



# 2023

**Year in Review**

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proactive  
**Advocacy**

3

Priority bills signed  
by the Governor



# proactive Advocacy

signed bills

## 1. AB 342 (Valencia)

AIA California's sponsored bill, AB 342 by Assemblymember Avelino Valencia, has been signed into law by Governor Gavin Newsom. This bill will allow the California Architect Board (Board) to ask licensees to provide demographic information to the Board for the purposes of aiding in our Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) efforts. The collection of this demographic information is essential to these EDI efforts, as it allows for research to be done to understand attrition and recruitment patterns impacting the profession. From there we can better develop strategies to address any patterns that create barriers to entry within the profession.



# proactive Advocacy

signed bills

## 2. AB 334 (Rubio)

As a result of several court decisions beginning in 2015, persons or businesses that contract with a public agency may be subject to the state's Conflict of Interest (COI) law, Government Code 1090 (GOV 1090), if they perform services that amount to transacting on the agency's behalf. Neither case law nor statute, prior to AB 334, had subsequently made clear what services and practices were permitted and which were not.

In October 2020, the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) provided guidance [see <https://www.fppc.ca.gov/learn/section-1090.html>] to agencies and their independent contractors regarding allowable practices that the FPPC would deem to comply with GOV 1090 and not constitute a COI on the part of either party to a contract. However, prior to AB 334, complying with the FPPC's guidance yielded no safe harbor protection for the agency nor independent contractor; this could only be achieved by requesting from the FPPC an advice/opinion letter specific to the individual project and/or contract in question [see <https://www.fppc.ca.gov/advice.html>].

AIA CA was a part of the support coalition that pushed for the passage of AB 342, which codifies the FPPC's guidance and grants safe harbor protections against criminal, civil, and administrative enforcement to those who abide by it.



# proactive **Advocacy**

signed bills

### 3. AB 529 (Gabriel and Haney)

AB 529 directs state agencies to modernize and update existing building standards for adaptive reuse construction and encourages local jurisdictions to promote infill development in order to be awarded a pro-housing designation by the state.



reactive  
**Advocacy**

**2632**

bills introduce

**57**

Bills AIA CA Board  
takes positions on



# reactive **Advocacy**

AIA California Board  
took positions on 57 bills

**36** signed

**20** not moving forward

**1** vetoed

// [find out more](#)



code  
**Advocacy**

3

game changers





# code **Advocacy**

created CALGreen Carbon  
Reduction Collaborative

CBSC and DSA established the CCRC as a stakeholder group to work together to provide input and feedback for future rulemaking related to carbon reduction regulations in CALGreen and support CA's Climate Action plan. AIA California was a major driver, contributor and advisor to the embodied carbon reduction measures that were eventually approved and adopted into CALGreen.



# code Advocacy

## CA Adopts Existing Building Code

During the week of June 26, the California Building Standards Commission voted to amend the California Building Code (CBC), ushering in a new era of opportunities for AIA California members and architects in the state. (Read AIA California's [press release here](#).)

The amendments expands CBC tools that support the adaptive reuse, renovation, or repair of existing buildings. The changes bring seven existing International Existing Building Code (IEBC) Chapters to California's Existing Building Code (CEBC) for the first time. The CEBC is one of a suite of different codes that make up the CBC.

[Find out More](#)



# code Advocacy

California Becomes First  
State To Adopt Mandatory  
Measures In Building Code  
To Reduce Embodied Carbon

Against the backdrop of this summer's devastating series of climate crisis events, the State of California adopted new codes which will reduce a major contributor to global warming.

At their Wednesday, August 2, 2023, meeting, the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC), voted unanimously for two building code changes to limit embodied carbon emissions in the construction, remodel, or adaptive reuse of commercial buildings larger than 100,000 sq feet and school projects over 50,000 sq ft. These changes go into effect on July 1, 2024, statewide.

[Find out More](#)



# initiatives **Advocacy**

# 2

- Legislator of the Year Program
- Restarted Legislative Day



# initiatives **Advocacy**

Inaugural Award  
presented to Scott Wiener

California state Senator Scott Wiener, D-San Francisco, is the American Institute of Architects California (AIA CA) inaugural Legislator of the Year.

“Scott Wiener is a positive change-maker when it comes to climate action and housing, issues that are priorities for members of our organization serving communities throughout California. He has and continues to advance smart, inventive, impactful legislation that improves quality of life and addresses these two global crises,” said 2023 AIA California President Scott Gaudineer, AIA.

[Find out More](#)



# initiatives **Advocacy**

## Legislative Day in the Districts

AIA CA is restarting our “Legislative Day” in the Districts this year. This is a great opportunity to connect architects with their legislators and allow them to engage in direct advocacy on issues of importance to the profession. Components (via CACE) were tasked with scheduling meetings and identifying attendees.

We also hosted a training on July 18th that included national AIA staff, AIA CA staff, and legislative staff. We had a great turnout! AIA CA provided all resources including: breakdown of legislative districts by chapter with priority legislators identified, sample meeting request document, issue briefs, fact sheets for bills, talking points for meetings, handouts for meetings, and sample thank you letters.

Meetings were to be scheduled while legislators were back in their districts for summer recess (July 24 – August 14). We have gotten good feedback from a few chapters who took the initiative to participate and found the meeting with both legislators and staff to be useful and productive. We will review ways to improve this grassroots tool for future years.



# Education

13540

Total # of Session Registrants

# Education

courses + participation

**38+** courses

**11,989** total attendance

**17783** total registration

**1683** new members  
viewing programs

**1015** new non-members  
viewing courses



# Education

# of free ZNCD courses

12

# Education

# courses on-demand

14

zncd

2

climate action

4

accessibility

9

mdc 2022 keynotes



# Culture

# 7

AIA CA President  
Component Visits

# Culture

AIA Golden Empire

AIA Pasadena & Foothill

AIA San Diego

AIA Santa Barbara

AIA San Mateo

AIA San Fernando Valley

AIA Silicon Valley

# Committee/ membership engagement

**33**

committees

**400**

volunteers

# ABC Series

architecture, belonging,  
connection

**8** programs

**293** attendees

topics: students;  
equity in design; women in  
architecture; countdown to  
2030; mentorship; housing;  
bridge the gap; workplace  
culture



emerging  
**Professionals**  
**+ Students**

**300**

Registrants for programs

**50,000**

In Scholarships



# ARE Study Hub

launched

AIA California has a pathway for emerging professionals to study and pursue licensure – The ARE/CSE California Study Hub. These statewide virtual study sessions serve as a hub for education, connection, and community. They do not replace other study materials or resources, rather they supplement them, serving as a network and allowing for collaboration between EPs and AIA professionals across California.



# ARE Study Hub

**7**

sessions

**1027**

total registrations

**462**

Total attendance

**7**

local components  
participating

California Architectural  
**FOUNDATION**  
**CAF Scholarships**

**\$50,000**

in scholarships

**19**

students + emerging  
professionals awarded



# Awards

5

programs

# Awards

49

recipients total

3

ca awards

3

aep awards

1

maybeck

16

residential awards

19

design awards

7

urban design awards

+ student category

&

awards celebration + job fair at **Cal Poly SLO**



# Awards

view the recipients

**click to view**

[// AEP Awards](#)

[// California Awards](#)

[// Design Awards](#)

[// Maybeck Award](#)

[// Residential Design Awards](#)

[// Urban Design Awards](#)



**events**

**and more**



# Say it Loud at A'23

AIA California Chapters were pleased to bring the internationally-recognized exhibition, SAY IT LOUD by Beyond the Built Environment, to the AIA Conference on Architecture in June of 2023. SAY IT LOUD - California elevated the contributions of BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and women designers and architects through the Conference Exhibition as well as regional exhibitions and events across the state in 2023 and beyond.

// [find out more](#)



# AEC Cares at A'23

## Co-Sponsored #ProjectSanFrancisco

Before the AIA's Conference on Architecture, construction industry professionals gathered for AEC Cares' Day of Service. The event provided a positive impact on the host city's community.



# Conferences

healthcare facilities forum

**3** locations

live in Los Angeles | simulcast  
in San Francisco | on desktops  
everywhere

**194** attendees in LA

**20** at SF simulcast

**28** virtually, at desks



**communications**

**1**

new website

# communications highlights

**15**

stories placed in  
publications

**144**

top performing  
instagram post

**1**

powerpoint of award  
recipients' student work

**24**

new website feature:  
committee + taskforce  
pages w/logos

**1:1**

new member interview  
approach



2024

back in....

