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AIA Las Vegas

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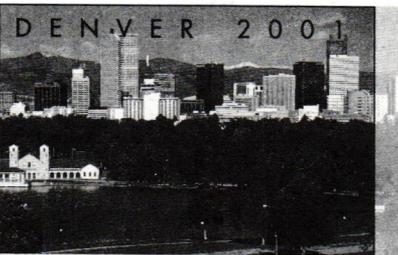
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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS 2001 NATIONAL CONVENTION AND EXPO

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
2001 NATIONAL CONVENTION AND EXPO



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AIA LAS VEGAS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

DAVID FROMMER, AIA
PRESIDENT, AIA LAS VEGAS



This past month, the AIA Las Vegas, AIA Northern Nevada and AIA Nevada contingent met with several State Senators and State Assembly Representatives to discuss legislative issues pertinent to the AIA membership in Nevada. We had the pleasure of conducting meetings with Senator Raymond Rawson, Senator Mike Schneider, Assemblywoman Kathleen Von Tobel, Assemblyman Mark Manendo, Assemblyman John Carpenter, Assemblyman Joe Dini, Assemblywoman Dawn Gibbons, Assemblyman David Parks, Assemblywoman Sheila Leslie and Assemblyman David Brown.

The primary issues discussed included issues of document ownership, lien rights, design-build delivery systems, construction defect litigation and tort reform. All Senators and Assembly Representatives showed interest in these issues and stated they may call upon the AIA membership for further information.

An issue of particular interest was document ownership (AB72). This bill proposes that when Architects perform work for the State of Nevada, the state would retain the ownership of the documents for future use. The AIA has great concerns regarding this issue, particularly due to copyright concerns, the ownership of intellectual property and liability associated with the unauthorized yet mandatory reuse of documents. Our engineering and associated design consultants also have great concerns regarding this assembly bill.

Our understanding is that this bill does not have widespread support in State government. However, this issue will not disappear if this bill is defeated. Architects, engineers and other design consultants may be asked to allow the use of design documents for several projects within state contracts for design.

The AIA Las Vegas currently holds the position that the use of documents and proprietary design information and concepts for multiple projects should be negotiated on a contract by contract basis with the State of Nevada Public Works Board. We oppose the inclusion of any 'boilerplate' language in state contracts that makes the reuse of documents and proprietary design information and concepts standard for any work executed for the State of Nevada. The AIA Las Vegas has established the position that the potential multiple use of designs should be clearly stated in contracts on a case-by-case basis. The scope of work for the use of designs in future projects should be stated as clearly as possible, and appropriate compensation negotiated to ensure the Architect and his engineering and design consultants are compensated appropriately for their work.

I invite you to contact the Las Vegas or Nevada AIA chapters if you would like to voice concerns regarding this and other legislative issue. You are also encouraged to contact your representatives in State government directly to express your concerns. It is in the interests of the membership to develop a firm and consistent position on this and other issues. It is also of great concern to the membership that Architects act in the best interests of the public's health, safety and welfare by ensuring the highest quality designs are executed, with a responsible and equitable relationship in place between the State of Nevada and design professionals.

NEW AIA MEMBERS:

We are very pleased to welcome these new members to the AIA Las Vegas Chapter.

Architect:

Roger Burton, AIA
Roger M. Burton, AIA
Enrique Gomez Da Silva, AIA
HCA Architects, Inc.
Yihong Liu, AIA
Swisher & Hall, AIA, Ltd.
Rene' Salalac, AIA
Rissman & Rissman, Inc.
Majid Sooudi, AIA
UNLV Planning & Construction
Huiting Sun, AIA
Carter Burgess, Inc.

Associates:

Amy Rifakes, Assoc. AIA
S R Construction

Allied:

Barbara Kaplan
Muraspec, N.A.
Patrick Murray
Creteseal
Mark Williams
Stantec Consulting

CONGRATULATIONS TO RAY & CATHERINE LUCCHESI

St. Patrick's Day brought a special "wee" gift for the Lucchesi' -- a beautiful, 7 pound, 12 ounce boy whom they named CAI ALANO LUCCHESI. Congratulations and best wishes!

The AIA Las Vegas Forum is edited and produced monthly by Randy Lavigne, Executive Director, AIA Nevada / AIA Las Vegas. Responses to content are welcomed. Editorial and advertising materials are due to the AIA office by the 10th of each month, preceding publication.

AIA NEVADA PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

ED VANCE, AIA
PRESIDENT, AIA NEVADA



The Economy

The recent activities in our domestic economy and the volatility of our stock markets have certainly been the topic of conversation for all of us lately. I have recently attended no less than three seminars hosted by NAIOP, NDA and CB Richard Ellis all addressing this topic and its affects on the construction market.

And I am happy to report that although deals are taking a little longer to complete and lenders are taking a little harder look at financials, the developer and real estate communities continue to be bullish about our future.

Housing starts are still solid, the number of retail permits are way up and the number of inquires of businesses interested in relocating to Nevada already exceeds last years numbers (as reported by NDA).

Yet I've been hearing from those in other states that since we haven't built any more mega-resorts recently that the engine that drives our economy must be sputtering. But if we look closer, American Nevada Corporation, along with Stations Casinos, are building a \$300 Million dollar resort in Green Valley and the Maloof Companies are building a \$260 Million dollar resort on Flamingo across from the Gold Coast. That's over a half a billion dollars of construction this year alone. That's equal to a three-year plan for any other major metropolitan area. Yet, we appear to have come to a screeching halt.

What drives an economy is people spending money, and with the 80 million baby-boomers coming into their prime spending period (ages 29-40), we should have another 10 years of growing economy. The lending climate is vary favorable and if Bush can get his tax cut through Congress it will only sweeten the pot.

Be patient and stay focused in your markets.

Publications:

The Directory: My god, it's beautiful. Take a minute to call or e-mail Randy Lavigne and thank her. She did it all. It was a true labor of love...I hope. Well it was a labor anyway. But seriously, not only will it serve our chapters members and generate revenue, but the directory, along with the release of our Architecture Las Vegas magazine, will send a clear message to all that we are coming of age. God it's good to be in Nevada.

And speaking of the Architecture Las Vegas magazine, I just got word that the publisher has agreed to publish the magazine twice a year. There is that much demand and interest for it. Start writing your articles now. I personally would like to utilize this platform to begin to tell the story of our professional history in this state. We have so much to tell and we need to start now. Write and let me know your thoughts.

Until next time.



2001 CONVENTION OFFERS TOURS FOR EVERY TASTE

Talk about multi-tasking. At the upcoming 2001 AIA National Convention and Expo in Denver you can earn continuing education credits while touring the U.S. Olympic Complex, exploring the redevelopment of an urban brownfield, and visiting the Red Rocks Amphitheater

The convention takes place from May 17 to May 19. It offers educational seminars, workshops, an exhibit hall of innovative building products, theme presentations, a variety of professional tours, and several just-for-fun guest tours.

In keeping with the convention's theme, "Leaders and Partners in Creating Community," Denver's eclectic architecture and recent revitalization efforts will give attendees a first-hand look at sensitive community development in action. Here's a sampling of the convention's professional tours, which offer 1.5 to 6 continuing education credits.

High Up in LoDo

Dubbed LoDo, Denver's Lower Downtown area was once the city's central business hub. It's now a bustling, mixed-use community boasting nightclubs, restaurants, art galleries, stores, and prestigious living units. You'll see a variety of architectural styles, ranging from Beaux Arts to Art Deco.

Stars and Stripes

This tour features several prominent Colorado landmarks: The Air Force Academy, which is set in the foothills of the Rockies, and the U.S. Olympic Complex, home of the U.S. Olympic Committee, the U.S. Olympic Training Center, and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame, which is located in Colorado Springs.

Wall Street of the Rockies

Beneath Denver's picturesque skyline is the city's central business district, which evolved during the 19th and 20 centuries. Thus, Denver's "Wall Street" reflects a range of Neoclassical to Postmodern architectural styles.

Stapleton Redevelopment

The former Stapleton International Airport site is being transformed from an urban brownfield into the nation's largest infill redevelopment project. The developer will brief tour attendees on the project's history, and then will describe plans for building retail, offices, schools, churches, housing, and a park system. Participants will view some of the construction currently underway.

Red Rocks Amphitheater Renovation

Come and visit the world-renowned, historic Red Rocks! The Red Rocks Amphitheater—a premier concert facility that has hosted the most famous musicians—is undergoing a \$22-million renovation project to preserve and improve it. The amphitheater is known for its spectacular red-colored rocks and near-perfect acoustics.



AIA GROWTH COMMITTEE

Michael Crowe, AIA

Over the past two months your Growth Committee has been concerned with legislative issues which will affect our professional practices. These include Tort Reform, Design Build, Document Ownership, and many other issues. Both our AIA Las Vegas and AIA Nevada chapters have addressed these in detail.

This month Carol Richardson will likely complete her draft of the "AIA Transportation Policy". We are reasonably sure that, following discussion it will be approved by the committee and forwarded to the AIA Las Vegas Board for adoption.

Gary Congdon, AIA presented generation three of his draft of the "AIA Sustainable Economic Health/Growth". Our newest member, David Frommer, AIA has joined forces with Gary to complete this very difficult task.

At our April Meeting we are scheduled to continue discussion on Gary and Carol's draft documents. Additionally, Michael L. Crowe, AIA and Dick Danielson, AIA will discuss whether a Unified Valley Development Plan is required or not. I am sure that the debate will be both informative and active as our members have many points of view regarding this issue.

We are a very active committee working on serious issues for Architects in the Las Vegas Valley. We invite any AIA member to join the group, as there is much work to accomplish. Please contact Randy Lavigne if you are interested in helping us.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Fred Hillerby, AIA Lobbyist

The floodgate of bill introductions was opened on Monday, March 19. As you recall, that was the last date that individual legislators could introduce bills. By weeks' end, there are well over 1,000 bills and resolutions that have been introduced. March 26th is the deadline for committee introductions of bills. Based on the bill drafts that have been requested, there is a potential for as many as 400 additional bill introductions. The good news is that by the end of next week we will know the vast majority of legislative proposals to be considered this session.

Last Tuesday, March 20th, the Nevada State Education Association conducted a press conference and released the details of their new business tax proposal. Although there is no proposed legislation, they did outline the elements of their proposal. The business profit tax would still be applied to any business income in excess of \$50,000 a year. They have increased the amount of the tax from 4% to 5%. 4% would still be earmarked for education with the additional 1% to go to the general fund. They do have a provision that the additional 1% of the tax could be reduced if other types of business taxes are approved by the Nevada Legislature. Those "other taxes" would have to be in effect for at least a year before the 1% portion of the business tax could be reduced. The proposal also contains provisions that would create an oversight commission of 15 members. 9 would be representatives of businesses who are taxed and 6 would be representatives of education. The commission would oversee the expenditure of the funds for education. As I have said before, the Supreme Court's decision overturning the initiative petition has not ended the discussion of a business tax.

REID MOVES "BROWNFIELDS" TO SENATE FLOOR

In his capacity as the Ranking Democrat on the Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator Harry Reid advanced bipartisan brownfields legislation through the full committee and to the Senate floor (in March). "The Brownfields legislation is the result of much compromise and represents a delicate balance of important interests", said Reid.

S350, the Brownfields Revitalization and Environmental Restoration Act of 2001, provides critically needed funds to communities to help clean up and redevelop polluted and abandoned industrial sites. The bill also encourages clean up of these sites by providing legal protections for innocent parties who have purchased brownfields or who won property contiguous to brownfields.

High Speed Rail Investment Act - Reid also joined 50 other Senators in introducing S.250, the High Speed Rail Investment Act of 2001. This legislation, sponsored by Senators Kay Bailey Hutchinson and Joseph Biden, will help leverage public and private funding of Rail Passenger Development in key corridors around the United States.

NOMINATIONS FOR ELECTION TO THE BOARD

Are you one of our future leaders? Do you know someone who is....or would like to be? Start thinking about it. Service on the AIA Board of Directors is very important in helping to build the Chapter, the community and the profession. We need interested, committed members with a vision for Las Vegas and the future. If you'd like to be a part of the Chapter's leadership and contribute your ideas and energy in making a better place, let us know. Nominations for election to the Board will begin in May...with the election in July and August. Service on the 2002 Board begins with induction at the December meeting.

TOURS FOR EVERY TASTE

Continued from page 3

Great Guest Tours

Take in some of the convention's guest tours, too. Visit the famous Stanley Hotel in Estes Park (don't worry—Jack Nicholson's no longer wandering its hallways with a knife) and nearby Rocky Mountain National Park; tour the famous Charles Deaton's "Sculptured House" featured in the Woody Allen film "Sleeper"; visit downtown areas that once earned Denver a reputation as the "West's most sinful city;" go to the Black America West museum; take a 3.4-mile forest hike; and enjoy a thrilling whitewater rafting trip on the Arkansas River.

Tour space is limited, so advance registration is recommended for all tours. Visit the convention's Web site at www.aiaconvention2001.com for complete, up-to-the-minute convention information and to register online, or contact the call AIA Convention Hotline at 202-626-7395.

NAIOP AWARDS PRESENTED

Southern Nevada's best commercial projects were recognized at the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties Spotlight Awards in March.

An out-of-state panel of five judges representing development, design and construction firms determined the winners in various categories - Small projects (under 20,000 sq. ft.); Medium-scale projects (20,000 to 75,000 sq. ft.); Large-scale projects (more than 75,000 sq. ft.); Public works projects; Interiors; and Landscape Design.

The following Honor Award winners were announced:

Best Building In The Market:

KGA Architecture

Alexander Dawson School at Rainbow Mountain

Small-scale / Build-to Suit:

Affordable Concepts, Inc.

Community Bank in Green Valley

Medium-scale / Build-to-Suit:

The LandWell Company

The LandWell Building

Medium-scale / Office:

American Nevada Corporation

Plaza 9 at Green Valley Corporate Center

Large-scale /Build-to-suit:

KGA Architecture

Alexander Dawson School at Rainbow Mountain

Large-scale/ Office:

Thomas & Mack Development Group

Harrah's Entertainment Headquarters

Large-scale Projects:

Light Industrial / Flex Jackson Shaw Co.

Northport Business Center

Public Works:

Swisher & Hall, AIA, Ltd.

Henderson Police Substation

Interiors:

JMA Architecture Studios

Sitel Corporation

Landscape:

The LandWell Company

Lake Mead Beautification /Black Mountain Industrial Center



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Patrick (Pat) Deputy, CSI, CDT
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NAIOP Spotlight Awards 2001

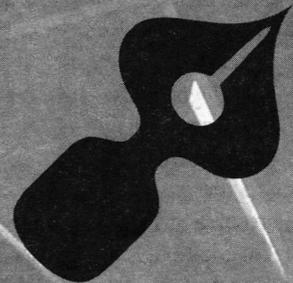
- 19 Merits

- 8 Honors

- Best of Show

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