the Board may conduct a site visit and make a final decision.

If the program's parent institution or other programs within the institution are placed on probationary status or have approval withdrawn by their accrediting agencies, the program must notify the Board of the landscape architecture degree program's status.

- (c) Extension certificate programs may appeal denial or withdrawal of approval decisions to the Board. An appeal shall be based on one or more of the following issues:
  - (1) Whether the Board and/or the site visit team conformed to the procedures described in regulation; or
  - (2) <u>Whether the Board and/or the site visit team conformed to the approval requirements</u> specified in Section 2620.5.
- (d) A written notice of appeal shall be signed by the chief administrator of the college or university in which the extension certificate program is located. The appeal must be submitted within 30 days of the Board's notice of decision. Within 60 days of the Board's decision letter, the program administrator must submit a comprehensive written statement of all reasons for appeal. Failure to submit this statement within 60 days will be deemed equivalent to withdrawing the appeal. During the appeal period, the approved status of the program will not change.

#### § 2620.4 Annual Reports

(a) Approved extension certificate programs shall submit to the Board a written report, each year

#### Comment [D6]: Consider restructuring section,

- (a) Board may suspend approval for these reasons.....
- (b) Board may withdraw approval for these reasons...
- (c) Suspension terms and affects on students (d) Program may appeal withdrawal of approval for these reasons...

**Comment [D7]:** May have to specify for what purpose Board is requiring to be notified.

from the date of the most recent Board approval. The report shall include:

- (1) Verification of continued compliance with the requirements of Section 2620.5;
- (2) Any significant changes in areas such as curriculum, personnel, administration, fiscal support, and physical facilities that have occurred since the last report;
- (3) Current enrollment and demographics;
- (4) Progress toward complying with the recommendations, if any, from the last approval, and
- (5) Any substantive change. "Substantive change" is any change that compromises an extension certificate program's ability to meet one or more of the Board's program requirements or that makes the program unable to meet any of the following requirements:
  - (A) The program title and certificate description incorporate the term "Landscape Architecture."
  - (B) The parent institution is accredited by the institutional accrediting body of its region.
  - (C) There is a not a designated program administrator for the program under review.
- (b) The program administrator shall notify the Board if, at any time, the program fails to meet the requirements of Section 2620.4 (a)(1)-(5).

(c) The Board may further evaluate changes to any of the reported items in the annual report.

Note: Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 5650, Business and Professions Code.

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 <u>by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges under Section 94900 of the Education Code</u> 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. The program shall provide comprehensive public information disclosure about the program's status and performance within a single click link from the program's internet website homepage.
- (c) The program shall have a written plan for evaluation of the total program, including

**Comment [D8]:** May need to clarify what is considered significant.

**Comment [D9]:** Does wording limit taking action only based on annual report?

Comment [D10]: May need to clarify.

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. <u>The program title and certificate description shall incorporate the term "Landscape Architecture"</u>.
- (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 <u>administrator</u> 's director shall be a <u>California licensed</u> landscape architect and position shall be at least .5 time-based.
- (h) The program administrator 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 participate in program governance and develop and implement the program approved by the Board.
- (i) The program curriculum <u>shall include the core knowledge</u>, <u>skills and applications of</u> <u>landscape architecture and</u> shall provide instruction in the following areas related to landscape architecture:
  - (1) History, theory, philosophy, principles and values:
    - (A) design history and theory;

(B) criticism;

(C) sustainability, resiliency, stewardship;

- (D) health, safety, welfare.
- (2) Design processes and methodology:
  - (A) critical thinking;
  - (B) analysis;
  - (C) ideation;
  - (D) synthesis;

(E) site program;

- (F) iterative design development;
- (G) design communication.

(3) Systems and Processes, natural and cultural, (related to design, planning and management):

(A) plants and ecosystems sciences;

(B) built environment and infrastructure;

(C) human factors, social and community systems;

(D) human health and well-being.

(4) Communication and documentation:

(A) written and oral communication;

(B) visual and graphic communication;

(C) design and construction documents;

(D) numeracy, quantitative problem-solving and communication;

(E) community and client engagement.

(5) Implementation:

(A) construction technology and site engineering;

(B) site materials;

(C) use and management of plants and vegetation;

(D) policies and regulation.

(6) Computer applications and advanced technologies:

(A) visualization and modeling;

(B) communication (conceptual and construction drawings);

(C) geospatial analysis.

(7) Assessment and evaluation:

(A) site assessment;

(B) pre-design analysis;

(C) landscape performance;

(D) post-occupancy evaluation:

(E) visual and scenic assessment.

(8) Professional Practice:

(A) values and ethics; (B) practice;

(C) construction administration.

(9) <u>Research and scholarly methods (for master's level degree programs):</u>

(A) quantitative and qualitative methods;

(B) establishing a research hypothesis;

(C) framing research questions;

(D) literature/case study review/precedent review

(E) research integrity and protection of human subjects

(F) communication of research.

(A) History, art, and communication

(B) Natural, cultural, and social systems

(C) Design as a process in shaping the environment

(D) Plant material and their application

(E) Construction materials and techniques

(F) Professional practice methods

(G) Professional ethics and values

(H) Computer systems and advanced technology

The program's 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, identifies where public health, safety and welfare issues are addressed, and the methods of evaluating student performance.
- (1) 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 these requirements.
- (m) A program shall meet the following requirements for its instructional personnel:
  - (1) There shall be sufficient number of faculty to carry out the mission of the program (such as teaching, research, service, program administration, academic advising, and/or creative professional development. 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.-
  - (3) A program shall have at least one full time administrative support staff position.

Note: Authority cited: Section 5630, Business and Professions Code. Reference: Section 5650, Business and Professions Code.

Comment [D11]: Is this needed? GK

# **ACCREDITATION STANDARDS**

# For First-Professional Programs In Landscape Architecture



Landscape Architectural Accreditation Board

American Society of Landscape Architects 636 Eye Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001-3736

March 2016

# **Table of Contents**

# PREAMBLE

Introduction	1
Definitions, Interpretation and Application	1
Minimum Requirements for Achieving and Maintaining Accredited Status	3

# STANDARDS

Standard 1: Program Mission and Objectives	5
Standard 2: Program Autonomy, Governance, and Administration	7
Standard 3: Professional Curriculum	10
Standard 4: Student and Program Outcomes	14
Standard 5: Faculty	15
Standard 6: Outreach to the Institution, Communities, Alumni, and Practitioners	17
Standard 7: Facilities, Equipment, and Technology	18

## Introduction

The mission of the Landscape Architecture Accreditation Board (LAAB) is to evaluate, advocate for, and advance the quality of education in landscape architectural degree programs. To do that, the Board creates and applies *Standards* and *Procedures*. The Standards are basis for decision-making and action for the Board. The Standards are reviewed and updated every five years through a process articulated in Board Procedures. The previous version of the Standards and Procedures (2010) were both a part of a single document. For this version, the Board has decided to create separate documents of Standards and of Procedures.

This document contains the Accreditation Standards.

# Definitions, Interpretation, and Application

*Accreditation:* Accreditation is a voluntary process of peer review designed to evaluate programs on the basis of their own stated objectives and the accreditation standards that follow.

*Administrative Probation Status*: Administrative Probationary Accreditation status is assigned when an institution or program does not meet its administrative obligations. LAAB assigns this status if the institution or program fails to comply with one or more of the following requirements:

- paying annual fees within 90 days of the invoice date,
- paying a late fee by the due date,
- submitting reports or other required information within 45 days of the due date, or
- agreeing to a reasonable on-site evaluation visit date at or near the time established by LAAB staff.

Administrative Probationary Accreditation is an accreditation category not subject to appeal. The program is recognized and listed as accredited with this designation until the requirement(s) that was not met has been fully satisfied. Failure to completely remedy the situation by the date specified in the probationary letter may result in revocation of accreditation.

*Assessment*: Assessment is the process by which a program or institution's level of compliance with or achievement of the criteria relevant to its accreditation is evaluated.

*Candidacy Status*: Candidacy is an accreditation classification granted to a program that is in the planning or early stages of development or an intermediate stage of program implementation.

*Compliance*: Compliance with a standard is achieved when LAAB concludes, after review of relevant indicators or other evidence, that the standard is met or met with recommendation, as defined below. To achieve LAAB accreditation, a program must demonstrate to LAAB, through the self-evaluation report, site visit, and technical accuracy review of the visiting team's report, that it complies with all standards.

*Considerations for Improvement*: Considerations for Improvement are informal counsel offered to a program as a part of the Visiting Team's Report but not included in the final action letter from LAAB to the program. These may areas where the program can build on a strength or address an area of concern that does not directly affect accreditation at the time of the LAAB review.

*Criteria*: Each LAAB standard has one or more criteria statements that define the components needed to satisfy the standard. Not satisfying a criterion does not automatically lead to the assessment of a standard as not met. To be accredited, a program must demonstrate progress toward meeting the criteria. In this document, criteria are identified by letters (for example: **A. Program Mission**).

*Faculty Full-Time Equivalence (FTE):* The FTE is a figure representing the aggregated time committed by full- and part-time faculty members to teaching in a department or program, including faculty who have their duties or teaching assignments split between an undergraduate and a graduate program and faculty who have their assignments split between disciplines. For purposes of calculation, a faculty member with a part-time appointment of 50 percent (and, presumably, a teaching/scholarship/service assignment roughly equivalent to half that of a full-time faculty member) would be assigned a 0.5 FTE. A full-time faculty member with duties in only one department would be assigned an FTE of 1.0 for that department.

*Final Action Letter*: A final action letter is an official communication from LAAB to a program reporting its accreditation status and any recommendations affecting accreditation.

*First-Professional Program:* A first-professional program in landscape architecture encompasses the body of knowledge common to the profession and promotes acquisition of the knowledge and skills necessary to enter its professional practice. At the bachelor's level, such a program is typically conducted in a context enriched by the liberal arts and natural and social sciences. At the master's level, such a program also provides instruction in and application of research and scholarly methods.

*Initial Accreditation*: The first period of accreditation for a program leading to a degree in landscape architecture is its initial accreditation; LAAB initial accreditation applies to degrees awarded within two years prior to initial accreditation by LAAB.

Intent: A statement of intent explains the purpose of a standard.

**Program**: A program comprises the coursework and other learning experiences leading to a degree as well as the supporting administration, faculty, staff, facilities, and services that sponsor and provide those experiences.

**Recommendations Affecting Accreditation:** Recommendations Affecting Accreditation are issues of serious concern, directly affecting the quality of a program. Recommendations Affecting Accreditation are issued when a visiting team assesses a standard as met with recommendation or not met. Recommendations are derived from the identified areas of weakness in meeting a standard as described in the rationale sections of a visiting team's report. The program is required to report progress regularly on these issues. Recommendations Affecting Accreditation identify issues; they do not prescribe solutions.

*Self-Evaluation Report (SER):* An SER is a document prepared by a program that describes its expectations, operations, and resources; assesses its progress toward meeting its mission, goals, and objectives; and measures its performance against the criteria for accreditation.

*Shall*: In official LAAB standards and criteria, "shall" indicates mandatory actions for a program or institution.

*Should*: In official LAAB standards and criteria, "should" indicates prescriptive recommendations for a program or institution.

*Standards*: Standards are qualitative statements of the essential conditions an accredited program must meet to achieve accreditation.

*Standard Met*: A "Standard Met" designation indicates that overall program performance in the relevant area meets LAAB minimum standards. LAAB may judge a standard as met even though one or more indicators within the standard are not minimally met.

*Standard Met with Recommendation:* A "Standard Met with Recommendation" designation indicates that deficiencies exist in an area directly bearing on accreditation. The problem or problems have observable effects on the overall quality of the program.

*Standard Not Met:* A "Standard Not Met" designation means that a cited deficiency is so severe that the overall quality of a program is compromised and the program's ability to deliver adequate landscape architecture education is impaired.

#### Minimum Requirements for Achieving and Maintaining Accredited Status

- 1. The program title and degree description must incorporate the term "landscape architecture."
- 2. An undergraduate first-professional program must be a baccalaureate program of at least four academic years' duration.
- 3. A graduate first-professional program must be a master's program equivalent to at least three academic years' duration.
- 4. Faculty instruction full-time equivalence (FTE) requirements are as follows:
  - a. An academic unit that offers a single first-professional degree program at the emerging or Initial Accreditation status has at least three FTE instructional faculty who hold professional degrees in landscape architecture, at least one of whom is full-time.
  - b. An academic unit that offers a first-professional degree program at both the bachelor's and master's levels at the emerging or Initial Accreditation status has at least six FTE instructional faculty, at least five of whom hold professional degrees in landscape architecture, at least two of whom are full-time in the department.
  - c. An academic unit that offers a single first-professional degree program at the continuing full accreditation status has an FTE of at least five instructional faculty, at least four of these faculty members hold a professional degree in landscape architecture, at least three of whom are full-time in the department.
  - d. An academic unit that offers first-professional degree programs at both the bachelor's and master's levels with continuing full accreditation status has an FTE of at least seven instructional faculty, at least five of whom hold professional degrees in landscape architecture and are full-time in the department.

Program Status	Number of Full-time Equivalent Instructional Faculty*	Number of Faculty with a Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture (could be part-time or adjunct)	Number of Full-time Faculty with a Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture
Programs seeking Initial Accreditation			
Single Program	3	3	1
Bachelor's & Master's Program	6	5	2
Programs seeking re- accreditation			
Single Program	5	4	3
Bachelor's & Master's Program	7		5

5. The parent institution must be accredited by a recognized institutional accrediting agency (such as the U.S. Department of Education or CHEA).

- 6. There must be a designated program administrator responsible for the leadership and management functions for the program under review.
- 7. The program must provide a comprehensive public information disclosure about the program's status and performance within a single-click link from the program's website.
- 8. The program must:
  - continuously comply with accreditation standards,
  - pay the annual sustaining and other fees as required, and
  - regularly file complete annual and other requested reports.

The program administrator shall inform LAAB if any of these factors fail to apply during an accreditation period. The program administrator is responsible for reporting any substantive changes to the program when they occur. (Substantive changes are those that may affect the accreditation status of the program, addressed on page 16 of the LAAB Accreditation Procedures.)

## **STANDARDS**

## **Standard 1: Program Mission and Objectives**

The program shall have a clearly defined mission supported by goals and objectives appropriate to the profession of landscape architecture and shall demonstrate progress toward their attainment.

**INTENT:** Using a clear, concise mission statement, each landscape architecture program shall define its core values and fundamental purpose for faculty, students, prospective students, and the institution. The mission statement shall summarize why the program exists and the needs that it seeks to fulfill. It shall also provide a benchmark for assessing how well the program is meeting the stated objectives.

**A. Program Mission.** The mission statement expresses the underlying purposes and values of the program.

Assessment: The program has a clearly stated mission reflecting its purpose and values, which relate to the institution's mission.

**B. Educational Goals.** The program shall have clearly defined and formally stated academic goals that reflect the mission and demonstrate that attainment of the goals will fulfill the program mission.

Assessment: The program has an effective procedure to determine progress in meeting its goals and is it used regularly.

**C. Educational Objectives.** The program shall have educational objectives that specifically describe how each of the academic goals will be achieved.

Assessment: The program has clearly defined, achievable educational objectives and an effective, regularly used procedure to determine progress in meeting them.

**D. Long-Range Planning Process.** The program shall engage in an effective long-range planning process.

Assessment 1: The long-range plan describes how the program mission, goals, and objectives will be met, and the program documents the review and evaluation process.

Assessment 2: The long-range plan (along with the mission, goals and objectives) is reviewed and revised periodically, and it presents realistic and attainable methods for advancing the program's academic mission.

Assessment 3: The program's SER responds to recommendations and considerations for improvement from the previous accreditation review (if applicable), and it reports on efforts to rectify identified weaknesses.

**E. Program Disclosure.** Program literature and promotional media shall accurately describe the program's mission, objectives, educational experiences, accreditation status, goals, student achievement, costs for a full-time student per academic year, estimated housing costs per year, average costs of books and materials per year, student retention and graduation rates, number of degrees granted per year, and

percentage of students with timely graduation (master's students graduating within four years, bachelor's students graduating within six years).

Assessment 1: The program information is accurate, understandable, and accessible to the public.

Assessment 2: The public disclosure information can be found with a single-click link from the program's website.

# Standard 2: Program Autonomy, Governance, and Administration

The program shall have the authority and resources to achieve its mission, goals and objectives.

**INTENT**: Each landscape architecture program shall be recognized as a discrete professional program with the resources, institutional support, and authority to enable achievement of the stated program mission, goals and objectives.

**A. Program Administration.** The landscape architecture program shall be administered as an identifiable, discrete program within its institution.

Assessment 1: The program is seen as a discrete and identifiable program within the institution.

Assessment 2: The program administrator holds a faculty appointment in landscape architecture.

Assessment 3: The program administrator exercises effective leadership of and management functions for the program. (Where the program administrator is not the primary administrator for the academic unit, as in a landscape architecture program within a multidisciplinary department or school, the landscape architecture leader has the authority to significantly influence the management of resources, including budget, faculty review, tenure and promotion outcomes, and the direction of the program.)

**B. Institutional Support.** The institution shall provide sufficient resources to enable the program to achieve its mission and goals, and it supports individual faculty members' development and advancement.

Assessment 1: Funding is available to assist faculty and other instructional personnel with continued professional development, including support in developing funded grants and attendance at conferences. Funding is sufficient to maintain computers and appropriate software, other types of equipment, and technical support.

Assessment 2: Funding is adequate for student support, such as scholarships and work-study jobs.

Assessment 3: Adequate support personnel are available to accomplish the program's mission and goals.

**C. Commitment to Diversity.** The program shall demonstrate a commitment to diversity through its recruitment and retention of faculty, staff, and students.

Assessment: The program demonstrates its commitment to diversity in the recruitment and retention of students, faculty, and staff.

**D. Faculty Participation.** The faculty shall participate in program governance and administration.

Assessment 1: The faculty makes recommendations on the allocation of resources and has the responsibility to develop, implement, evaluate, and modify the program's curriculum, and to contribute to operating practices.

Assessment 2: The faculty participates, in accordance with institutional guidelines, in developing criteria and procedures for annual evaluation, promotion, and tenure of faculty members.

Assessment 3: The faculty participates, in accordance with institutional guidelines, in developing and applying criteria and procedures for the appointment and assessment of program and academic unit leadership.

Assessment 4: The program or institution adequately communicates and mentors faculty regarding policies, expectations, and procedures for annual evaluations, tenure, and promotion to all ranks.

**E. Faculty Number.** The faculty shall be of a sufficient size to accomplish the program's goals and objectives; to teach the curriculum; to support students through advising and other functions; to engage in research, creative activity, and scholarship; and to be actively involved in professional endeavors such as presenting at conferences. The faculty FTE shall be assessed by the institutional culture for faculty development across the closely related academic units (such as other departments and programs within a college). The workload (number, type, and sizes of courses assigned) and responsibilities (such as a split of time for teaching, research, and service activities) for a typical tenured or long-term faculty member within the college shall be considered the template for assessing the FTE resources assigned to the landscape architecture program. Where landscape architecture faculty members have their responsibilities split between programs (such as bachelor's and master's or between landscape architecture and another discipline), the FTE assessment must be prorated.

Faculty instruction full-time equivalence (FTE) shall be as follows:

- a. An academic unit that offers a single first-professional degree program at the emerging or Initial Accreditation status has at least three FTE instructional faculty who hold professional degrees in landscape architecture, at least one of whom is full-time.
- b. An academic unit that offers a first-professional degree program at both the bachelor's and master's levels at the emerging or Initial Accreditation status has at least six FTE instructional faculty, five of whom hold professional degrees in landscape architecture, at least two of whom are full-time.
- c. An academic unit that offers a single first-professional degree program at the continuing full Accreditation status has an FTE of at least five instructional faculty. At least four of these faculty members hold a professional degree in landscape architecture and at least three of them are full-time.
- d. An academic unit that offers first-professional degree programs at both the bachelor's and master's levels with continuing full Accreditation status has an FTE of at least seven instructional faculty, at least five of whom hold professional degrees in landscape architecture and are full-time

Program Status	Number of Full-time Equivalent Instructional Faculty*	Number of Faculty with a Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture (could be part-time or adjunct)	Number of Full-time Faculty with a Professional Degree in Landscape Architecture
Programs seeking Initial Accreditation			
Single Program	3	3	1
Bachelors & Masters Program	6	5	2
Programs seeking re- accreditation			
Single Program	5	4	3
Bachelors & Masters Program	7		5

\* In determining FTEs and the pro-rata contribution some faculty may make to teaching in a program, we acknowledge that variations do exist among institutions regarding how standard teaching loads are determined. Please provide in the SER any commentary that you believe appropriate to demonstrate how your program achieves the required faculty numbers within your institution's particular administrative and staffing model.

Assessment 1: Student/faculty ratios in studios are typically not greater than 15:1.

Assessment 2: There are sufficient faculty FTE to carry out the mission of the program (such as duties in teaching, research, service, program administration, academic advising, and creative professional development).

## **Standard 3: Professional Curriculum**

The first-professional degree curriculum shall include the core knowledge, skills, and applications of landscape architecture.

- a. In addition to the professional curriculum, a first-professional degree program at the bachelor's level shall provide an educational context enriched by other disciplines, including but not limited to liberal and fine arts, natural sciences, and social sciences, as well as opportunities for students to develop other areas of interest.
- b. In addition to the professional curriculum, a first-professional degree at the master's level shall provide instruction in and application of research and scholarly methods.
- c. A first-professional degree at the master's level that does not require all students to have an undergraduate degree before receiving the MLA shall meet the requirements for both a and b, above.

**INTENT**: Each landscape architecture curriculum shall be designed to achieve the learning goals stated in the mission and specific educational objectives of the program. The curriculum shall encompass both coursework and other co-curricular opportunities intended to develop students' knowledge and skills in landscape architecture.

**A. Curricular Expression of the Mission and Objectives.** The program's curriculum shall address and express its mission, goals, and objectives. (This criterion is directed not toward the evaluation of the mission and objectives, but rather toward the way the curriculum is developed and delivered in carrying out the expectations of the mission and objectives.)

Assessment: The program identifies the knowledge, skills, abilities, and values it expects students to possess at graduation.

**B. Professional Curriculum.** The program curriculum shall be guided by, but not limited to, coverage of:

History, theory, philosophy, principles, and values design history design theory criticism sustainability, resiliency, stewardship health, safety, welfare Design processes and methodology critical thinking analysis ideation synthesis site program iterative design development design communication

Systems and processes—natural and cultural (related to design, planning, and management) plants and ecosystems sciences built environment and infrastructure human factors and social and community systems human health and well-being Communication and documentation written communication oral communication visual and graphic communication design and construction documents numeracy, quantitative problem-solving, and communication community and client engagement *Implementation* construction technology and site engineering site materials use and management of plants and vegetation policies and regulation Computer applications and advanced technologies visualization and modeling communication (conceptual and construction drawings) geospatial analysis Assessment and evaluation site assessment pre-design analysis landscape performance post-occupancy evaluation visual and scenic assessment Professional practice values ethics practice construction administration *Research and scholarly methods (for master's-level degree programs)* quantitative and qualitative methods establishing a research hypothesis framing research questions literature/case study review/precedent review research integrity and protection of human subjects communication of research

Assessment 1: The curriculum addresses the designated subject matter in a sequence that supports the degree program's goals and objectives.

Assessment 2: Student work and other accomplishments demonstrate that the curriculum is providing students with the appropriate content to enter the profession.

Assessment 3: Curriculum and program opportunities enable students to pursue academic interests consistent with institutional requirements and entry into the profession.

**C. Syllabi.** Appropriate syllabi shall be maintained for courses.

Assessment 1: Syllabi include educational objectives, course content, and the criteria and methods that will be used to evaluate student performance.

Assessment 2: Syllabi identify the various levels of accomplishment students need to achieve to successfully complete the course and advance in the curriculum.

**D. Curriculum Evaluation.** At both the course and curriculum levels, the program shall evaluate how effectively the curriculum is helping students achieve the program's learning objectives in a timely way.

Assessment 1: The program demonstrates and documents ways of:

- a. assessing students' achievement of course and program objectives within the length of time to graduation stated by the program;
- b. reviewing and improving the effectiveness of instructional methods in curriculum delivery; and
- *c. maintaining currency with the evolving technologies, methodologies, theories, and values of the profession.*

Assessment 2: Students participate in evaluation of the program, courses, and curriculum.

**E. Augmentation of Formal Educational Experience.** The program shall provide opportunities for students to participate in co-curricular activities, internships, off-campus studies, research assistantships, or practicum experiences.

Assessment 1: The program provides opportunities for students to augment the formal educational experience and documents students' use of these opportunities.

Assessment 2: The program identifies the objectives of co-curricular activities and evaluates the effectiveness of these opportunities.

Assessment 3: Student participants are given the opportunity to report on their cocurricular experiences to their fellow students.

**F. Coursework (Bachelor's Level).** In addition to the professional curriculum, students shall also pursue coursework in other disciplines in accordance with institutional and program requirements.

Assessment: Students take courses in the humanities, arts, technologies, mathematics, natural sciences, social sciences, and/or other disciplines.

**G. Areas of Interest (Bachelor's Level).** The program shall provide opportunities for students to pursue special interests.

Assessment 1: The program provides opportunities for students to pursue independent projects, focused electives, optional studios, certificates, minors, and the like.

Assessment 2: Student work incorporates academic experiences reflecting a variety of pursuits beyond the basic curriculum.

**H. Research/Scholarly Methods (Master's Level).** The program shall provide an introduction to research and scholarly methods.

Assessment 1: The curriculum provides instruction in research and scholarly methods and their relation to the profession of landscape architecture.

Assessment 2: The program requires that theses or terminal projects exhibit creative and independent thinking and contain a significant research/scholarly component.

## **Standard 4: Student and Program Outcomes**

The program shall prepare students to pursue careers in landscape architecture.

**INTENT**: Each landscape architecture program shall prepare students—through educational programs, advising, and other academic and professional opportunities—to pursue careers in landscape architecture upon graduation. The program shall foster knowledge and skills in creative problem solving, critical thinking, communications, design, and organization.

**A. Student Learning Outcomes.** The program shall qualify students to pursue careers in landscape architecture.

Assessment 1: Student work demonstrates the competencies required for entry-level positions in the profession of landscape architecture.

Assessment 2: Students demonstrate their achievement of the program's learning objectives, including critical and creative thinking, and their ability to understand, apply, and communicate the subject matter of the professional curriculum as evidenced through project definition, problem identification, information collection, analysis, synthesis, conceptualization, and implementation.

**B. Student Advising.** The program shall provide students with effective advising and mentoring throughout their educational careers.

Assessment 1: Students receive effective advising regarding academic development.

Assessment 2: Students receive effective advising regarding career development.

Assessment 3: Students are made aware of professional opportunities, advanced educational opportunities, licensure requirements, and continuing education requirements associated with professional practice.

Assessment 4: Students are satisfied with academic experiences and their preparation for the landscape architecture profession.

**C. Participation in Extracurricular Activities.** The program shall encourage students to participate in professional activities and institutional and community service.

Assessment 1: Students participate in institutional/college organizations, community initiatives, or other activities.

Assessment 2: Students participate in events such as LABash, ASLA Annual Meeting, local ASLA chapter events, and the activities of other professional societies or special-interest groups.

## **Standard 5: Faculty**

The program shall advance its academic mission and objectives by means of promoting the qualifications, academic position, professional activities, and individual professional development of its faculty and instructional personnel.

**INTENT**: Each landscape architecture program shall have qualified, experienced faculty and other instructional personnel to instill the knowledge and skills that students will need to pursue a career in landscape architecture. Equitable faculty workloads and compensation, and overall support for career development contribute to the success of the program.

**A. Credentials.** The qualifications of the faculty, instructional personnel, and teaching assistants shall be appropriate to their roles.

Assessment 1: The faculty has a balance of professional practice and academic experience appropriate to the program mission.

Assessment 2: Faculty assignments are appropriate to the course content and program mission.

Assessment 3: Adjunct and/or part-time faculty (if present) are integrated into the program's administration and curriculum evaluation/development in a coordinated and organized manner.

Assessment 4: Faculty qualifications are appropriate to responsibilities of the program as defined by the institution.

**B.** Faculty Development. The faculty members shall be continuously engaged in activities leading to their professional growth and advancement, the advancement of the profession, and the effectiveness of the program.

Assessment 1: Faculty activities such as scholarly inquiry, research, professional practice, and service to the profession, university, and community are documented, peer-reviewed, and disseminated through appropriate media such as journals, professional magazines, community, and university publications.

Assessment 2: Teaching and administrative assignments allow sufficient opportunity for faculty to pursue advancement and professional development. Expectations for faculty workload and distribution of responsibilities (of teaching, research, service, and professional engagement) are similar to expectations in related academic units.

Assessment 3: The development and teaching effectiveness of faculty and instructional personnel are systematically evaluated, and the results are used for individual and program improvement.

Assessment 4: Faculty seek and make effective use of available funding for conference attendance, equipment, technical support, and other professional needs.

Assessment 5: The activities of faculty are reviewed and recognized by faculty peers.

Assessment 6: Faculty participate in university and professional service, student advising, and other activities that enhance the effectiveness of the program.

**C. Faculty Retention.** The faculty shall hold academic status, have workloads, and receive compensation, mentoring, and support that promote productivity and retention.

Assessment 1: Faculty salaries and support are evaluated and are appropriate to promote faculty retention and productivity.

Assessment 2: The rate of faculty turnover does not undermine the mission and goals of the program.

# Standard 6: Outreach to the Institution, Communities, Alumni, and Practitioners

The program shall have a plan for and a record of interaction with its alumni, the larger institution, the professional community, the local community, and the public at large.

**INTENT**: Each landscape architecture program shall establish an effective relationship with the larger institution, its alumni, practitioners, the local community, and the public at large in order to provide a source of service learning opportunities for students, scholarly development for faculty, and professional guidance and financial support. Documentation and dissemination of successful outreach efforts shall enhance the image of the program and educate its constituencies regarding the program and the profession of landscape architecture.

**A. Interaction with the Profession, Institution, and Public.** The program shall represent and advocate for the profession by interacting with the larger institution, the local community, practitioners, and the public at large.

Assessment 1: Service-learning activities are incorporated into the curriculum.

Assessment 2: Service activities are documented on a regular basis.

Assessment 3: The program community interacts with the institution, practitioners, the local community, and the public at large.

**B.** Alumni and Practitioners. The program shall recognize alumni and practitioners as a resource.

Assessment 1: The program maintains or has access to a current registry of alumni that includes information pertaining to current employment, professional activity, post graduate study, and significant professional accomplishments.

Assessment 2: The program engages its alumni and other practitioners in activities such as service on a formal advisory board, student career advising, potential employment, curriculum review and development, fundraising, and continuing education.

Assessment 3: The program acknowledges and celebrates the significant professional accomplishments of its alumni and benefactors.

## Standard 7: Facilities, Equipment, and Technology

The program shall provide faculty, students, and staff access to facilities, equipment, libraries, and other resources necessary for achieving the program's mission and objectives.

**INTENT:** Each landscape architecture program shall occupy space in designated, codecompliant facilities that support the achievement of the program's mission and objectives. Students, faculty, and staff shall have the required tools and facilities to enable achievement of the program's mission and objectives.

**A. Facilities.** The program shall provide designated, code-compliant, adequately maintained spaces to serve the professional requirements of the faculty, students, and staff.

Assessment 1: Faculty, staff, and administration are provided with appropriate office space.

Assessment 2: Students are assigned permanent studio workstations adequate to meet the program's needs.

Assessment 3: Facilities are adequately maintained and in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), the Life Safety Code, and applicable building codes. (Acceptable documentation includes reasonable-accommodation reports from the university ADA-compliance office and/or facilities or risk-management office.)

**B. Information Systems and Technical Equipment.** The program shall provide information systems and technical equipment needed to achieve its mission and objectives to students, faculty, and other instructional and administrative personnel.

Assessment 1: The program's participants have sufficient access to computer equipment and software.

Assessment 2: The frequency of hardware and software maintenance, updating, and replacement is sufficient.

Assessment 3: The hours of use of information systems and equipment are sufficient to serve faculty and students.

**C. Library Resources.** The program shall provide library collections and other resources sufficient to support its mission and educational objectives.

Assessment 1: Collections are adequate to support the program.

Assessment 2: Courses integrate library and other resources.

Assessment 3: Library hours of operation are convenient and adequate to serve the needs of faculty and students.

## Agenda Item J

## DISCUSS AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON DRAFT CONSUMER'S GUIDE TO HIRING A LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT

As part of its 2015-16 Strategic Plan, the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) identified an objective to "Adopt new methods and identify new resources to effectively educate consumers regarding health, safety, and welfare issues." Over the last year, staff and Committee members worked in collaboration on the development of a new *Consumer's Guide to Hiring a Landscape Architect*.

At its November 17, 2015 meeting, staff presented a draft *Guide*, which was based on the Board's *Consumer's Guide to Hiring an Architect*. Following discussion, the Committee created a subcommittee to complete revisions to the *Guide*. During discussion at its February 10, 2016 meeting, the Committee suggested editions to the *Guide* including a chart for professional qualifications within the profession, as well as information on drought conditions and the Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance (MWELO). The subcommittee worked with staff to revise the *Guide* and create a chart on the professional qualifications of landscape architects, landscape contractors, and other related professions. At its May 24, 2016 meeting, the Committee approved the *Guide* with minor edits to be made to the professional qualifications chart. Staff completed the edits and worked with the Department of Consumer Affairs' Office of Publications, Design & Editing to prepare the *Guide*.

At the November 4, 2016 meeting, the LATC was asked to review the revised *Guide* and take action. During the meeting, a member of the public expressed concern that the photographs and plant materials depicted in the draft *Guide* show water features, high water use plant pallets, and lawn dominated designs that do not support water conservation. The LATC agreed that the publication should contain pictures of compelling low water landscapes with California plant material and asked staff to obtain images.

Staff is continuing to secure additional images and releases. A new draft of the *Guide* will be presented to the members for consideration once the images have been incorporated into the design.

## Agenda Item K

#### **REVIEW TENTATIVE SCHEDULE AND CONFIRM FUTURE LATC MEETING DATES**

<u>February</u> 20	President's Day	Office Closed
<u>March</u> TBD 10-11	Board Meeting National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB) Regional Summit	TBD Jersey City, NJ
31	Cesar Chavez Day	Office Closed
<u>April</u> 5	LATC Meeting	TBD
<u>May</u> 29	Memorial Day	Office Closed
<u>June</u> TBD 21-24	Board Meeting NCARB Annual Meeting	TBD Boston, MA
<u>July</u> 4 13	Independence Day LATC Meeting	<i>Office Closed</i> TBD
<u>September</u> TBD 4	Board Meeting Labor Day	TBD Office Closed
<u>October</u> TBD	LATC Meeting	TBD
<u>November</u> 10 23-24	Veterans Day Observed Thanksgiving Holiday	Office Closed Office Closed
December TBD 25	Board Meeting Christmas Day	TBD Office Closed

Agenda Item L

RECESS

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

## Agenda Item M

#### CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - ESTABLISHMENT OF A QUORUM

Roll is called by the Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) Vice Chair or, in his/her absence, by an LATC member designated by the Chair.

#### LATC MEMBER ROSTER

Patricia Trauth, Chair

Marq Truscott, Vice Chair

Andrew Bowden

David Allan Taylor, Jr.

## Agenda Item N

#### STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

At this meeting, the Committee is scheduled to update its Strategic Plan, which will be facilitated by the Department of Consumer Affairs' Strategic Organization, Leadership, and Individual Development staff. Attached is an agenda for the session and the 2015-2016 Strategic Plan.

#### ATTACHMENTS:

- 1. Strategic Planning Session Agenda
- 2. 2015-2016 Strategic Plan

## Landscape Architects Technical Committee

## **Strategic Planning Session Agenda**

#### January 18, 2017 8:30 am to 5:00 pm

- ✓ Introductions
- ✓ Environmental Scan and Objective Building Overview
- ✓ Goal Area Discussion: Regulation and Enforcement
- ✓ Break
- ✓ Goal Area Discussion: Professional Qualifications
- ✓ Lunch
- ✓ Goal Area Discussion: Public and Professional Awareness
- ✓ Goal Area Discussion: Organizational Relationships
- ✓ Break
- ✓ Goal Area Discussion: Organizational Effectiveness
- ✓ Wrap up and Conclusion

# Department of Consumer Affairs <a href="https://www.science.com">Landscape Architects</a> <a href="https://www.science.com">Technical Committee</a>

PUBLIC PROTECTION THROUGH EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND REGULATION

# 2015-2016



# Strategic Plan Approved: June 10, 2015

## **Table of Contents**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS	1
MESSAGE FROM THE COMMITTEE CHAIR	2
ABOUT THE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE	3
HOW THE LATC ACHIEVES ITS MISSION	4
2014 LATC ACCOMPLISHMENTS	5
MISSION, VISION, & VALUES	6
STRATEGIC GOALS	7
GOAL 1: REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT	8
GOAL 2: PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS	9
GOAL 3: PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS	10
GOAL 4: ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS	11
GOAL 5: ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS	12
STRATEGIC PLANNING PROCESS	13
APPENDIX A: ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE	14

## **Committee Members**

David A. Taylor, Jr., Chair | Landscape Architect Member Katherine Spitz | Landscape Architect Member Andrew Bowden | Landscape Architect Member Nicki Johnson | Landscape Architect Member

Trish Rodriguez | Program Manager

**Douglas R. McCauley, Executive Officer** 

## Message from the Committee Chair

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) is pleased to present its 2015-2016 Strategic Plan. The strategic planning process has been a collaborative effort between LATC members, staff, and the public.

2014 marked the completion of the LATC's Occupational Analysis (OA), a significant project that measures the current knowledge, skills, and abilities that are necessary in the profession. Conducted every five to seven years, the OA surveys the profession as to what tasks are required, how often they are performed, and how important they are to protect the public health, safety, and welfare. That data is then formatted into a "test plan" that is the basis for the content of the California Supplemental Examination.

The Sunset Review process was a major undertaking in 2014. This endeavor takes place every four years. It commences with the preparation of a major report, which was submitted in October 2014, describing the LATC's programs, metrics, and recommendations for improvement. The process fosters a healthy self-examination, and an opportunity to showcase innovations and learn from best-practices. LATC's Sunset hearing was March 18, 2015, and the LATC did not receive additional questions during the hearing. Written responses were submitted to the Legislature on April 16, 2015.

The outcomes from the Sunset Review will help drive future strategies. In addition, the 2015-2016 Strategic Plan reflects the LATC's second multi-year planning process. This enabled the LATC to focus on robust issues to ensure we are proactive, preventive, and a leader in consumer protection.

## About the Landscape Architects Technical Committee

The Landscape Architects Technical Committee (LATC) was created via Assembly Bill 1546, which became effective January 1, 1998. The Committee was statutorily established under the jurisdiction of the California Architects Board. The Committee's purpose is to act in an advisory capacity to the Board on examination and other matters pertaining to the regulation of the practice of landscape architecture in California.

The activities of the LATC benefit consumers in two important ways. First, regulation protects the public at large. Second, regulation protects the consumer of services rendered by landscape architects. It is imperative to ensure those who hire landscape architects are protected from incompetent or dishonest landscape architects.

The LATC is one of the boards, bureaus, commissions, and committees within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) and is part of the Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency. DCA is responsible for consumer protection through the regulation of licensees. While DCA provides administrative oversight and support services, the LATC further sets its own policies, procedures, and regulations.

The LATC is composed of five members who are licensed to practice landscape architecture in this state.

## How the LATC Achieves its Mission

#### Regulation

The LATC establishes regulations for examination and licensing of the profession of landscape architecture in California, which today numbers approximately 3,500 licensed landscape architects, as well as approximately 1,200 candidates who are in the process of meeting examination and licensure requirements.

#### Licensing

A candidate must have six years of qualifying education and training experience\* to be eligible for the Landscape Architect Registration Examination (LARE). Candidates must complete the LARE prior to receiving eligibility for the California Supplement Examination (CSE). Successful completion of the CSE is required to fulfill the LATC's requirements of licensure.

\* Credit for education and training is outlined in the Table of Equivalents contained in California Code of Regulations, Title 16, Division 26, section 2620.

#### Enforcement

The LATC has an active enforcement program designed to ensure the laws governing the practice of landscape architecture are enforced in a fair and judicious manner. The program consists of consumer education and professional information outreach designed to prevent and assist in the early detection of violations. The LATC enforces legal compliance for licensees by taking disciplinary actions against those in violation of the Practice Act.

The LATC's enforcement program works to address three main goal areas:

- 1. Establishing regulatory standards of practice for those licensed as landscape architects
- 2. Increasing public awareness of the LATC's mission, activities, and services
- 3. Protecting consumers by preventing violations, and effectively enforcing laws, codes, and standards when violations occur

The LATC is responsible for investigating complaints against licensees and unlicensed individuals. The Board retains the authority on behalf of the LATC to make final decisions on all enforcement actions.

## 2014 Landscape Architects Technical Committee Accomplishments

- 1. Completed 2014 Sunset Review Report.
- 2. Completed 2014 Occupational Analysis (OA), including a focus group.
- 3. Completed 2014 Linkage Study between the Landscape Architectural Registration Examination, and the California Supplemental Examination.
- 4. Concluded the Exceptions and Exemptions Task Force.
- 5. Completed University of California Extension Certificate Program Reviews.
- 6. Continued success on enforcement performance measures.
- 7. Effectively managed fiscal resources and requested a reduction in spending authority (Negative Budget Change Proposal).
- 8. Improved communication through the effective use of social media (Twitter).
- 9. Extended candidate application filing period.
- 10.Created additional pathways to licensure, including early entrance to the LARE.

## Mission

The LATC regulates the practice of landscape architecture through the enforcement of the Landscape Architects Practice Act to protect consumers, and the public health, safety, and welfare while safeguarding the environment.

## Vision

The LATC will champion a better, healthier, and safer built environment for California.

## 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:

- Protect consumers, by making effective and informed decisions in the best interest, and for the safety of Californians
- 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 effective, by making informed decisions that make a difference and have a positive, measurable impact
- Strive for excellence and quality, by continuously improving our programs, services, and processes through employee empowerment and professional development

## **Strategic Goals**

#### **1** REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT

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

#### **2** *PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS*

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

#### **3** PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS

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

#### **4** ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

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

#### **5** ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS

Provide accessible and responsive quality services to consumers and licensees.

## **GOAL 1: REGULATION AND ENFORCEMENT**

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

- 1.1 Create and disseminate printed document(s) to educate the public on the differences between landscape architects, landscape contractors, and landscape designers.
- Partner with Council of Landscape Architectural Registration Boards (CLARB) to enhance CLARB's national enforcement database with California data to strengthen consumer protection during the licensing process.
- 1.3 Finalize and implement regulations and procedures pertaining to the extension certificate programs and the approval process to maintain consistency, as well as concurrency with accreditation standards.
- 1.4 Disseminate information regarding extension programs per the California Code of Regulations, section 2620.5 to other states to encourage reciprocity.
- 1.5 Amend regulations to incorporate the updated Disciplinary Guidelines to maintain consistent decisions in disciplinary cases.

## **GOAL 2: PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATIONS**

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

- 2.1 Inform/communicate with schools regarding areas of the LARE with low pass rates in order to recommend areas of improvement in education.
- 2.2 Establish equitable reciprocity guidelines, without altering the entry standards of the profession, to widen path to licensure.
- 2.3 Review California Code of Regulations, section 2620 to clarify credit and experience combinations and provide justification for consistent staff interpretation of exam eligibility for potential licensees.
- 2.4 Review California Code of Regulations, section 2620 to expand credit for education experience to include degrees in related areas of study, i.e., urban planning, environmental science or horticulture, etc., and credit for teaching.
- 2.5 Review California Code of Regulations, sections 2624 and 2624.1 and assess whether any revisions are needed to the regulations, procedures, and instructions for expired license requirements
- 2.6 Reclassify the CSE item bank upon the results of the 2014 Occupational Analysis (OA) in order to ensure the item content reflects the critical tasks and knowledge related to newly-licensed landscape architects as identified by the OA and to maintain relevance with contemporary practice.

## **GOAL 3: PUBLIC AND PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS**

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

- 3.1 Develop a plan to communicate with licensees and stakeholders about new or revised regulations and upcoming laws to be proactive in reducing violations.
- 3.2 Establish LATC's presence at the Landscape Architects Expo and other industry shows to increase exposure and communicate LATC's mission with stakeholders.
- 3.3 Review and update the LATC website to ensure information is current, accurate, and accessible.
- 3.4 Adopt new methods and identify new resources to effectively educate consumers regarding health, safety and welfare issues.

## **GOAL 4: ORGANIZATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS**

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

- 4.1 Develop relationships with other regulatory boards and provide input where needed so that future legislation and regulations are compatible with LATC's mission and mandate.
- 4.2 Explore methods for developing a teleconferenced Educator's Roundtable comprised of school representatives to increase collaboration and communication for future LATC strategic plans.
- 4.3 Develop/research methods to share information with school faculty regarding issues such as newly revised language for California Code of Regulations, section 2620 and future testing.
- 4.4 Increase the LATC's participation in CLARB.

## **GOAL 5: ORGANIZATIONAL EFFECTIVENESS**

Provide accessible and responsive quality service to consumers and licensees.

- 5.1 Identify ways, means and methods to increase office efficiencies by assessing existing workload allocation, processes and procedures.
- 5.2 Review LATC's organizational chart to identify upward mobility opportunities through promotion and education in order to increase staff retention.
- 5.3 Contract with a part-time licensed Landscape Architect Subject Matter Expert in order to encourage consistency for enforcement, regulatory and statute interpretation.
- 5.4 Partner with DCA to successfully implement BreEZe<sup>1</sup> to improve consumer, candidate, and licensing services.
- 5.5 Complete the Sunset Review process and implement recommendations to comply with the legislature's directives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> BreEZE is DCA's new enterprise-wide licensing and enforcement system that replaces legacy systems.

## **Strategic Planning Process**

To understand the environment in which the Committee operates and identify factors that could impact the Committee's success, the Department of Consumer Affairs' SOLID unit conducted an environmental scan of the internal and external environments by collecting information through the following methods:

- Telephone interviews with Committee identified representatives of stakeholders in December 2014 and January, 2015.
- Telephone interviews with Committee members in December 2014 and January 2015.
- Telephone interviews with the Program Manager in January 2015.

The most significant themes and trends identified from the environmental scan were discussed by the Committee during a strategic planning session facilitated by SOLID on February 11, 2015. This information guided the Committee in the development of its mission, vision and values, while directing the strategic goals and objectives outlined in this 2015 – 2016 Strategic Plan.

#### Appendix A: Organizational Structure

The Committee's organizational structure is provided below:



Landscape Architects Technical Committee Strategic Plan 2015-2016 | Page 14

Landscape Architects Technical Committee 2420 Del Paso Road, Suite 105 Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 575-7230 fax: (916) 575-7285 email: latc@dca.ca.gov

#### Prepared by:



Department of Consumer Affairs 1747 N. Market Blvd., Suite 270 Sacramento, CA 95834

This strategic plan is based on stakeholder information and discussions facilitated by SOLID for the Landscape Architects Technical Committee in December 2014 and January 2015. Subsequent amendments may have been made after Committee adoption of this plan.



Agenda Item O

#### ADJOURNMENT

Time: \_\_\_\_\_