Anne S. Cotter, AIA, LEED AP  
Candidate for the 2021 – 2022 AIA CA Vice President of Communications & Public Affairs

BIO
With 35 years of experience in urban planning, architectural design, and project management of a variety of large complex projects around the globe, I have a depth and breadth of knowledge that is based on effective communication with project teams. As a Principal at ZGF, I oversee all phases of project development, from initial client interactions, contract negotiations, and schematic design through on-site construction administration, to bring clients’ goals successfully to fruition. Integral to my work is advocating for sustainable design with my projects and with the architectural community. I hold a Bachelor of Architecture from Carnegie Mellon University.

PHILOSOPHY
Communication is key for success at the community, professional, and personal levels. It is through strong communication that trust, connections, and relationships that can be leveraged for stronger decision making and problem solving, are built—all of the key characteristics of a successful organization. Practicing architecture requires a comprehensive way of exploring the world from multiple perspectives, identifying the flaws in both urban systems and the built environment, and working as a team to improve them.

I am a candidate for the Vice President of Communications & Public Affairs because I believe in the importance of communicating how we as architects can have an influence on our environment to make it more sustainable, resilient, and equitable. As 2020 has unfolded, sharing highlights and ensuring clear, accurate information is available is increasingly important as we move forward. My goals include coordinating with the staff liaisons and the chairs of the committees to identify opportunities for enhanced collaboration, to reach out and learn from the public and the architectural spheres, and share what I learn to expand awareness and discussion for improving our communities.