



FLORIDA CHAPTER ASLA TRUSTEE REPORT

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YOUR ASLA MEMBERSHIP

Welcome to the 20th piece of my Trustee report series where I share a few notes and items from our national organization over the last month or so. Remind people who may have lapsed in their membership to rejoin and that *payment options* are available. Please feel free to contact me at Trustee@FLASLA.org if you have any questions or concerns about ASLA issues.

Call for Papers for the FLASLA Conference is now out as is ASLA's Call for Presentations listed below. Consider preparing a course for one or the other. It is an awarding experience.

Governance and Administration

The Call for Presentations for the 2016 ASLA Annual Meeting and EXPO is currently open. An email was sent to all current, former, and prospective members as well as allied organizations and professionals. The call is also being promoted in [Planetizen](#). That site also listed the ASLA annual meeting as one of "[Ten Key 2016 Conferences for Urban Design Professionals](#)." The deadline [to submit a proposal](#) for consideration is January 28.

President Chad Danos, FASLA, participated in the American Society of Civil Engineers' (ASCE) Sustainability Summit this past week in Virginia. By invitation only, the focus of the summit was to develop a roadmap for the civil engineering profession to transform how infrastructure is conceived, designed, and delivered to enable a sustainable future.

Senior staff met with the Gensler and Akridge team on December 18 to interview and review the bids of three general contractors (HITT Contracting, SIGAL, and Coakley & Williams) for the ASLA Center for Landscape Architecture. Each of the three contractors will make bid revisions based on clarifications and Akridge will follow up with each to obtain a best-and-final guaranteed maximum price. The ASLA/Gensler/Akridge team will meet the second week in January to review final bids.

The move out of ASLA Headquarters is complete and it's back to business in the temporary space. **Need to contact us?** Staff phones and emails are unchanged. Mail should continue to be sent to 636 Eye St. NW, Washington, DC 20001 (with the exception of overnight mail). **Want to come visit** us in our temporary quarters? We're at 601 13th St., NW. The redesign of the ASLA Center for Landscape Architects is scheduled to take a minimum of six months. Check the ASLA website and future *Leaders E-Expresses* for updates.

Government Affairs

ASLA has joined with other transportation and community planning organizations in **sending a letter to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** urging them to use their discretionary funding to continue the [Healthy Community Design Initiative](#), which coordinates efforts between the design and planning of communities and addressing health issues. Unfortunately, in the year-end appropriations bill, Congress eliminated the \$3 million line-item for this program.

On December 18, **ASLA participated in the 2015 Tree Summit** that brought together stakeholders from private, public, and nonprofit sectors to discuss best practices for planting trees on private, federal, and District-owned properties, and to improve coordination and collaboration in those efforts. The event included remarks from District of Columbia Mayor Muriel Bower and Regional Director of the National Capital Region Robert Vogel, as well as workshops to discuss potential obstacles to success. **ASLA is also an original member of Canopy 3,000**, a short-term public-private partnership that has a goal of planting 3,000 trees on private property and public spaces throughout the District in 2016.

This fall, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) issued a proposed rule that would dramatically ease

federal design standards for many neighborhood streets and roads, thereby making it easier for communities to design Complete Streets. During the comment period, which closed December 7, ASLA applauded **FHWA's efforts in removing barriers that may prevent transportation planners and designers, like landscape architects**, cities and communities of all sizes from designing and building transportation networks that are safe and accessible for all users. Learn more about [FHWA's proposed revisions to the design of transportation projects](#) and read ASLA's comments [here](#).

Resource Development



Pledges to the campaign for the Center for Landscape Architecture now total \$960,027 or 64 percent of the goal of \$1.5 million. Contributions to the newly launched Annual Fund total \$11,452 to date.