



January 13, 2009

President-elect Barack Obama  
Office of the Presidential Transition  
451 6<sup>th</sup> Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006

Dear President-elect Obama:

On behalf of the more than 18,000 members of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA), congratulations on your historic victory to become our nation's 44<sup>th</sup> president. Your message of change inspired many Americans to become more engaged in the democratic process and, now, the rebuilding our great nation.

ASLA, founded in 1899, is the professional society of landscape architects whose mission is to lead, educate, and participate in the careful stewardship, wise planning, and artful design of our natural environments. Landscape architects receive broad training in site planning and design and in technical and scientific areas such as grading, drainage, horticulture, and environmental sciences. Because of this broad training, landscape architects lead the way in combating the causes of climate change through design, managing water resources, reversing environmental damage, creating sustainable environments, and designing more multi-modal transportation corridors.

As you and your administration begin to work with the U.S. Congress on an economic stimulus package to spur our nation's economy, ASLA urges you to support policies, programs, and projects that address our nation's crumbling infrastructure by creating more healthy communities. Any economic stimulus package that provides infrastructure investments should wisely use our skills and resources to modernize these systems to make them more sustainable and viable for many years to come.

To that end, ASLA is suggesting a list of funding recommendations for inclusion in the upcoming stimulus package. These recommendations will not only help to spur the economy by immediately creating much-needed jobs, but they will also provide lasting sustainable benefits for our nation. ASLA looks forward to working with you and your administration on implementing these recommendations to create a nation of safe, healthy, livable communities. Please do not hesitate to call on our Society and its more than 18,000 members to assist with these and other efforts.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Angela Dye".

Angela Dye, FASLA  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy C. Somerville".

Nancy C. Somerville  
Executive Vice President/CEO

AMERICAN  
SOCIETY OF  
LANDSCAPE  
ARCHITECTS  
636 EYE STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC  
20001-3736

[www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org)  
1.888.999.ASLA  
T 202.898.2444  
F 202.898.1185