



LMDC
Remember Rebuild Renew

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The Executive Committee and Board of Trustees
The American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with pleasure that I write in support of Peter Walker's nomination to receive the American Society of Landscape Architects Medal.

While Peter's long, pioneering and prominent career alone make him a compelling candidate, it is his recent contribution to Lower Manhattan that I believe truly distinguishes him. On January 26, 2004, "Reflecting Absence" was announced as the winning design of the World Trade Center Site Memorial Competition. A distinguished 13 member jury selected the design out of 5,201 entries from 63 nations. Prior to final selection, the jury instructed the finalists to further revise their designs – fortunately for Michael Arad, the original visionary of "Reflecting Absence" and one of the eight finalists, he solicited Peter Walker's assistance! Peter's contributions and revisions to Michael's design proved instrumental to its selection.

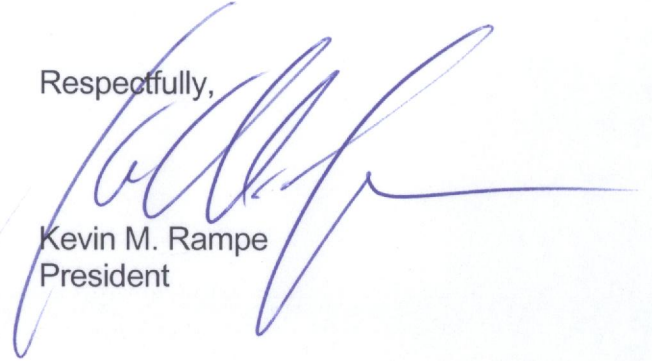
Through his involvement, Peter has made a significant contribution to what will become the most important open space in Lower Manhattan and the most visited memorial in the United States. The landscape elements of "Reflecting Absence", designed by Peter, will provide a place for family members of those lost in the attacks to remember, a space for Lower Manhattan residents and workers to gather, and a destination for the projected 5 million annual visitors to reflect on the events of September 11th.

While my involvement with Peter has been limited to his resounding success at the World Trade Center Site, Peter has been practicing, teaching, and otherwise influencing the field of landscape architecture for more than forty years. Co-founding an award winning firm, Sasaki, Walker, and Associates, winning numerous honors and awards, and co-authoring a book, "Invisible Gardens: The Search for Modernism in the American Landscape", are only some of Peter's impressive achievements. Perhaps more importantly though, through his teaching role at institutions such as the University of California, Berkeley, Harvard University Graduate School of Design, and MIT, Peter has advanced the field of landscape architecture while inspiring the interest of new generations. I firmly believe that his contributions at the World Trade Center Site will be his greatest tool of inspiration yet.

Clearly, Peter's work will have a significant impact on the public's perception of landscape architecture, as well as inform them of its evolution. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with Peter and I hope he will be afforded the recognition by his peers that he so deserves.

Respectfully,

Kevin M. Rampe
President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin M. Rampe', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.