

BLUEPRINT FOR AMERICA ABSTRACTS

July 2006

ALABAMA

ALASKA

AIA Alaska

AIA Alaska AIA150--Blueprint for America: Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Alaska Federation of Natives Programs

AIA Alaska will provide each mayor with a Sustainable Development Award at a ceremonial dinner during the AIA Alaska state convention (Juneau in 2006, Anchorage in 2007, and Fairbanks in 2008). Each local section will follow up and conduct a one-day Mayor's Problem charrette and a three-day Sustainable Community Design charrette for their community. Also, the president of the Alaska Federation of Natives will receive a Sustainable Development Award at its annual meeting, conduct a charrette, and organize a three-day symposium on sustainable development for rural Alaskan villages.

ARIZONA

AIA Arizona

Capitol Mall Improvement District

AIA Arizona proposes to connect downtown Phoenix with the state capitol complex through urban design, active street frontage, shaded areas to walk and congregate, and new public transportation options. The project will inventory existing buildings and infrastructure, hold several regional design charrettes, work with elected officials and ASLA, and develop a master plan and policy for the mall, including how it should be implemented before the state's centennial in 2012.

ARKANSAS

CALIFORNIA

AIA/California Council

California AIA150 Media Support Program

AIA California Council (AIACC) is preparing a media/public relations program to support the AIA150 activities of its 21 chapters and further its leadership role in shaping housing policies at the state and local levels. The objectives include increasing awareness of community design and sustainability challenges facing the nation's largest state, and advancing the awareness of architectural design and architects as innovators and community leaders.

AIA East Bay

Community By Design: Design Knowledge Makes Good Design Patrons

AIA East Bay plans to provide educational materials on the value of good design and livable communities to community groups, elected officials, and IAA members. On April 21, 2007, the component will conduct four housing charrettes in four diverse communities focusing on the value of good design. The results from the charrettes will be presented for public information and use through PowerPoint presentations, podcasts, and video podcasts available on the component Web site.

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AIA San Diego

Downtown San Diego: C Street Corridor Enhancement and Revitalization

AIA San Diego will help develop a master plan for the revitalization of the C Street corridor, including improvements to the landscape, architecture, engineering, and transit services as well as developing options for accommodating the large homeless population in this area. The intention is to construct at least one trolley shelter prototype and one prototype for a temporary homeless shelter.

AIA Santa Barbara

A Sustainable Vision for Santa Barbara

AIA Santa Barbara members will educate their community about sustainable design, undertake a community-wide effort to create a practical vision for the community, interpret the vision into sound planning principles that promote livable communities and sustainable design, and advocate the inclusion of these principles into the city's General Plan Update for 2030. These goals will be accomplished through lectures, forums, community-based visioning sessions, and workshops to interpret the community vision.

AIA San Fernando Valley

Pacoima, Calif., Commercial Street Redevelopment and Business Improvement District Formation

AIA San Fernando Valley (AIASFV) is focused on revitalizing a commercial strip in Pacoima, California, in order to promote community beautification, economic development, and urban renewal. Working with the East Valley District of LA's Community Redevelopment Agency, community leaders and local architects will create workgroups, hold charrettes, and issue design guidelines and implementation plans.

AIA San Francisco

Community Engagement in Architecture through Walking Tours

AIA San Francisco (AIASF) is developing walking tours of historic and culturally significant neighborhoods to build public understanding of the value of architectural design. The goal is to establish a program to educate the citizenry so they may join architects as advocates for good design.

COLORADO

AIA Colorado South

Great Streets/Great Skyline: Creating a Shared Vision for a More Livable Colorado Springs

Colorado Springs' downtown is challenged with balancing proposals from community developers with community discussion on how the city's existing infrastructure will change to meet its growing business, cultural, and civic needs. Chapter members, working with residents and allied professionals, will develop a 3D model of downtown. This model will be available on the Internet as a basis for future planning, zoning, and design studies. Finally, as part of their efforts to revise the downtown zoning code, chapter members will develop scenarios that will define a form-based code process for use by the City Planning Department.

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AIA Denver

Documentary on Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

AIA Denver, through its Urban Design Committee, will explore the concept of livable communities through the production of a film on transit oriented development (TOD). The documentary will focus on the benefits of TOD and quality design for metropolitan Denver. The film will debut in October 2006.

CONNECTICUT

AIA Connecticut

Symposium on Transportation Oriented Development

AIA Connecticut will address the state's transportation crisis by bringing together an interdisciplinary group of experts to discuss and debate the issues related to transportation oriented development.

DELAWARE

DISTRICT of COLUMBIA

FLORIDA

AIA Florida

Tropical Greenway

AIA Miami's Tropical Greenway initiative will use Miami-Dade County's park system to connect Biscayne Bay to the Everglades. The project will symbolically connect Greater Miami's communities with the rest of the county; cultural connectivity will be achieved at the grassroots level, with designs that reinforce the ethnicity and culture of each community.

AIA Gainesville

AIA Gainesville Celebrates Design/AIA150 Initiatives

AIA Gainesville has planned a region-wide initiative to champion public awareness of architecture during 2007. The initiative will include community-based programs, public service events, and a student scholarship program. Representatives from all segments of the community, including local government, business, the University of Florida School of Architecture, building contractors, architects, and many others, will participate.

AIA Tampa Bay

Tampa Bay Architectural Heritage Committee: A Learning Experience--"Back to the Future"

AIA Tampa Bay will focus on preserving the architectural heritage of the Tampa Bay area by providing guidance to building owners and others on following historic restoration guidelines. Public outreach through specialized learning programs in historic preservation will be offered to the community's high school students, specifically those of Hispanic heritage in the area surrounding the cigar factories.

GEORGIA

HAWAII

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HONG KONG

IDAHO

ILLINOIS

AIA Southern Illinois

AIA150 Blueprint for the Development and Revitalization of Southern Illinois Cities

AIA Southern Illinois will focus on the revitalization of a city located in its region. Working through the Mayor's Municipal League, each member city will be asked to submit a potential design project that will further develop and revitalize their downtown area. AIA Southern Illinois will select the program based on criteria outlined in the application and will conduct a design charrette to engage community and professional partners.

INDIANA

IOWA

KANSAS

KENTUCKY

LOUISIANA

AIA New Orleans

Smart Growth for the New Orleans Downtown Development District

AIA New Orleans (AIANO) proposes to work with the New Orleans Regional Smart Growth Coalition to develop a smart code zoning overlay for the New Orleans Downtown Development District (DDD). The component seeks to promote a healthier city by developing criteria to ensure that future development patterns in the DDD remain sustainable.

AIA Shreveport

Shreveport Bossier Community Renewal (SBCR)--Social Technology as a Foundation for Sustainable Communities

AIA Shreveport will raise awareness of the potential success of SBCR through a series of four public charrettes over a four- to six-month period. The SBCR methodology of building community block-by-block through systematic caring relationships has worked in other communities.

MAINE

MARYLAND

AIA Baltimore

Baltimore Gateways

AIA Baltimore will develop a pilot project to address the area where communities on the outer ring of the city meet the inner ring communities and surrounding counties. The component plans

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to develop a pilot project in the area where these key communities, urban and suburban, intersect and reconstitute it as a hub with its own identity.

MASSACHUSETTS

Boston Society of Architects/AIA

Common Boston: Architecture and Design Festival

The Boston Society of Architects (BSA) will work with Common Boston, a group of young Boston-area professionals who organize the Architecture and Design Festival. The festival features a series of community engagement programs in Boston neighborhoods throughout the year, focused on understanding and shaping livable communities. The series will culminate in a three-day event in June 2007.

Western Massachusetts AIA

SDAT Process with Latina/o Community of Holyoke, Mass.

Western Massachusetts AIA (WMAIA) proposes an SDAT initiative for the Latina/o community in the city of Holyoke. The SDAT will begin its focus from within the community as it envisions a sustainable future for the city and the surrounding area.

MICHIGAN

AIA Michigan

Designing for Michigan's Future: A Blueprint for Creating Healthy, Safe, Livable, and Sustainable Communities

AIA Michigan will create a "Communities by Design" booklet modeled on the AIA's publication. Michigan's booklet will depict examples of how the AIA's 10 Principles for Livable Communities have been used across the state.

AIA Flint

AIA Flint Partnership for Community Service

AIA Flint will produce a cooperative master plan for the Whaley Children's Center and surrounding neighborhood, including a prototype building that can be constructed at low cost by volunteer labor and fulfill similar housing needs elsewhere. The residents of the center require 24-hour supervision and therapeutic services in a residential setting. The current center is too small and the surrounding community suffers from myriad socioeconomic challenges.

AIA Grand Valley

West Michigan Regional Urban Design Charrettes: An AIA Grand Valley AIA150 Blueprint Initiative

AIA Grand Valley (AIAGV), in partnership with the West Michigan Strategic Alliance, produced the West Michigan Regional Urban Design charrette. This partnership will again cohost multijurisdictional charrettes.

AIA Huron Valley

Ann Arbor Livability 101

AIA Huron Valley will hold a number of informative and educational seminars to promote the AIA's 10 Principles for Livable Communities. It will also create a booklet that will provide

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developers and the community with the tools necessary to understand and incorporate the livability concepts that are fundamental to a sustainable Ann Arbor.

MINNESOTA

AIA Northern Minnesota

Re-establishing Connections

AIA Northern Minnesota plans to explore the history of the area's waterways to learn what changes have been made to them over time, to foster understanding of how to better utilize the waterways, and to advocate for future connections of these natural waterways to Lake Superior.

MISSISSIPPI

MISSOURI

MONTANA

NEBRASKA

AIA Nebraska

The Flatwater Metroplex: Envisioning Regional Design

AIA Nebraska's initiative will engage regional stakeholders in a series of local forums and charrettes to collaboratively address the region's distinct needs. The program is designed to facilitate consensus among the community, increase public awareness about building livable communities in a climate of rapid change and growth, help the community imagine solutions, and increase citizen participation.

NEVADA

AIA Nevada

Blueprint for Nevada: Creating Livable Communities in 24/7 towns

AIA Nevada will initiate a statewide effort resulting in the creation and public presentation of "Blueprint for Nevada: Creating Livable Communities in 24/7 Towns." Presented to public officials in Las Vegas and Reno, the material will provide a guide for taking positive steps to enhance the livability and sustainability of each city.

AIA Las Vegas

Las Vegas: Creating a Livable Community in a 24/7 Town

AIA Las Vegas will launch several events, throughout 2006 and 2007, focused on increasing public awareness about and demand for a more livable community, uniting elected officials in making improvements to the city, and restoring the city's arts district. The program will include a 24-hour town hall meeting, AIA Nevada's Livable Community Awards, and a series of charrettes to determine a specific vision and plan for Las Vegas.

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AIA Northern Nevada

Reno - Creating a Livable Community in a 24/7 Town

AIA Northern Nevada will launch multiple events, throughout 2006 and 2007, focused on increasing public awareness about and demand for making Reno a more livable community, uniting elected officials in making improvements to the city, and restoring its downtown. The program will include a 24-hour town hall meeting, AIA Nevada's Livable Community Awards, the Governor's Candidates Forum, and a series of charrettes to determine a specific vision and plan for Reno.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

NEW JERSEY

NEW MEXICO

AIA Albuquerque

West Central Transit and Community Redevelopment Plan

AIA Albuquerque's West Transit and Community Redevelopment Plan will provide a methodology for the communities west of downtown to define future intermodal sustainable development. This plan will build on the city's "Central Avenue Streetscape--Urban Planning Master Plan" by educating and empowering all participants in the visioning and charrette processes to design a more livable community.

NEW YORK

AIA New York Chapter

New Housing New York, Legacy Project

AIA New York seeks to set the standard for affordable housing design and development in New York City and beyond. The AIA New York Chapter's New Housing New York (NHNY) Legacy competition project has been structured to promote an integrated design process among architects, private developers, government agencies, and community organizations. Organized in collaboration with the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD), the project will test new methods of procurement of a development team, emphasizing design excellence, innovation, and sustainable design.

AIA Eastern New York

South End Neighborhood Revitalization Master Plan for the City of Albany, New York

AIA Eastern New York will work with an urban planning consultant and Albany's South End Action Committee to develop a master plan for the city's South End neighborhood. This plan must address improving the neighborhood's quality of life, physical appearance, and economic conditions. A public visioning exercise will be part of the design process, and the plan will be delivered to the mayor on January 1, 2007.

AIA Rochester

Reshaping Rochester: The Midtown Plaza Community Design Charrette

AIA Rochester is working on a multievent educational initiative that includes a public lecture series, a community-based design charrette, and ongoing meetings with political leaders. The

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public lecture series began in January 2006. Planning is underway for the 2007 series and the community design charrette. (www.aiaroch.org/ReshapingRochester)

AIA Western New York

A New Form-Based Code for Buffalo: A Blueprint for Our Future!

AIA Western New York will work with the Buffalo, N.Y.'s city government to adopt a new approach to zoning ordinances, building on work already begun by the local AIA's Urban Design Committee. The goal is to develop an environment of development-friendly rules that support livable communities principles.

NORTH CAROLINA

AIA Asheville

Bridging the French Broad River: Creating Connected Livable communities, Weaving the Interstate System through Ashville

AIA Asheville's goal is to engage the area's citizens to be a part of the design process; to develop a multidisciplinary team to explore how to minimize sprawl by providing alternative development models; to maximize transportation options for the city's residents; and to create neighborhoods within a 10-minute walk of downtown that are sustainable in design and use.

NORTH DAKOTA

OHIO

AIA Ohio

Ohio's 2020 Vision: New Perspectives on Sustainable Design

Ohio architects will lead and collaboratively create a sustainable design initiative for the state's built environment.

AIA Dayton

Hands on Architecture

Through a call for entries sent to area neighborhoods and business districts, AIA Dayton will select an area that has experienced social decline and deterioration of its physical condition. Architects will work with residents and business owners to develop a cohesive physical plan for reinvigorating the selected area. Neighborhood residents will identify one of the projects, and AIA Dayton, with the help of its strategic partners, will see that the project is constructed through its completion.

AIA Cincinnati

Community Engagement and Charrette for Fort Washington Way Decking

AIA Cincinnati will focus on the most significant civic design issue currently facing the region, the development of the riverfront. The members will facilitate a public visioning process to design deck covers over three blocks of interstate highway, carry out a design charrette based on the public vision, and create an implementation plan for adoption of the plan by public authorities. This will reconnect the city's urban core with its riverfront.

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AIA Cleveland

Improving the Development Process in Northeast Ohio

AIA Cleveland will engage in a three-part program, each of which will require research, analysis, and action. First, working with regional civic groups, members will investigate and develop criteria by which community development processes can be benchmarked. Second, using the benchmarking criteria, they will identify the communities that have best supported and produced effective development. These communities will be recognized in a regional award. Third, they will hold a symposium for the communities in their region on improving the processes, based on the identified best practices, a survey, and the benchmarking criteria. Last, they will annually revisit the survey, measure improvement, and present awards to the five most improved communities.

AIA Columbus

AIA Columbus Multimodal Transit Station Design (MTSD) Initiative Focusing on Design--Past, Present, and Future

AIA Columbus will explore the past, present and future with central Ohio. Looking to the past, AIA Columbus will work with the Columbus Architecture Foundation to publish an AIA Guide to Columbus, highlighting the city's architecturally historic buildings and neighborhoods. Looking to the present, AIA Columbus' 30th annual design awards will focus on livable communities and sustainability. And, looking to the future, the AIA Columbus Livable Communities Committee will implement its seventh community design charrette, "MTSD Initiative," focusing on developing passenger facilities and bringing together multiple forms of transportation at various locations around the city.

OKLAHOMA

AIA Central Oklahoma

Phase II: Oklahoma City Bus Stop Extreme Makeover

AIA Central Oklahoma launched the Oklahoma City (OKC) Bus Stop Design Competition in the fall of 2005 in order to introduce a high level of design quality to the city's bus shelters. Phase II will include multiple competition design submissions. The redesigned shelters are expected to inspire regular use of the public transportation system, reducing vehicle traffic and promoting a healthier environment.

AIA Eastern Oklahoma

Crutchfield Neighborhood Revitalization

AIA Eastern Oklahoma is working with the Crutchfield neighborhood to translate the city's new master plan into Spanish. The component will hold a design charrette focused on the Peoria Avenue corridor, a unifying element for the neighborhood. Following the charrette, the component will sponsor a design competition for transit shelters in the neighborhood. Residents rely heavily on mass transportation, but the neighborhood has no transit shelters.

OREGON

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PENNSYLVANIA

AIA Middle Pennsylvania

Town & Gown Visioning: Encouraging & Sustaining Vibrant Public Spaces: South Allen Street & Pattee Mall, State College & University Park, Pa.

AIA Middle Pennsylvania will develop, with the communities of State College and University Park, a vision for future enhancement by recording the existing infrastructure and holding two charrettes. The first charrette will be a public event in downtown State College and the second will be at the School of Architecture and Landscape Architecture at Penn State. Following the charrettes, professional renderings of the proposed enhancements will be developed to aid the community's decision-making process.

AIA Philadelphia

Old Space - New Place

AIA Philadelphia will work with the city's arts-based organizations and individuals to connect them with off-the-radar properties for living and work space. The program will use the Internet to identify creative districts, provide guidelines for renovating properties, and serve as a connection between members of the city's growing creative community and neighborhoods where they can live and work.

PUERTO RICO

AIA Puerto Rico

Master Plan for the Renovation, Preservation, and Development of the Community of Aguirre, Salinas, Puerto Rico

In the latter half of the 19th century the town of Aguirre, on the southern coast of Puerto Rico, was founded as a sugar refinery. Following its purchase by American investors in 1899, Aguirre was developed as a "company town." In addition to the structures related to the harvesting and processing sugar cane were built housing complexes, a hotel, a theater, restaurants, shops, social clubs, churches, a school, a golf course, a railroad, and a harbor. Since the closing of the refinery in the 1980's the community has strived to preserve its identity and control development; in 2002 Aguirre was listed as a Historic District in the National Registry of Historic Places. AIA Puerto Rico, working with the municipal government, will sponsor the preparation of a master plan for the renovation, preservation, and sustainable development of Aguirre.

RHODE ISLAND

SOUTH CAROLINA

AIA South Carolina

Celebrating South Carolina Community Design

AIA South Carolina will explore the role of elected officials, citizens, AIA members, and other design professionals in shaping the past, present, and future of South Carolina through a series of presentations, visioning sessions, and publications. The program will be held in conjunction with the 2006-2007 South Carolina Mayors Institute for Community Design.

SOUTH DAKOTA

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TENNESSEE

AIA Tennessee

Memphis Regional Design Center (MRDC): Creating a Civic Forum for the Promotion of a Sustainable Livable Community

AMA Memphis seeks to establish a civic design center serving the needs of the metropolitan area. This center will function in five roles: as a forum, a clearinghouse, an advocate, an educator, and a resource.

AIA East Tennessee

Magnolia Avenue Corridor Study: A Revitalization Initiative for East Knoxville

AIA East Tennessee is beginning a study and implementation plan for Magnolia Avenue, the main east-bound corridor connecting downtown Knoxville with east Knoxville. The goal of the study is to provide a blueprint for the public and private sectors as they seek to invest in the revitalization of this corridor. The initiative will also include a site-specific improvement project, carried out by AIA East Tennessee members.

TEXAS

AIA Lower Rio Grande Valley

Penitas, Texas: Vision 2010

AIA Lower Rio Grande Valley is focusing on implementing a planning process for sustainable growth and development in the city of Penitas, Texas. The plan includes working with the community to incorporate its vision and transforming an existing park into a World Birding Center site.

UNITED KINGDOM

UTAH

VERMONT

AIA Vermont

The Vermont Tool Box - An initiative to strengthen traditional settlement patterns in Vermont

AIA Vermont will offer citizens the tools to assess community qualities, envision how development can support and extend those qualities, and, most important, realize the vision of Vermont's traditional development pattern of compact villages and urban centers surrounded by open countryside.

VIRGINIA

WASHINGTON

AIA Washington

Legislative Legacy for a More Livable and Sustainable Washington

AIA Washington Council (AIA/WA) will work with a broad group of stakeholders to develop a legislative agenda that can be implemented in 2007. Together the stakeholders will identify

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priorities, conduct opinion surveys of key public opinion leaders, craft a final agenda based on the results of focus groups and opinion surveys, do media outreach, and work with lawmakers to implement the plan.

AIA Seattle

AIA150 on the Water: Mobilizing Community Design Projects on Waterfronts throughout the Greater Puget Sound Region

AIA Seattle is partnering with community groups, design and building organizations, and K-12 youth to highlight architects' community endeavors and collaborations to create livable communities that focus on care of water resources as a guiding principle.

AIA Vancouver Washington

Vancouver USA Streetcar Feasibility Study

AIA Vancouver has invited the City of Vancouver to partner in drafting a shared vision to engage the community in improving the livability of Vancouver. The plan is to introduce a streetcar loop in the downtown in order to provide sustainable expansion in the future, connect all of the downtown amenities, provide an alternative transportation option, and encourage community partnerships.

WEST VIRGINIA

WISCONSIN

AIA Southeast Wisconsin

Reweaving the Neighborhood Fabric: How Modular Housing Can Build Affordable and Dignified Communities

AIA Southeast Wisconsin will bring well designed, affordable, sustainable, and accessible modular housing to three neighborhoods in Milwaukee, Racine, and Waukesha, where affordable housing is extremely scarce. The first three dwellings will be completed and turned over to their owners beginning in February 2007 and continuing through 2008. The entire project will be documented in a publication titled "Reweaving the Neighborhood Fabric."

WYOMING

AIA Wyoming

Livable Communities Summer Design Camps

AIA Wyoming will develop summer design camps; the "campers" will be 7th-12th grade students and the "counselors" will be a multi-disciplinary group of design professionals. In preparation for the camps, the design professionals will work with state-wide elected officials and educators to identify possible charrette topics. The goal is to inspire a new generation of informed professionals who can advocate for a strong commitment to good design and expanded state-wide educational opportunities.