AIA Montana 'is the voice of the architecture profession, dedicated to serving its members’ here in Montana. That statement from the AIA Mission came into question recently here in Montana. As a Board, we generally don’t deal with too many controversial subjects and typically become focused on bringing an outstanding Fall Conference to our members. We also, through our lobbyist, take on legislation that affects our profession in the biannual state legislature. But recently the subject of local design guidelines surfaced in Bozeman. The local architectural community became impassioned as the City wrestled with formulating and updating the UDC (Unified Development Code). As with many of our State’s City codes, design guidelines can become part of the local desire for a certain aesthetic and feel to new development. They can also be a tool for preserving history and culture within a community.

Unfortunately, not everyone agrees, particularly designers, in the means and methods that those guidelines ought to take shape. So, you can imagine, in a place like Bozeman, where design guidelines are strict and architects are many, conflicting opinion would eventually come to a head. Personally, I am well aware of this as a former Design Review Board member in Bozeman in the early 90’s while design guidelines were beginning to take shape. I was the ‘Disgruntled DRB Member’ that didn’t agree to dictating window type and color.

Fast forward 25 years when Bozeman architects are asking Montana AIA to ‘get involved’ and lend support to their struggles to voice concerns about more restrictive design standards. At first, as a board, we baulked, thinking that we were past the time of input and help, but also because we didn’t think AIA Montana ought to be advocating for one guideline over another for at a local level. Unfortunately, the board and I completely missed the point. It’s not about the guideline itself, it is about the leadership of the architectural profession in shaping those guidelines and being involved in making the decisions that affect local development for years to come.

With that in mind, AIA Montana applauds Randy Hafer’s (FAIA) in his effort to become Mayor of Billings. Thank you, Randy, for taking the lead and dedicating your time. Good luck in your mayoral race!

Don’t forget to register for the Fall Conference and I’ll see you in Missoula where we can discuss this issue and many others.

ben@mosaicarch.com
To register, visit https://www.aiamtregistration.org/

2017 AIA Montana Annual Fall Conference:
“Modern Maker”

Shane Jacobs, AIA, President Elect and Chair of the 2017 Fall Conference

Hopefully you’ve all seen the Fall Conference promotional mailer by now. If you haven’t, please check out our website http://aia-mt.org/events/fall-conference/ and register today!

As a reminder, our conference theme is Modern Maker. The theme was born from an interest in how we create and why there is a distinct break between design and construction. I’m fascinated by those that practice in both realms and how one side of the equation informs the other.

Our speaker lineup is set, but subject to some final tweaking as we polish off the details. I’m excited about the caliber and variety of speakers— including architects, furniture makers, innovators, builders, and artists from each corner of the country; all with a different take on the design-experiment-refine-build-design continuum.

Don’t forget to book your room at the Hilton Garden Inn on North Reserve Street in Missoula or one of the neighboring hotels.

Key dates:
- September 21-22, 2017: Speakers and Vendors at the Missoula Hilton Garden Inn
- September 21: Evening Design Award Ceremony and Dinner in Downtown Missoula

Conference Overview . . .

Thursday morning, registration will open at 7:30 am on Rotunda. Jeff Krogstad - Allied AIA Member and Chapter Photographer will be setup in the registration area. The conference will get underway at 8:15 am.

MSU - School of Architecture will sponsor the first break. The General Membership Lunch meeting will start at 11:30 am. Stahly Engineering will sponsor the afternoon break.

After the final session of the afternoon, buses hosted by Sierra Pacific Windows will begin transporting us downtown to the Florence Hotel for the evening activities that include:
- Option of Walking Tour for credit with Heritage Timber;
- Awards Banquet that includes presentation of the winners of this year’s AIA Montana Design Awards with presentation of AIA Montana Honorary Membership for Russ Katherman - Director of State A & E Office.
- We will also have a cake celebrating 100 years of licensing architects in the State of Montana!!

On Friday, we will have a full day provided and sponsored by this year’s VENDORS sharing the latest information on products and services. You will have the opportunity to sign up for a CASH RAFFLE TICKET worth $50.00 at each booth you visit. The raffles - $2000 total - will be held at the end of the final session - you must be present to collect your winnings! Any uncollected raffles will go to the MSU/SOA AIA Montana & Friends Endowment.

ARE Prep Seminar - 5.0 offered by Nate Gulash: Please share this information with anyone that is currently taking or planning to take this test. There is an option available to take this course only on Friday for $75.00 - includes breaks and lunch. It is 8 hours and has been a proven winner for several years.

More speakers!!!

Breaks and Lunch with the VENDORS!

Conference ends at 4:30 pm with the CASH RAFFLE!
Legislative Wrap Up & Next Steps! - Continued from Page 2

Efforts to pass bills on local infrastructure option taxes and private/public partnerships did not get much traction with legislators this past session, but they did serve to increase awareness of those funding mechanisms and potentially tee up conversations for future sessions.

This article was co-written by AIA Montana member Chere LeClair.

Social impact

What the New Urban Agenda means for architects

By Tim Hawk, FAIA; Chere LeClair, AIA; and Derek Washam, May 17, 2017

How AIA’s Strategic Council is encouraging communities to embrace sustainable urbanization

The United Nations convened its Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development, referred to as UN Habitat III, in Quito, Ecuador in October of 2016. This is the third international Habitat conference, with each meeting occurring 20 years apart. The conference was attended by 30,000 representatives from 167 countries, and AIA sent a delegation that included 2016 AIA President Russell A. Davidson, FAIA, along with staff and members.

The outcome of the Quito conference is a document titled the New Urban Agenda. The agenda is focused towards renewing the global commitment to sustainable urbanization, building on the initiatives adopted at Habitat II held in Istanbul, Turkey in 1996. When Habitat I convened in 1976, the percentage of the world’s population living in cities was 37.9; it was 45.1 percent at the convening of Habitat II in 1996, and this past year in Quito, it was 54.5 percent. By 2050, that number is projected to increase to 75 percent. It is estimated that two billion people will require housing by 2030 alone.

These numbers demonstrate the massive migration of people to cities across the globe, driven by matters such as employment opportunities, war, political strife, and climatic changes. Ultimately, the impacts on urban and rural environments will be monumental.

The New Urban Agenda is not a checklist but a modifiable guide that can be tailored to the specific needs and issues unique to any community. It is wholly scalar and simultaneously applicable to mega cities, peri-urban, and rural communities. It serves to assist local and regional governments in addressing challenges such as creating sustainable development designed with sensitivity to urban ecology and resiliency, with a keen eye towards optimizing infrastructure and transportation.

https://www.aia.org/articles/875256-what-the-new-urban-agenda-means-for-architects?tools=true
In addition to being inclusive of the spectrum of the populace that will be inhabiting these places, the planning process must also represent diverse constituencies, including economists, financiers, planners, governmental organizations, and architects.

The New Urban Agenda, simply stated, is a call to action for all architects.

Architects, with our "design thinking" expertise and desire to engage in visionary work, are uniquely qualified to be at the forefront of engaging the New Urban Agenda within our communities. It will act as a natural extension of the skills architects already possess within our existing expertise in areas like sustainability and resiliency. We need to be at the forefront of this effort in our communities; it is a moral imperative for the human populace and the planet. The New Urban Agenda, simply stated, is a call to action for all architects.

**AIA plots a course forward**

As such, AIA's Strategic Council is working to prototype an engagement initiative called Communication, Advocacy and Policy of the New Urban Agenda (CAPNUA), which will heighten interest in the New Urban Agenda, educate communities to the potential associated with planning, and strengthen future design outcomes across the country. This initiative will be administered in geographically and culturally diverse locations of various scales. Plans are currently in place in Columbus, Ohio, Austin, Texas, Omaha, Nebraska, Honolulu, Indianapolis, and Miami. Each city will bring a unique, localized structure to their engagement project. In Indianapolis and Austin, the program will be linked to regional architectural conferences. In other communities, the engagement will be jointly supported by organizations representing landscape architects and planners and focused on compelling local issues.

In Columbus, the CAPNUA initiative will focus on Franklinton, a historically neglected neighborhood within the urban core of this growing metropolis. Columbus CAPNUA organizers seek to expand the Franklinton dialogue and planning efforts to factor in principles of the New Urban Agenda. Event planners will include architects, landscape architects, and planners.

The CAPNUA initiative will test engagement in a variety of settings in 2017 and seek to extract lessons in preparation for a larger, more robust engagement program roll in 2018. How can AIA members help? We are currently looking for small (~50,000 or less) and medium (~around 100,000) scale communities in the northeast or western United States to participate in this endeavor. If your community fits this description and you are interested in participating, please contact Cherie LeClair or Tim Hawk.

Tim Hawk, FAIA, is president at WSA Studio. Cherie LeClair, AIA, is president at LeClair Architects and an associate professor at Montana State University's School of Architecture. Derek Washam is manager of international relations at AIA.
The following vendors will be at the 2017 Fall Conference with their latest products and services:

Earth Elements  
www.earthelements.com

GRAPHISOFT  
www.graphisoft.com

American Hydrotech, Inc.  
www.hydrotechusa.com

BASF  
www.basf.com

Sierra Pacific Windows  
www.sierrapacificwindows.com

TriJack Architectural Products  
www.trijack.com

Glo European Windows  
www.glowindows.com

Huber Engineered Wood  
www.huberwood.com

Chelsea Building Products  
www.everlastsiding.com

VaproShield  
www.vaproshield.com

Big Sky Insulations, Inc.  
www.bigskycontrol.com

Minot Builders Supply  
www.minotbuildersupply.com

PPG Architectural Coatings  
www.ppgpro.com

Thermomass  
www.thermomass.com

RedBuilt, LLC  
www.redbuilt.com

Minot Builders Supply  
www.minotbuildersupply.com

Mono Slab EZ Form  
www.monoslabezform.com

Montana Plan Exchanges  
www.montanabid.com

Texteriors  
www.texteriors.com

Missoula Concrete Construction  
www.missoulaconcrete.com

Syverson Tile & Stone  
www.syversontile.com

The Fall Conference is a great place to earn necessary continuing education credits, learn about new products and services, connect with old friends and make new contacts! Register today at: https://www.aiamtregistration.org/
The AIA Mission Statement:
The American Institute of Architects is the voice of the architecture profession dedicated to serving its members, advancing their values and improving the quality of the built environment. Through a culture of innovation, the American Institute of Architects empowers its members and inspires creation of a better built environment.

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Montana Chapter of the American Institute of Architects was founded on June 4, 1921.

From the AIA Montana Office

Shane Jacobs has been busy pulling details together for this year’s annual fall conference. Registration is open and will remain open till September 15. Make plans to visit Missoula on September 21-22!

Nathan Gulush will be offering the ARE Prep Seminar on Friday at the Fall Conference. He will be focusing on the 5.0 ARE. This is an included option in the full conference registration. Attendees can choose the ARE Prep Seminar Only Option and attend just this on Friday for $75.00. Please share this information with those that are on the road to licensure.

Note: A registration to the Fall Conference includes all breaks, meals and events! This makes it a great value.

Work on this year’s Montana Architect Magazine is well underway. Dani Gordon of The News Link Group will be reaching out for advertisements and copy for “Firm Profiles.” All AIA Montana Members listed with AIA National on November 1 will be published for FREE in the membership directory portion of the magazine. Be sure your contact information is updated and correct with AIA National! Firm profiles cost extra – $75.00 each. Be sure your firm is included. Dani’s contact information is dani@thenewslinkgroup.com or 801-676-9722.

The AIA Montana Board is actively seeking candidates for the Incoming Director and the Associate Director positions for the 2018 Executive Board. The Associate Director’s position is a 3-year commitment. The Incoming Director advances through the Chairs. For more information or details, contact any member of the Board, a past president, or the AIA Montana Office.

Thank You!

Connie
August 19, 2017

RE: UDC Revisions – City of Bozeman Design Standards

Dear City Commissioners of Bozeman,

I am writing this letter in support of the architectural community in Bozeman and their pursuit of input in defining the design standards for your community. As you know, Bozeman is a special place, growing quickly in the last few decades from a simple cowboy and university town to one of nations premier destination places in the country. As a byproduct, and through intention, the bar for good urban and architectural design has been raised. Bozeman has one of the strongest design communities in the country, complete with many architectural gems that have gained national attention. Through a unique ‘funkiness’ and a western sophistication born by local architects who push the boundaries of material use, form, scale and proportion, Bozeman can readily claim to be the architectural center of the region.

I sincerely hope that the City of Bozeman will recognize this contribution from the city’s architects and listen to their concerns for implementing new design standards and regulation. Architects are trained to be leaders, thinkers and problem solvers. Through their help, workable standards and review processes can be realized that will not only satisfy the City’s intent for good design, but also gain a partner in continuing Bozeman’s history and future as a forward thinking, design-minded community.

Good design is defined by an understanding of scale, proportion, repetition, and detailing. The manifestation of that ‘good design’ can take many shapes and looks as currently represented in Bozeman. It would be a shame to limit that creativity in favor of a ‘sameness’ that’s not representative of the history and culture of Bozeman.

I am excited to see so many local architects standing up and getting involved in this issue. The proposed UDC changes have struck a chord within the design community that certainly can have positive outcome. I urge the City to harness that energy and rely on your design professionals to help make the new UDC a document that all can work with and set the standard for involving architects in policy making.

Thank you for your consideration,

Ben Tintinger, AIA

President, Montana Chapter of AIA