

## **Title: State Advocacy Strategy- Updated Jan 2019**

The primary function of the American Institute of Architects Missouri Component (AIA Missouri) is to advocate for legislation that impacts the practice of architecture in our state. We work with our full-time Legislative Consultant to track legislation that affects the architectural profession. At monthly chapter meetings, representatives from the statewide components review issues and strategize on our activities and provide feedback to the AIA MO board. In order to assist with public advocacy, AIA Missouri board members establish a relationship and rapport meeting with their personal legislators at the State Capitol and in their home districts. The purpose of our meetings is to educate them on issues important to Missouri architects and to stress the value of the architectural profession to our communities and our state. We volunteer to be available to offer expertise and serve as a resource when needed on bills that impact the profession of architecture.

Topics that we track include the following:

- Construction Procurement Procedures
- Quality Based Selection for Architectural Design Services
- Title and Practice Statutes
- Sustainable Design Legislation for Public Buildings
- Capital Improvement Legislation for Public Buildings
- Historic Tax Credits
- Building Codes

Our Board of Directors consists of 24+ members elected to serve from our four component chapters. We also invite the Component Executives of our chapters to attend as well. We rely on these directors to convey information to chapter board meetings and share chapter feedback throughout the year.

The AIA Missouri Board of Directors meets monthly in our state capital, Jefferson City, while the Legislators are in session (January thru May). At the conclusion of our board meetings, board members travel to the State Capitol building to meet with key legislators to discuss pending legislation. In addition to traveling to Jefferson City for our board meetings, board members also travel to Jefferson City to testify for bills of interest that are being heard in committee hearings

In March, we hold our Annual Meeting, inviting all Missouri AIA component members to attend. The meeting includes advocacy education, meetings with key legislators, a speaker or tour and networking. Additionally, we work with our local chapters to present a program on an annual basis to review the legislative activity during the past Legislative Session and our advocacy.

The Board holds monthly conference calls over the summer to review lessons learned and to strategize for the coming session. Additional conference calls are scheduled on an as-needed basis to attend to active issues throughout the year.

Our Board gathers in October for our annual planning retreat in the home component of our current President. In addition, we again hold a Membership Meeting event to give our members an opportunity to be advised of active legislative issues and to learn of activities at the state component.

In November the AIA Missouri board of directors again meets in Jefferson City to review pre-filed legislation and discuss strategy for the session beginning in January.

During the Legislative Session, our legislative consultant sends out weekly updates on the bills we are following. We are also given an overall review of other bills of general interest, election information, and special committee work. At the beginning and end of session, they send out a summary of events. These updates are shared with the local components.

Throughout the legislative session, board members may be called upon to testify to legislative committees on active legislation. Board members that are leading a particular effort, if possible, will drive to the capital to attend the hearing. If no board member is available, our legislative consultant will testify on our behalf. The amount of time that this happens varies with the amount of active bills we are tracking.

Our board primarily monitors and tracks legislation that affects the architectural profession but we also are provided with information on bills that affect business in general. Although we mostly respond to active legislation introduced by other groups, we do not shy away from creating legislation on a particular issue of importance, working with experts in various fields, leaders of allied organizations, key legislators as well as utilizing state Legislative Research. We have developed and foster strong relationship and partnered with allied organizations. This partnering effort is beneficial in many ways.

Through our Political Action Committee, Missouri Architects' Political Action Committee (MAPAC), contributions to legislators are targeted to key legislative leadership and supporters of issues important to Missouri Architects. Several times during the year when the Legislature is not in session, our MAPAC committee reviews potential contributions to state legislators. Board members are given an opportunity to personally deliver checks to their own legislators in their home districts or at fundraisers to further develop their constituent relationship.

In 2013, we worked with the state organizations of Fire Marshals, Code Officials and the Association of General Contractors to file a bill clarifying state statute regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> class counties and building codes, HCS SB 24. In the last week of the session, the bill was opposed by the farm lobby and was not voted on.

In 2014, with the bill HCS SCS SB 809, we successfully updated Chapter 327 of our state statute that regulates the practice of Architecture, Engineering, Landscape Architecture and Land Surveying. This represents many hours of work and meeting with our allied professions to have all participants agree to the updates and to guide the bill through the legislative process.

After years of opposing legislation allowing unlimited use of Design Build construction procurement for political subdivisions, in 2015, we created our own prescriptive legislation on Design Build and CM at Risk. We worked with Association of General Contractors, the Design Build Institute of America, the Missouri Society of Professional Engineers and AIA National to carefully craft legislation that would protect the interests of political subdivisions and the Quality Based Selection of design professionals. SCS HCS HB 844 came out of committee without opposition but did not reach a vote due to gridlock over other issues.

In 2016, we were successful in getting HB 2376 passed to provide alternative project delivery legislation to authorize political subdivisions to use CM at Risk and Design Build on public infrastructure. In

addition, SB 732 was passed which established the Missouri State Emergency Management Agency's disaster volunteer program for design professionals.

In 2018, we defeated efforts to change the registration board's funding formula and avoid efforts to sweep board funds into general revenue (2014 to 2018) Also in 2018, we maintained the APEPLSPLA licensing board's authority to determine reciprocity for design professionals.

In addition to our work with the State Legislature, we also closely watch proposed rules by state agencies that could have an effect on architects or their firms. We provide feedback to this process when appropriate.

Other past successes include:

- \* 2015 – passed capital improvement legislation (HB 19) for higher education and state building repair and renovation projects.

- \* 2014 – Passed bonding legislation (SB 722) to fund capital improvements for higher education and state building repair and renovation projects.

- \* 2014 – Passed revisions to Chapter 327 practice law for architects practicing architecture in the state of Missouri. Generally, many of the revisions made to Chapter 327 were made simply in the interest of housekeeping, deleting language that dealt with changes that had occurred in the past and were no longer needed. None of the changes were made with the intention of changing the current responsibilities or duties of a Missouri architect.

- \* 2007 – Civil Penalties Legislation Passed

- \* 2007 – Passage of omnibus Facilities Management Design and Construction bill which included a strengthening of QBS language.

- \* 2000 – Held Missouri State Prison Design Charrette

- \* 1997 – Architect Liens Right language passed.

- \* 1996 – Passage of a limited liability company provision in Chapter 327 as well as the signing of a two year moratorium with the engineers to refrain from attempting to change the law in regard to “incidental practice” issues.

- \* 1994 – Held Missouri State Fair Design Charrette

- \* 1990 – Protected Missouri-Kansas Reciprocal Agreement for architectural education.

- \* 1990 – Funded Environmental Education efforts by Ginny Graves in Kansas City which promoted a greater appreciation of architects and architecture by the public.

- \* 1983 – Mini-Brooks Bill (QBS) put into law – HB 322

We work closely with the Missouri State Licensing Board and invite members of the architectural division to participate and report at our membership meetings or board meetings to keep lines of communication open. By Missouri State Statute, AIA Missouri is required to submit a list of potential candidates for consideration by the Governor to be appointed to this Licensing Board.

We work with the State Emergency Management Agency – specifically to appoint two architects to serve on the governing board of the Structural Assessment and Visual Evaluation (SAVE) Coalition.

Our current President, President-Elect and Immediate Past President serve on the Professional Design Alliance Committee. Representatives of ACEC/MO, Missouri Society of Professional Engineers, Missouri Society of Professional Surveyors, AIA Missouri and the State Registration Board meet four times a year to discuss issues of mutual concern.

We appoint 3-5 members to serve on a Missouri Facilities Management Design & Construction ACEC/MO, AIA MO Liaison Committee. This group meets several times a year to discuss the state's a/e procurement system used by the State of Missouri for government work. We are given an opportunity to give input as well as to solve issues of concern encountered by state staff.

We ask two members to serve as our representatives on the State Government Network sponsored by AIA National. These individuals provide a summary of activities of this Network at each AIA Missouri board meeting and attend SGN conferences.

We have an active Qualifications Based Selection Committee that is charged with receiving information on RFP's for public projects from around the state that are illegally using fee information in their selection process. This is a "self-policed" effort, one in which we rely on other members to report to our attention. Our committee then activates the services of our attorney of record to issue a formal letter of complaint and request that the RFP be resubmitted without the fee provision. We have been extremely successful in these efforts. We were successful in filing and passing the QBS provision in the State Statute and work diligently to protect this provision.

AIA Missouri annually prints a calendar that includes photos and details about award winning buildings in our state. This Missouri Architecture calendar is contained within a jewel case calendar box that can be adjusted to be a stand-up display. We provide these calendars to all legislators and state elected officials along with a letter from AIA Missouri. This project gives AIA Missouri good visibility during the early days of the legislative session and is much appreciated by the legislators.