Design Excellence in the Era of Climate Change

Architecture Rethinks its Purpose

Albion District Library, Perkins + Will, Toronto, Ontario
Personal Introduction
Looking back on our deep-rooted history of commitment to the environment.
Looking back on our deep-rooted history of commitment to the environment.

USGBC Founded
AIA
COTE® Top Ten
2020 Call for entries
COTE Top Ten Measures of Sustainable Design

Design for Integration
Design for Community
Design for Ecology
Design for Water
Design for Economy
Design for Energy
Design for Wellness
Design for Resources
Design for Change
Design for Discovery
Architecture in the wilderness
We Spend 90% of our Time Indoors
We Spend 99.99% of Our Time in the Built Environment
We Face Urgent Societal Crises
The Public Conversation Around Architecture

Bilbao Guggenheim, Frank Gehry
Cost
Style

Tuscaloosa Courthouse and Federal Building, HBRA Architect
Architects’ Conversation around Architecture
Architects don’t need to seek relevance, only seize it

Carl Elefante
2018 AIA President
AIA 2018 Code of Ethics & Professional Conduct

Rule 6.501

Members shall consider with their clients the environmental effects of their project decisions.
AIA 2030
COMMITMENT
I'M
COMMITTED
Donella Meadow’s Leverage Points

- Increasing leverage, increasing resistance, increasing impact
COTE Top Ten Measures of Sustainable Design

Design for Integration
Design for Community
Design for Ecology
Design for Water
Design for Economy

Design for Energy
Design for Wellness
Design for Resources
Design for Change
Design for Discovery
AIA Framework for Sustainable Design

- Design for Integration
- Design for Community
- Design for Ecology
- Design for Water
- Design for Economy
- Design for Energy
- Design for Wellness
- Design for Resources
- Design for Change
- Design for Discovery
AIA Framework for Design Excellence

Design for Integration
Design for Community
Design for Ecology
Design for Water
Design for Economy
Design for Energy
Design for Wellness
Design for Resources
Design for Change
Design for Discovery
You Say You Want a Resolution….

1. Declare an urgent and sustained *climate imperative*

2. Transform the day-to-day practice of the all architects by adopting the COTE Top Ten Measures as the new **AIA Framework for Design Excellence**

3. Align and utilize our **external messaging** to leverage support from our peers
Resolution for Urgent and Sustained Climate Action

Title

Sponsors
Betty del Monte, FAIA, and fifty members of the Institute

Intent
To provide a framework for the AIA to prioritize and support urgent climate action to exponentially accelerate the “decarb” of buildings, the building sector, and the built environment.

Text of Resolution

WHEREAS, in 2017 the AIA Board of Directors issued Where We Stand: Climate Change (http://www.aia.org/resources/7541-where-we-stand-climate-change) and the AIA Commentary on Climate Change Mitigation (http://content.aia.org/∼files/aia2017/G12-07AIA-Commentary_climate-change-mitigation.pdf) which state the AIA’s position on the science of climate change, the substantial greenhouse gas emissions from buildings and cities, and the vital role Architects must play in combating climate change.

WHEREAS, in 2018 the AIA Board of Directors adopted the revised AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct (http://content.aia.org/∼files/aia2018/GA21-08AIA-Codes-Of-Ethics-0.pdf) fully updating Canon VI, Obligations to the Environment including:

- Ethical Standard 6.5: Climate Change. Members should incorporate adaptation strategies with their clients to anticipate extreme weather events and minimize adverse effects on the environment, economy, and public health.
- Rule 6.501. Members shall consider with their clients the environmental effects of their project decisions.

WHEREAS, for many years the AIA and its members have invested their resources to be engaged in and informed about climate change by participating in the highest-level national and international conferences and summits including: the 2016 United Nations Conference of the Parties 21 (COP21) in Paris; in 2016, the United Nations Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito, Ecuador; and in 2018, the Global Climate Action Summit in San Francisco.

WHEREAS, in 2018 AIA President Carl Elefant, FAIA, constituted the Blue Ribbon Panel for Codes and Standards which states in its draft report: “Today we observe a rapidly changing world that is not properly reflected in what it means to protect health, safety, and welfare. We have observed the devastating effects of climate change throughout the world, growing social inequality, and human health crises that demand definition of ‘HSW’ now focus on and includes the growing bodies of knowledge in resilience, equitable design, and advanced building performance.” (http://resilience&evolution-aia-blue-ribbon-panel-for-codes-and-standards-report.html"

WHEREAS, in 2019 AIA President William J. Bates, FAIA, informed the Sustainability Leadership Group that “…leaders from AIA’s Board of Directors and executive team described their intention to use resources and influence for deeper impact on a specific topic. Dubbed the Big Move, the proposal has been focused on how economically viable climate change through buildings operational and embodied carbon.”

WHEREAS, in 2019 AIA President William J. Bates FAIA charged the Sustainability Leadership Group to “serve as and work in conjunction with other Board level committees for the Institute to maximize impact as the Institute shifts into a greater leadership role mitigating and adapting to a changing climate.”

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that commencing in 2016 and continuing until zero net carbon is achieved the standard of its members, the AIA, prioritize and support urgent climate action as a health, safety, and welfare issue, to exponentially accelerate the “decarb” of buildings, the building sector, and the built environment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AIA engage its full membership, the clients and communities members serve, federal, state, and local policy makers and governing bodies, other professionals, organizations, and affiliates, and the public on climate action through a multi-year strategy for education, practice, advocacy, and outreach.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that following the example of the AIA's Codes for Equitable Practice, the AIA prepare Guidelines for Ethical Practice on Climate Action to delineate practices for complying with Canon VI, Obligations to the Environment in the AIA Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AIA revise its Public Policies and Position Statements to support urgent climate action.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AIA adopt and implement the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Panel on Codes and Standards and the Sustainability Leadership Group.

Sponsor Signatures (Signature log attached)

Betsy del Monte, FAIA
Maureen Gutman, AIA
Michael Davis, FAIA
Gunnar Hubbard, FAIA
Tyrone Kamau, AIA
Rob Pryce, AIA
Corey Japse, AIA
Marsha Mayum, AIA
Lorin Nick, AIA
Martha Knope, AIA
Sandor Mendel, AIA
Harry Feges, AIA
Bill Shum, AIA
Gary Dempster, AIA
Connie Jones, AIA
Helena Zambro, AIA
Amelia Dijk, AIA
Robert Von Buren, AIA
Jeffrey Stivers, AIA
Carl Elefant, FAIA
Allison Anderson, FAIA
Annie Schofield, FAIA
Angela Brooks FAIA
Rand Elman, AIA
Tate Walker, AIA
Ralph Riciponis, AIA
Ashley Mulhall, AIA
Vikram Sami, AIA
Harry Jordon, FAIA
Mark Rylander, AIA
Alexis Randiles, AIA
Mary Ann Lazuras, AIA
Rik Stewart, AIA
Christopher Chwecski, FAIA
Willy Zambrano, FAIA
Jean Carrao, FAIA
James Binkley, FAIA
William LeDey FAIA
Denyce Kinney, AIA
E明清, FAIA
Mirta Leidt, AIA
Daniel Jay FAIA
Tom Liebel, FAIA
Paul Porter, AIA
Julie Hromot, AIA
Kjell Anderson, AIA
Andrea Love, AIA
Victoria Olaya, AIA
Gwen Fuentes, AIA
Lynne Dearborn, AIA
Donn Wrench, AIA
Michael Hellinghausen, FAIA
Michael Hellinghausen, FAIA
John Harrison, FAIA
Martine Dion, FAIA
Daniel Jay, FAIA
Tom Liebel, FAIA

AIA’s 162nd Annual Meeting illuminates ambitious priorities for the association's future

By Kathleen M. O’Donnell, June 6, 2019

19-11: Resolution for Urgent and Sustained Climate Action

The new piece of business proposed that AIA prioritize and support urgent climate action to exponentially accelerate the “decarbonization” of buildings, the building sector, and the built environment. In addition to calling for revisions to AIA Public Policies and Position Statements, the resolution advocated that the Institute engage its full membership, clients, lawmakers, and communities in a multi-year education, practice, and advocacy strategy.
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Yes</strong></td>
<td>4860</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>No</strong></td>
<td>312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abstain</strong></td>
<td>28</td>
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**PASSED**
“Moving forward, AIA will build on its more than 20 years of work supporting the design of sustainable and resilient communities by establishing goals to support mitigation and adaptation using the tenets of the comprehensive and holistic COTE Top Ten framework, now known as the AIA Design Excellence Framework.”
What is Design?
What is Design?

“To decide upon the look and function of a building, garment, or other object before it is built or made.”
What is Design?

“To decide upon the look and function of a building, garment, or other object before it is built or made.”
Honor Award for Distinguished Buildings
AIA Chicago, 2010

Honor Award for Distinguished Buildings
AIA San Francisco, 2008
Payette 2019 Firm of the Year
Framework for Design Excellence

Inspiring sustainable, resilient, and inclusive design

Design is not just about aesthetic components, but how buildings perform for people. The Framework for Design Excellence is made up of 10 dimensions, formerly known as the COTE Top Ten. It organizes our thinking, facilitates conversations with our clients and the communities we serve, and sets meaningful goals and targets for climate action.

The tiles below provide an in-depth exploration of each dimension, including best practices, high impact strategies, resources, and case studies that promote climate action.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Design for Integration</th>
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<th>Design for Water</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>What is the big idea behind this project—and how does the approach to sustainability inform the design concept?</td>
<td>How does this project contribute to creating a walkable, human-scaled community that is self-sustaining and self-sufficient?</td>
<td>In what ways does the design respond to the ecology of this place?</td>
<td>Sustainable design conserves and improves the quality of water as a precious resource.</td>
<td>Providing abundance while living within our means is a fundamental challenge of sustainability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design for Energy</td>
<td>Design for Wellness</td>
<td>Design for Resources</td>
<td>Design for Change</td>
<td>Design for Discovery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable design conserves energy while improving building performance, function, comfort, and enjoyment.</td>
<td>Sustainable design supports comfort, health, and wellness for the people who inhabit our built environment.</td>
<td>Sustainable design includes the informed selection of materials and products to reduce production-related environmental impacts while</td>
<td>Reuse, adaptability, and resilience are essential to sustainable design, which seeks to maintain and enhance usability, functionality.</td>
<td>Has the building performed in ways that matched expectations during design?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Flexibility:
Choose Your Own Adventure
Aspiration:
Celebrate Incremental Improvement
Agency:
High performance within the purview of the Architect

San Francisco Art Institute, Leddy Maytum Stacy Architects, SF CA
Lead with a vision instead of a checklist

Good management is the art of making problems so interesting and their solutions so constructive that everyone wants to get to work and deal with them.

Paul Hawken
The Tyranny of the Minimum Threshold

Increasing Performance

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Acceptable
- Poor
Design Excellence in the era of Classical Rebirth
Design Excellence in the era of the Socialist Reform
Design Excellence in the era of Technological Optimism
Design Excellence
in the era of
Computational Possibilities

Heydar Aliyev Centre, Zaha Hadid
Design Excellence in the era of Climate Change
Where we stand: climate action

Even in times of change, our values remain constant. We work to advance our nation's quality of life and protect the public's health, safety and welfare.

Learn more >

Resources for climate action

AIA commentary on climate change mitigation
The 2030 Commitment
Disaster Assistance Program
Design resources for climate change adaptation
Guide to Building Life Cycle

STILT HOUSES IN GANvie, BENIN. IMAGE: Iwan Baan
One site.
Countless challenges.
A looming deadline.
This is the ultimate project.

It’s time to show the world what design can do.
THANK YOU