



American Society of
Landscape Architects

ASLA Government Affairs

Lifting the Voices of Landscape Architects

July 2026

ASLA Government Affairs Team



Photo: Gensler



ASLA Virtual Advocacy Day

July 22, 2026

*Landscape Architects in
Action*



American Society of
Landscape Architects

ASLA Government Affairs Team

*Om Khurjekar, ASLA
Vice President, Government Affairs*

*Roxanne Blackwell, Esq., Hon. ALSA
Managing Director, Government Affairs*

*Bradley Rawls
Director, State Government Affairs*

*Mark Cason
Senior Manager, Federal Government Affairs*

*Cole Calloway
Manager, State Government Affairs*

*Jeremy Margolies
Coordinator, Government Affairs*

Advocacy Day Goals



Educate legislators about the profession and the work you are doing in the district/state.



Advocate for issues important to the profession.



Establish relationships with policy makers



Replicate In-District/State Advocacy Days



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What Is a Virtual Advocacy Day?



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What Congressional Offices Are Saying

“ Virtual Meetings
are just as effective
as in-person
meetings ”

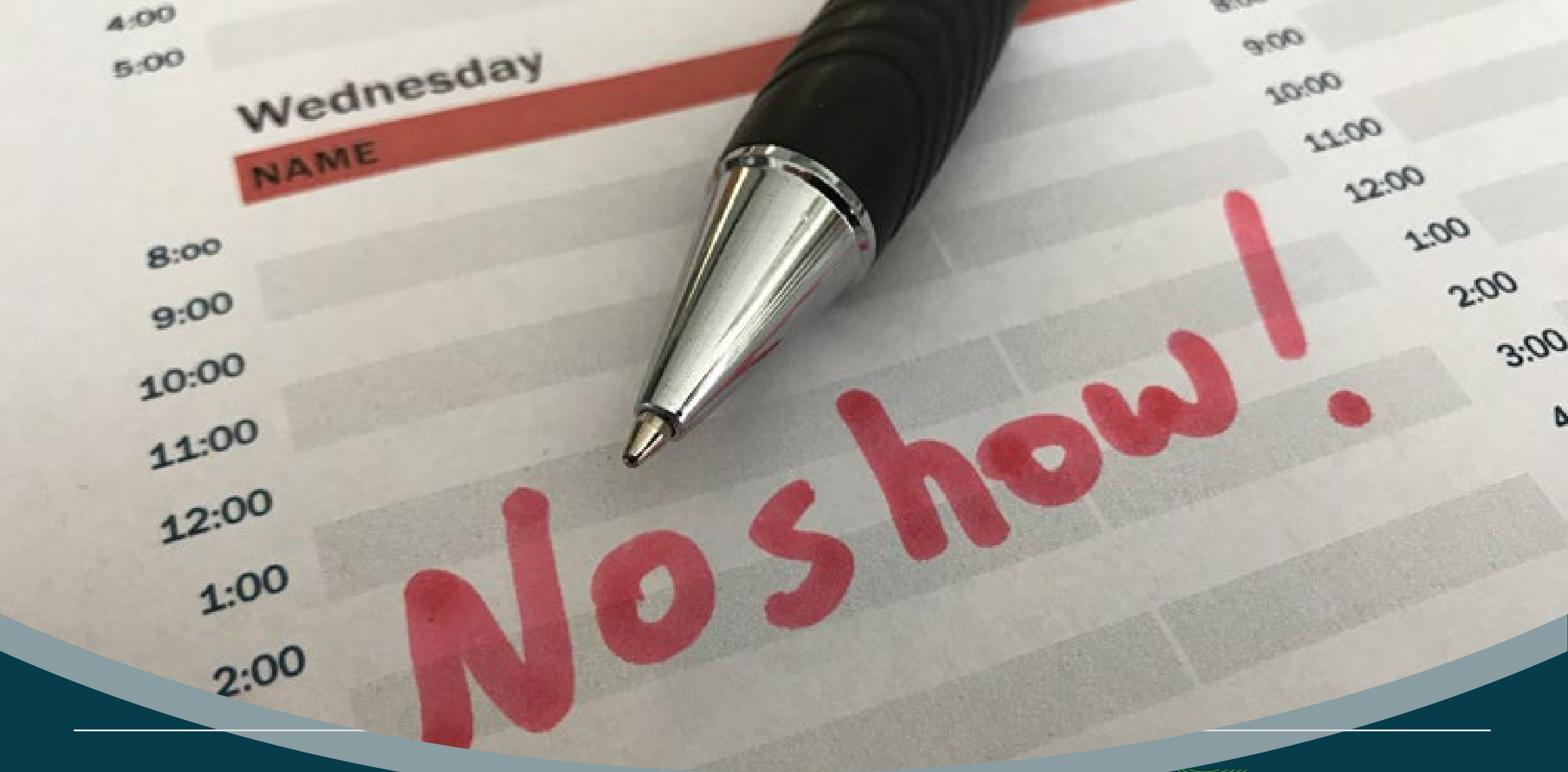
“ Virtual meetings
have the same
influence as
in-person meetings ”

“ Virtual meetings
allow more
constituents to
participate in
the process ”

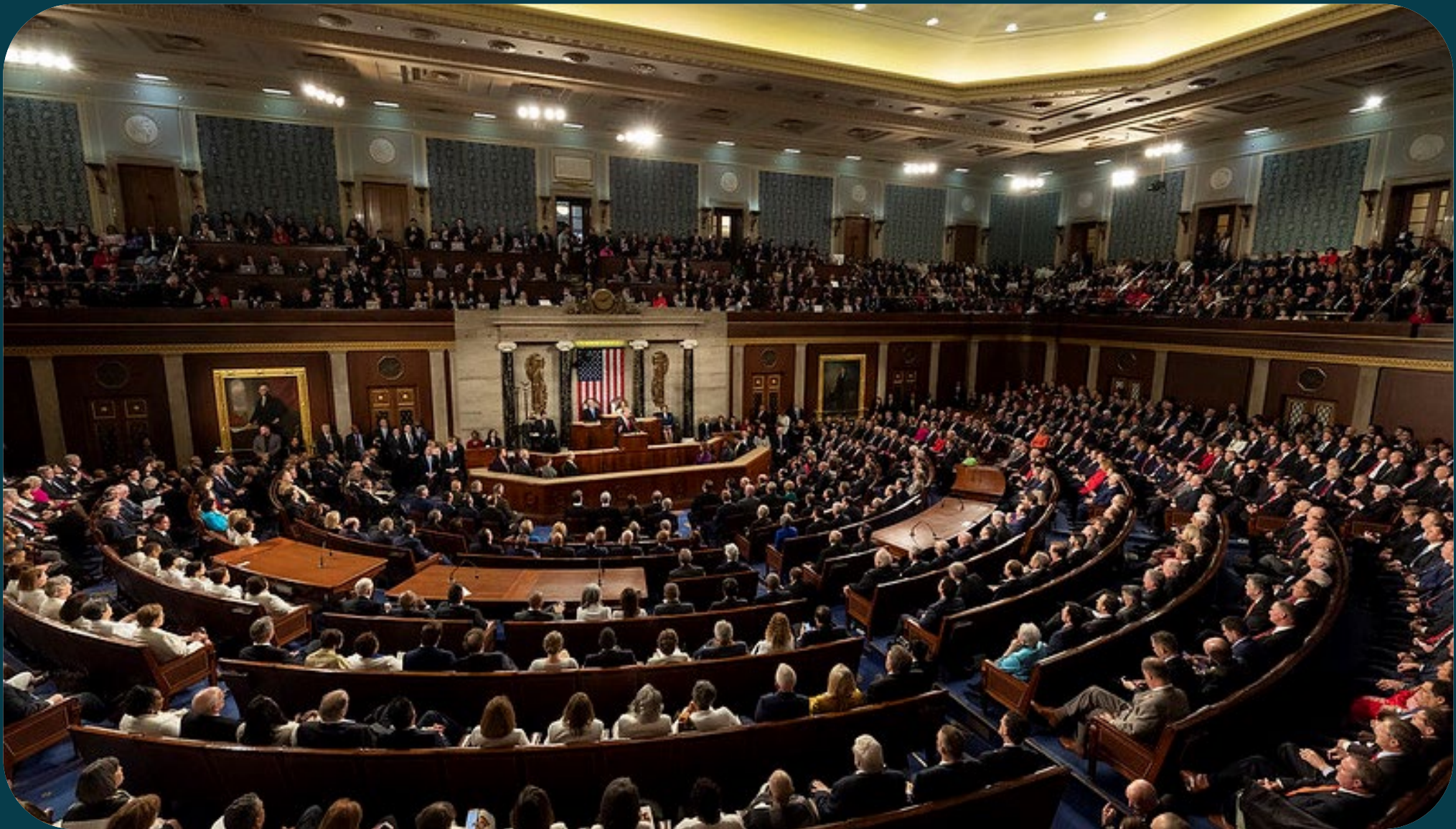
“ Virtual meetings
lead to more
constituent interaction
with congressional
offices, town halls,
follow up, etc. ”

“ Virtual meetings
allow for stronger,
more compelling
presentation ”

“ Virtual meetings
are here to stay! ”



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Senate Offices



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LEARNING ABOUT YOUR LEGISLATORS

One of the first and most important steps to becoming an effective advocate is to research and learn about the legislators you are trying to influence. Uncovering background information, legislative activities, and personal details about decision makers could be key to achieving your policy goals.

Background Information: Use [ASLA's iAdvocate Network](#) to identify your **federal** legislators.

Enter your address and zip code to access the full list of your federal and state legislators. Click on the federal legislator's name to find basic personal, political, staff, and contact information.

- Legislator's Name
- Office
- What other elected positions have the legislator held in the past?
- Research personal information — education, professional organizations, hobbies, etc.
- What are the legislators' committee assignments? Is your legislator on Senate Environment and Public Works? Or House Transportation and Infrastructure?
- Use [this website](#) to learn if your legislator is leaving Congress after this year.

Priority Issues: Visit your legislator's website to learn about their priority legislative issues, activities in the congressional district or state, news and press releases, and more. For House of Representatives use last name + House.gov, i.e. Titus.House.gov. For Senate use last name + Senate.gov, i.e. Fischer.Senate.gov.

- What are the top 3 policy issues for this legislator?
- What is the legislator's position/stance on ASLA's key priorities:
 - Active Transportation
 - Climate Resiliency and Biodiversity
 - Parks and Recreation
 - Water and Stormwater Management

Legislative Information: Use [Congress.gov](#) to locate legislation and other activities relevant to your legislators.

- What bills did your legislator introduce? Cosponsor?
- Is your legislator a cosponsor of the [Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act](#) (S.4258, H.R. 8303)?
- Is your legislator a cosponsor of the [Complete Streets Act of 2025](#) (H.R. 3712, S.1953)?

The District or State

- What cities and towns are included in the legislators' district/state? This information may help you identify landscape architecture projects in the legislator's district/state?
- What are the legislators' key constituent activities in the congressional district — ribbon cuttings, parades, infrastructure project visits, Town Halls?

Your Personal Connections: While researching your legislation and policy makers, you may discover that you have a personal connection to your legislators — you attended the same college, you both are cyclists or hikers, or you connect on social media and other outlets. These personal connections can be conversation icebreakers, or a tool to help the legislator understand landscape architecture.

- Do you have a personal connection with the legislator? School, church, community organizations, other?
- Do you receive newsletters or other official correspondence from the legislator?
- Do you participate in the legislator's town hall meetings?
- Do you have mutual social media connections, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, Instagram?





- Resulted in greater efforts to promoting and implementing green infrastructure
 - Introduction and passage of the Water Infrastructure Flexibility Act
 - Introduction of the Living Shorelines Act Legislation in Senate
 - Introduction and passage of provisions of the Clean Water Through Green Infrastructure Act
 - Introduction of the Excess Urban Heat Mitigation Act in Senate

Successes of Prior ASLA Advocacy Days



Transportation Alternatives Program

Revitalizing America's Schoolyards

Learning the Issues



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Transportation Alternatives Program

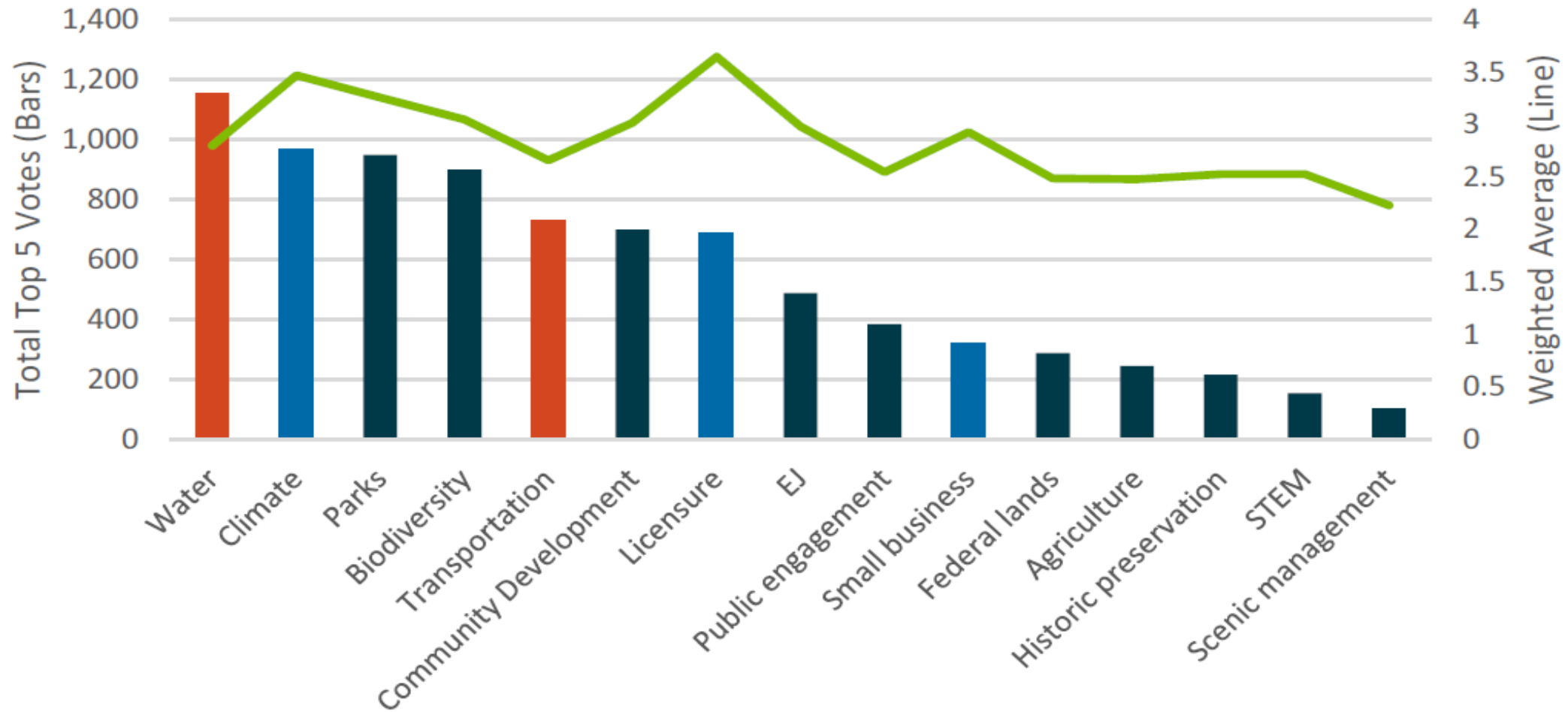


***Why does
this
matter?***



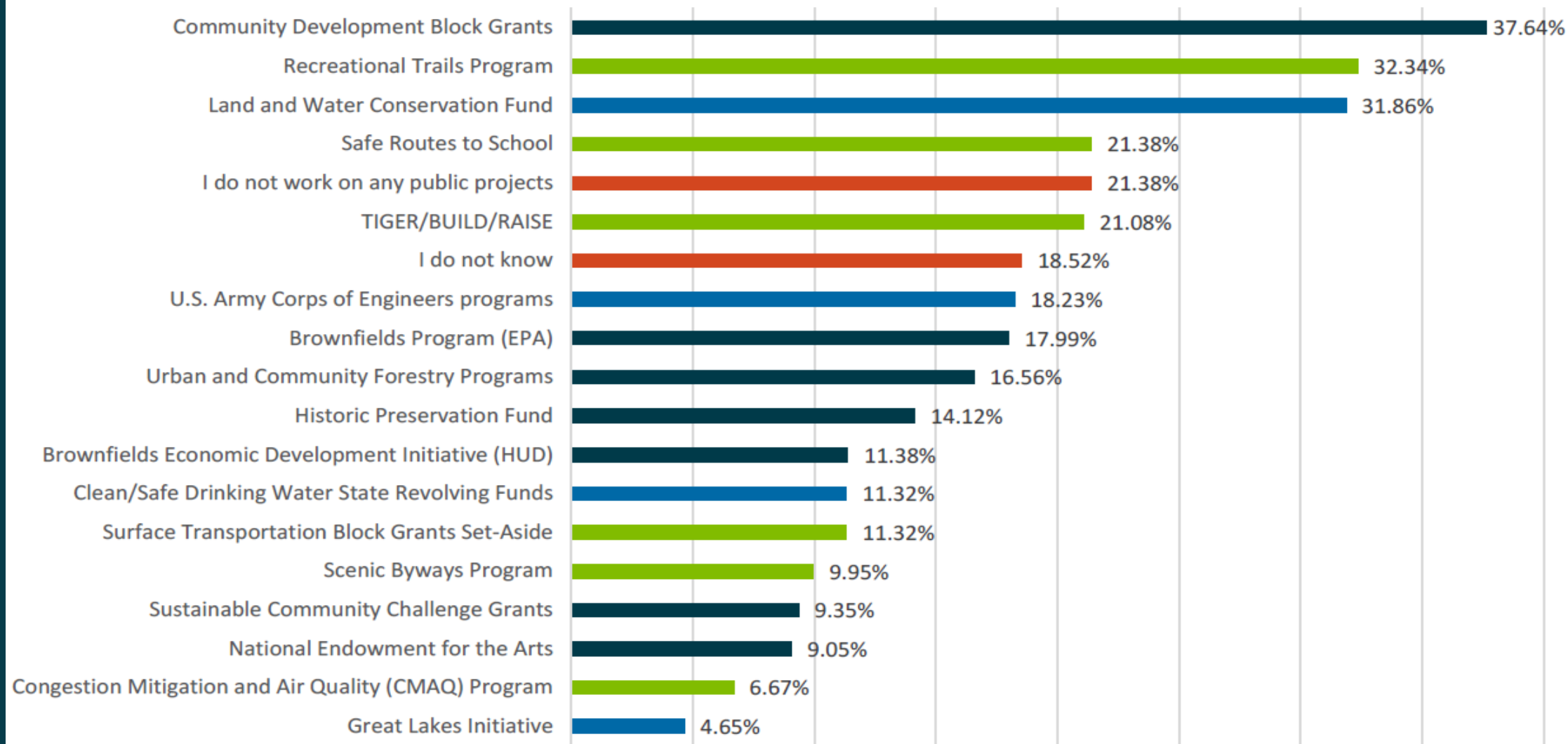
Transportation
Alternatives Program

Top 5 issues based on importance to employment opportunities



Legend Notes: the line points represent weighted average for each issue, which expresses how highly within the Top 5 a particular issue ranked; the bars represent the total number of all votes within the Top 5 for each issue; red bars represent issues that have a significantly lower weight than total, while light blue bars represent issues that have a significantly higher weight than total.

Q6 Public Funding Programs



Legend Notes: dark blue bars represent general community development programs; green bars represent transportation programs; light blue bars represent water programs; red bars represent a lack of access to funding programs.

Note: For this question, respondents were able to select "all that apply."

Transportation	40
Parks and Recreation	40
Community Development	24
Natural Resources, Open Space	17
Environmental Protection	16
Water	14
American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)	12
Biodiversity (NFWF)	7
USDA (Ag , Community Forestry)	7
FEMA	6
Schools	5
Historic Preservation, IRA, Green Infrastructure	4
Climate, Arts, Cemetery	2
Bipartisan Infrastructure Act	1

Surface Transportation Reauthorization

- 5-6 year reauthorization
- Last updated in 2021 IIJA
- Expires September 30, 2026.

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION



Transportation Alternatives



Safe Routes to School



Recreational Trails



Bicycle & Pedestrian Projects



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- Vegetation Management
- Stormwater Mitigation
- Wildlife Management
- Scenic Overlooks
- Historic Preservation



Transportation Alternatives

House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee



Rep. Sam Graves (R-MO-6)
Chair

Legislative Assistant:
Henry Kane
henry.kane@mail.house.gov



Rep. Rick Larsen (D-WA-2)
Ranking Member

Legislative Assistant:
Noelle Gasper
noelle.gasper@mail.house.gov

Highways & Transit Subcommittee



Rep. David Rouzer (R-NC-7)
Chair

Legislative Assistant:
Caroline French
caroline.french@mail.house.gov



Rep. Eleanor Holmes Norton (D-DC)
Ranking Member

Legislative Assistant:
Sullivan Gassmann
sullivan.gassmann@mail.house.gov

Surface Transportation Reauthorization

- BUILD America 250
- 5-year reauthorization
- Passed T&I Committee on May 22, 2026

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION REAUTHORIZATION



- Largest source of bike/ped federal funding.
- Low-cost transportation options.
- SRTS helps young people get to school safely.
- Jumpstarts economic development.
- Help small business
- Promotes healthy lifestyles
- Demand for bike/ped projects has increased dramatically
- Over 1100 organizations support TA & active transportation



TA Talking Points

The Legislative Ask

In the next Surface Transportation Reauthorization bill:

- *Support a robust
Transportation
Alternatives program that
includes all current
project categories.*
- *Maintain current law that
calls on states not to
transfer TA funds for other
purposes.*
- *Provide at least \$1.66
billion annually for TA
program.*

Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Members

Majority

- Sen. Shelley Moore Capito (R-WV), Chairman
- Sen. Kevin Cramer (R-ND)
- Sen. Cynthia Lummis (R-WY)
- Sen. John Curtis (R-UT)
- Sen. Lindsey Graham (R-SC)
- Sen. Dan Sullivan (R-AK)
- Sen. Pete Ricketts (R-NE)
- Sen. Roger Wicker (R-MS)
- Sen. John Boozman (R-AR)
- Sen. Jon Husted (R-OH)

Minority

- Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI), Ranking Member
- Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-VT)
- Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-OR)
- Sen. Edward J. Markey (D-MA)
- Sen. Mark Kelly (D-AZ)
- Sen. Alex Padilla (D-CA)
- Sen. Adam Schiff (D-CA)
- Sen. Lisa Blunt Rochester (D-DE)
- Sen. Angela Alsobrooks (D-MD)



TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

Talking Points

- Across the United States, millions of students attend schools with aging asphalt schoolyards that lack trees, shade, outdoor classrooms, and opportunities to connect with nature.
- Schoolyards are more than playgrounds—they are essential community assets that support student health, learning, recreation, environmental education, and neighborhood resilience.
- Green schoolyards improve students' physical and mental health. They encourage outdoor learning and physical activity, and they have been shown to improve academic performance and environmental literacy.
- Schoolyards designed with trees, native plants, rain gardens, permeable surfaces, and other nature-based features help reduce urban heat, manage stormwater, improve air quality, expand biodiversity, and strengthen community resilience.
- Schools in underserved communities often have the fewest outdoor learning opportunities and are disproportionately affected by extreme heat, flooding, and limited access to green space.
- Landscape architects are uniquely qualified to plan and design green schoolyards that integrate nature-based solutions, outdoor learning environments, recreational opportunities, accessibility, and community needs into a single cohesive design.
- Green schoolyards are a smart investment. According to the Congressional Research Service (CRS), green infrastructure can be built for 5–30 percent less and maintained for approximately 25 percent less than gray infrastructure.
- Federal investments can help communities overcome the financial barriers that often prevent schools from planning and constructing high-quality green schoolyards.
- Extreme heat is causing frequent and intense rainfall, leading to severe flooding, property damage, and human health concerns.
- The Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act would establish a competitive grant program within the U.S. Department of Education to support the planning, design, and construction of green schoolyards for public schools.
- The legislation supports projects that incorporate trees, native vegetation, outdoor classrooms, learning gardens, natural play spaces, and green stormwater infrastructure while prioritizing schools serving economically disadvantaged communities.
- The legislation also directs the Department of Education to develop national best practices and technical assistance to help schools plan, design, construct, and maintain high-quality outdoor learning environments.
- **The ASK — House of Representatives:** Cosponsor H.R. 8303, the Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act, to help public schools create healthier, greener, and more resilient outdoor learning environments that benefit students and their communities.
- **The ASK — Senate:** Cosponsor S. 4258, the Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act, to help public schools create healthier, greener, and more resilient outdoor learning environments that benefit students and their communities.

American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

asla.org
GovernmentAffairs@asla.org
202-898-2444



TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES PROGRAM

Background

Across the United States, millions of students attend schools with aging asphalt playgrounds and limited access to green space. Many schoolyards contribute to extreme heat, stormwater runoff, poor air quality, and limited opportunities for outdoor learning and recreation. Schools in underserved communities are disproportionately affected, often lacking safe, healthy, and resilient outdoor environments.

Research continues to demonstrate that access to nature-rich schoolyards improves student physical and mental health, supports academic achievement, strengthens environmental literacy, and provides opportunities for outdoor education. Green schoolyards also deliver community-wide benefits by reducing urban heat, improving stormwater management, expanding tree canopy, enhancing biodiversity, and creating spaces that can be used beyond the school day.

Landscape architects play a critical role in planning and designing these outdoor learning environments by integrating nature-based solutions, resilient infrastructure, recreation, accessibility, and educational opportunities into school grounds that serve students, educators, and surrounding communities.

Solution

Federal investments are needed to help public schools transform aging schoolyards into healthier, safer, and more resilient outdoor learning environments. Green schoolyards not only improve opportunities for outdoor learning and recreation, but also help communities reduce urban heat, better manage stormwater, expand tree canopy, improve biodiversity, and strengthen resilience to increasingly frequent extreme weather events.

To help schools realize these benefits, Senator Martin Heinrich (D-NM) introduced S. 4258, the Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act, and Representative Summer Lee (D-PA) introduced companion legislation, H.R. 8303. The legislation establishes a competitive grant program within the U.S. Department of Education to support the planning, design, and construction of green schoolyards. It encourages projects that incorporate nature-based infrastructure—including trees, native vegetation, rain gardens, outdoor classrooms, school gardens, and natural play spaces—while prioritizing schools serving economically disadvantaged communities. The legislation also directs the Department of Education to develop national best practices and technical assistance to help schools plan, design, construct, and maintain high-quality outdoor learning environments.

Request

The American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) urges Congress to support healthier, safer, and more resilient school environments for students nationwide. We ask that you cosponsor the Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act (S. 4258/H.R. 8303) and support federal investments that expand access to nature-based schoolyards and outdoor learning environments. Landscape architects are essential partners in planning and designing resilient schoolyards that improve student health, strengthen communities, and deliver long-term environmental, educational, and economic benefits.

For additional information or to cosponsor the Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act, please contact Elizabeth Hill at elizabeth_hill@heinrich.senate.gov in the office of Senator Martin Heinrich, or Lorraine Blatt at lorraine.blatt@mail.house.gov in the office of Representative Summer Lee.

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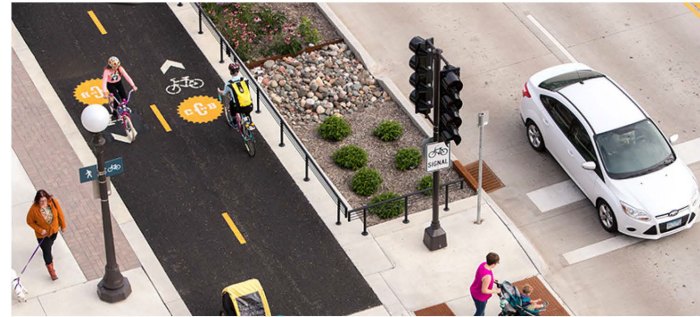
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Transportation Leave Behind



Landscape Architects Design Transportation Networks



Well-designed transportation systems do more than connect people and places. They make communities better places to live, enhance safety and economic development, and protect the environment. Landscape architects use their design expertise, gained through rigorous STEM education and training, to ensure our nation's transportation network improves everybody's quality of life.

Last reconstructed more than half a century ago, Toole Design transformed Jackson Street in Saint Paul, Minnesota by incorporating an all-ages, all-abilities bikeway, partitioned from motor vehicles by low rails and green buffers, creating a truly multimodal corridor.

Jackson Street Reconstruction Project, Saint Paul, Minnesota, Toole Design, / Bruce Buckley Photography for Toole Design.

Landscape architects collaborate with planners, engineers, government agencies, and the public to create transportation networks that help motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians move safely. They convert abandoned rail lines and rights-of-way into trails where people exercise and connect with nature. And they design accessible pathways that provide freedom of movement for people with mobility challenges.

With a powerful grasp of engineering, ecology, and the natural sciences, landscape architects design transportation solutions that also provide other community benefits. Landscape architecture transportation projects also:

Create wildlife corridors that maintain critical habitats and migration routes.

Deploy vegetation that prevents erosion beneath roadbeds and manages stormwater.

Repair and revitalize communities that were severed by highways and other roads.

Landscape architects are licensed in all 50 states and the District of Columbia to protect the health, safety, and well-being of the people they serve. Combining 21st-century technologies with a keen understanding of design and nature, landscape architects provide cost-effective solutions that make our transportation system work for everyone.

Whether you travel by car, bus, bike, scooter, or on foot, landscape architects make our transportation networks more convenient, safer, and healthier for all.

About ASLA

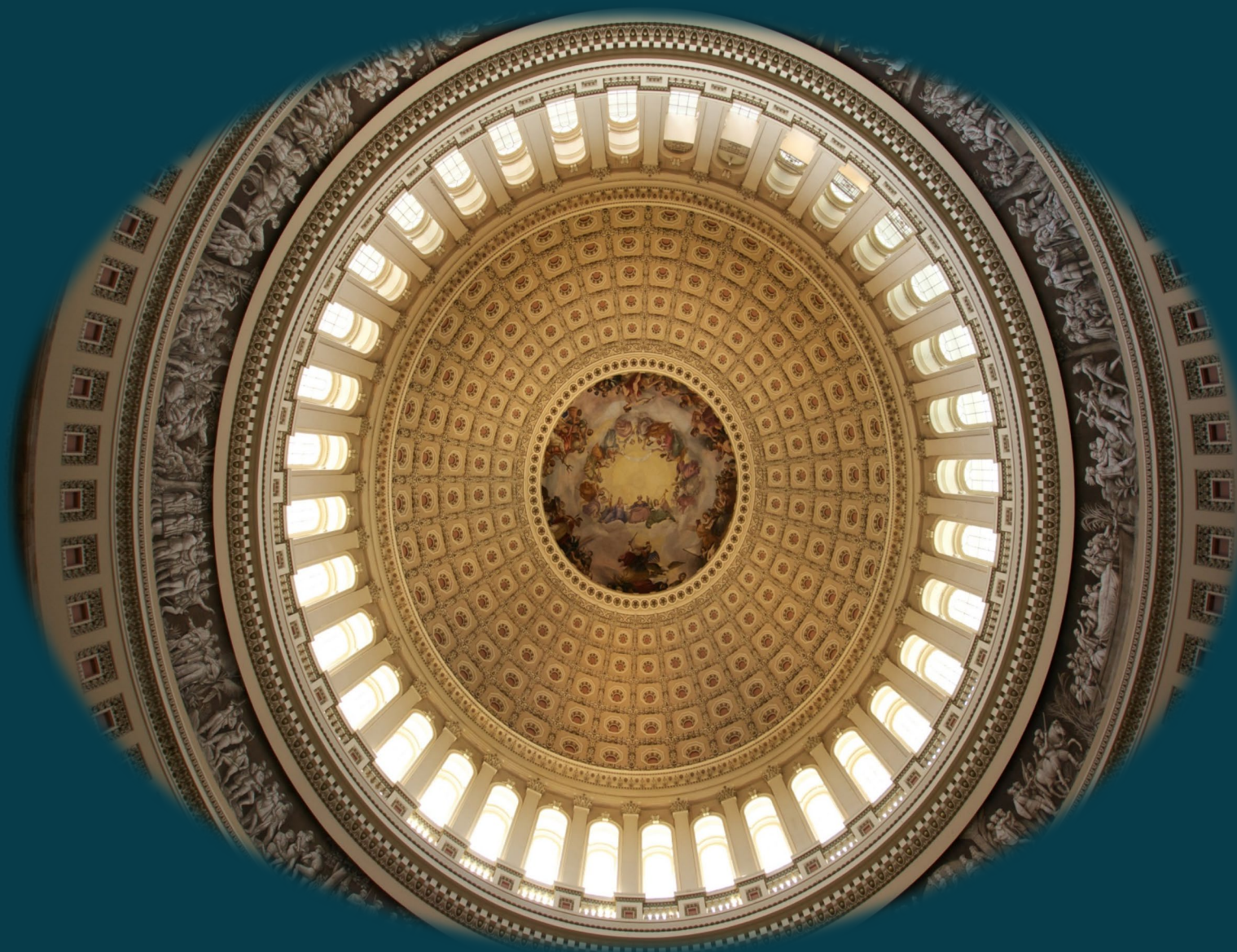
Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is the professional association for landscape architects in the United States, representing more than 16,000 members.

ASLA Mission: Empowering our members to design a sustainable and equitable world through landscape architecture.

ASLA Fund Mission: Investing in global, social, and environmental change through the art and science of landscape architecture.

www.asla.org
governmentaffairs@asla.org





ASLA does not have a position on the Highway Trust Fund

Settled law that bike/ped projects should be included

One national system that aligns all modes of surface transportation

Highway Trust Fund



American Society of
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Revitalizing America's Schoolyards



Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act

(H.R. 8303/S. 4258)

Introduced in Spring 2026 by U.S. Senator Martine Heinrich (D-NM)
and U.S. Rep. Summer Lee (D-PA)

Creates a competitive federal grant program to transform schoolyards into green, healthy, and resilient community spaces

- **Planning & Construction:** Supports the planning, design, and construction of green schoolyard projects.
- **Nature-Based Solutions:** Funds trees, native landscaping, green infrastructure, and climate-resilient design.
- **Outdoor Learning:** Expands outdoor classrooms, school gardens, and nature play environments.
- **Equitable Investment:** Prioritizes underserved schools and communities with the greatest need.
- **Technical Assistance:** Develops national guidance and best practices for long-term success.



Image Credit: Markham Elementary School, Oakland, CA. Photo by Paige Green for Education Outside / Green Schoolyards America.



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Why This Legislation Matters

Landscape Architects Make These Projects Successful

Designing living, multi-layered green schoolyards requires advanced technical planning. Landscape architects bring specialized expertise in:

-  Site planning and design to maximize functional learning flow and community utility.
-  Green infrastructure and integrated natural stormwater management systems.
-  Tree canopy creation to structurally mitigate dangerous local heat islands.
-  Outdoor learning environments designed specifically as interactive curricula labs.
-  Accessible and inclusive design ensuring equal access, safety, and universal play.
-  Community engagement models to co-design landscapes alongside students and teachers.
-  Long-term resilience to build low-irrigation, climate-hardy landscape maintenance cycles.



Photo Credit: Office of Senator Heinrich

The Legislative Ask

Support the Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act

Ask your Senators to:

- **Cosponsor the
Revitalizing America's
Schoolyards Act** *(if they
are not already a
cosponsor).*
- **Support investments in
green schoolyards** that
improve student health,
outdoor learning, climate
resilience, and
community well-being.
- **Advance the legislation**
through the committee
and legislative process.

The Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act invests in healthier, safer, and more resilient school campuses by creating federal grants to transform underused asphalt schoolyards into green spaces. Landscape architects have the expertise to design these projects, so they improve student health, support outdoor learning, reduce flooding and extreme heat, and create lasting community benefits. We encourage you to support and cosponsor this legislation.



Photo: Stromberg Architecture | Golestan School, El Cerrito, CA

Virtual Elevator Pitch (30 Seconds)



REVITALIZING AMERICA'S SCHOOLYARDS ACT (S. 4258/H.R. 8303)

Talking Points

- Across the United States, millions of students attend schools with aging asphalt schoolyards that lack trees, shade, outdoor classrooms, and opportunities to connect with nature.
- Schoolyards are more than playgrounds—they are essential community assets that support student health, learning, recreation, environmental education, and neighborhood resilience.
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Revitalizing America's Schoolyards Act



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According to the Congressional Research Service, nature-based solutions can be built for 5-30 percent less and maintained for 25 percent less than gray infrastructure.

Nature-based Solutions Economic Benefits



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Resources to Use

Issue Briefs and Talking Points
Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Issue Brief Leave Behind Talking Points
Water Infrastructure Sustainability & Efficiency Issue Brief Leave Behind Talking Points ASLA Testimony on Green Infrastructure
Advocacy Training
Advocacy Day Training - Training #1: Learning the Issues Important to Landscape Architects - Training #2: ASLA Advocacy 101: Preparing for Advocacy Day
Tools & Resources
Preparing for Advocacy Day What Is Landscape Architecture? (Editable) Licensure Fact Sheet (Editable) Telling Your Personal Story Learning About Your Legislators Members of Congress Not Returning Next Term Advocacy Day FAQs ASLA Public Policies iAdvocate Network - Homework Assignments
On Advocacy Day Congressional Meeting Agenda ASLA Advocacy Day Web Portal Instructions - Team Leaders Information
Advocacy Follow-Up Meeting Feedback Forms: House of Representatives & Senate Advocacy Day Thank You Template—U.S. House of Representatives (Editable) Advocacy Day Thank You Template—U.S. Senate (Editable) ASLA Guide to Hosting Site Tours with Elected Officials Invite Legislators to ASLA Green Roof

Advocacy Day Website



ASLA

Telling Your Personal Story

As you prepare to meet with your legislators, an important part of your meetings is to "tell your personal story." As design professionals, you are well equipped to demonstrate how landscape architecture projects and the policies that impact them provide important benefits to the community. Incorporating the tips provided below coupled with issue talking points can help you develop a persuasive narrative to ensure that your legislative priorities are not only conveyed but remembered, too.

Tell Your Legislator About You

Do you live or work in the congressional district?

Communicate whether you live or work in the congressional district, which is important because it helps to establish a connection between you and the legislator and his/her staff.

Are you an employer in the congressional district?

If you are an employer in the congressional district, how many people do you employ? This too, will help to establish a connection between you and the legislator and his/her staff. As an employer, you also provide important services to the district, including economic development, local jobs, revenue, and community development services.

Know the Problem AND Suggest a Solution

What is the problem facing your community and how will legislation address it?

Discuss the problem that is facing the community, state, or country. Research the facts and data that demonstrate the problem. Discuss how the legislation will address the problem or other issues in your community.

Are you part of the solution?

Emphasize how landscape architecture is able to correct the problem and can address other community issues, too. Let the legislator know that you are available as a resource to help with issues in the congressional district and across the state.

Discuss Your Work

What projects are you and your colleagues working on?

Bring images of projects that relate to the legislative issues you are discussing. Before and after images of projects can be very persuasive. Bring newspaper clippings or printouts of online articles that evidence the positive impact of the work of landscape architects in the district.

What projects are needed in your district?

Landscape architects design and collaborate on a wide variety of projects integral to local, state, and national development. Be prepared to describe projects in which landscape architects and the programs that support the profession play a pivotal role in improving the economic, structural, and environmental improvements in the community.

Making "The Ask"

Do you have a clear and specific ask for your legislators?

Now that you have explained who you are, what you do, and some of the issues impacting your community, it's time to focus on "The Ask." The Ask is one of the most important parts of your meeting. The Ask should be clear, concise, and specific, e.g. *Please support H.R. 123, the Land and Water Conservation Fund Improvement Act.*

If the meeting ends without an "Ask" from you, the legislator and staff have little incentive to pursue the topic you discussed. The Ask also gives you a reason to follow-up with the staffer at a later date - a way to stay in touch with the office and continue to build a relationship.

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Telling Your Personal story



American Society of
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Landscape Architects Design Healthy, Safe, Resilient Communities



Landscape architects plan and design healthy, safe, and resilient outdoor spaces for all. As STEM professionals, they blend science and creativity to enhance our communities, making them vibrant places to live, work, and play. From small towns to the largest cities, landscape architects engage with communities to create cherished spaces.

Landscape architects have designed some of the most iconic projects across the nation, including:

- Central Park in New York City
- The grounds of the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C.
- The grounds of the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Missouri
- Blue Ridge Parkway in Virginia

Good design does not happen by accident. Achieving an outdoor environment that is accessible, useful, and enjoyable for all requires the knowledge, experience, and unique skill set of landscape architects. All 50 states and the District of Columbia require landscape architects to be licensed to protect the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

Becoming a professional landscape architect (PLA) requires:

- Rigorous STEM education
- Experience under the direct supervision of a PLA
- Passage of a comprehensive national licensing examination

Landscape architects have the training, education, and expertise to lead the design, planning, and implementation of community infrastructure projects in a way that fosters sustainable development, generates jobs, encourages healthy lifestyles, and creates equitable and economically vibrant communities.

In Charlestown, Massachusetts, landscape architects at Offshoots, Inc. designed a park that addresses coastal flooding, mitigates air and groundwater pollution, and serves as a multimodal transportation hub. Image credit: ASLA 2023 Professional General Design Honor Award, Hood Bike Park, Charlestown, Massachusetts. Offshoots, Inc. Peter Vanderwerker Photography/Offshoots, Inc.

About ASLA

Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) is the professional association for landscape architects in the United States, representing more than 16,000 members.

ASLA Mission: Empowering our members to design a sustainable and equitable world through landscape architecture.

ASLA Fund Mission: Investing in global, social, and environmental change through the art and science of landscape architecture.

www.asla.org
governmентаffairs@asla.org



American Society of
Landscape Architects

Landscape Architects Design:

WATER MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Communities often face hazardous floods, severe droughts, and other water management issues. Landscape architects plan and design bioswales, green roofs, rain gardens, constructed wetlands, living shorelines, and other nature-based solutions to help effectively manage and conserve water. According to the Congressional Research Service, these proven technologies can be built for 5 to 30 percent less—and maintained for 25 percent less—than conventional gray infrastructure.



Landscape architects keep students at Arizona State University in Tempe, Arizona safe from dangerous flooding.

Image credit: ASLA 2021 Professional General Design Honor Award, Orange Mall Green Infrastructure, Tempe, Arizona. COLWELL SHELOR LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE/Arizona State University

OUTDOOR RECREATION SPACES

Parks, trail systems, and other recreational landscapes are critical to communities. Landscape architects plan and design local, state, and national park projects in ways that protect and advance human, environmental, and economic health. They apply specific design techniques to affect trail grades, species habitat, locations of natural and human-made structures, and access to cultural resources. These park projects enhance the outdoor recreation economy, an area that—according to the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis—contributes \$1.1 trillion to annual GDP.



In Omaha, Nebraska, OJB Landscape Architecture designed a space that brings the community together.

Image credit: ASLA 2023 Professional General Design Honor Award, Remaking a 1970's Downtown Park Into a New Public Realm, Omaha, Nebraska. OJB Landscape Architecture

TRANSPORTATION NETWORKS

Landscape architects are leaders in designing transportation systems that serve all people and include all modes of transportation, including transit stations, bike lanes, pedestrian walkways, trails, and more. These active transportation projects reduce reliance on cars, which in turn reduces traffic, improves air quality, and promotes healthy lifestyles. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, active transportation projects provide many economic benefits, from increased tourism dollars to improved property values and reduced daily commuter costs.



In Detroit, Michigan, SmithGroup designed a street safe for all people.

Image credit: ASLA 2023 Professional Analysis and Planning Honor Award, Joe Lewis Greenway Framework Plan, Detroit, Michigan, SmithGroup

RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Landscape architects use their education and experience in science and environmental design to address the realities of a changing climate, including extreme heat, drought, fires, flooding, and sea level rise. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration reports that climate- and weather-related events have cost the U.S. an average of \$123 billion each year. Landscape architects plan and design nature-based infrastructure that reduces weather-related impacts, mitigates ecological harms, and improves public health, safety, and welfare.



Landscape architects with RIOS used trees to create shade and cool the air in downtown Palm Springs, California.

Image credit: ASLA 2022 Professional General Design Award of Excellence, Palm Springs Downtown Park, Palm Springs, California. RIOS

Landscape Architects Design Healthy, Safe, Resilient Communities



American Society of
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Advocacy Day State Leads



ASLA
Government
Affairs

ASLA 2027 Virtual Advocacy Day

State Leads

Alaska State Lead: Peter Briggs Steven Callaghan	North Dakota State Lead: Gordon Lemmel
Alabama State Lead: Kimberly Unruh Paige Ishmael Christina Argo	Nebraska State Lead: Dennis Bryers Kenneth Brandl Samantha Howland
Arizona State Lead: Amy Peron Brandon Sobiech	New Hampshire State Lead: Christopher Clinton
California State Lead: Andrew Wickham Julie An Patricia Ferman Linda Hsi Evan Mather	New Jersey State Lead: Jan Saltiel-Rafel
Colorado State Lead: Sarah Konradi Gregory Leichty Charles Oropallo	Nevada State Lead: Barbara Santner Melinda Gustin Kelly Miller
District of Columbia State Lead: Lesley Conroy Linda Komes Benjamin Jensen	New York State Lead: Kimberly Tryba Michael DiCarlo Slavica Mickovic Vincent Ryan
Florida State Lead: Kevin White Samantha Fajardo	Ohio State Lead: Doug Boyer Jeremy Hinte Eugenia Martin Kymberly Ware David Wilson
	Oklahoma State Lead: Jeremy Crites

Georgia

State Lead: Jay Gehler

Iowa

State Lead: Lara Guldenpfennig
Madison Dierks
Garret Munch

Idaho

State Lead: Matthew Adams

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State Lead: Douglas Fair
Johann Friedl
Dave Lawrie
Zachary Rees
Amy Roberts
Sarah White

Indiana

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Kentucky

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Amin Omidy

Massachusetts

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Emily Scarfe

Maryland

State Lead: Patrick Whealton
Michael Humes
Amy Sommer
Julie Soss

Oregon

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Pennsylvania

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David Bender

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State Lead: Elena Pascarella

South Carolina

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South Dakota

State Lead: Brady Aldrich

Tennessee

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Bobby Eichholz
Sarah Fitzgerald
Marissa McKinney
Margarita Padilla-Posey
Landon Bell

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Jessica Bacorn
Christopher Davis
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Utah

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Michigan

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Washington

State Lead: Curtis LaPierre

Wisconsin

State Lead: Sarah McDonald
Paige Bernhardt
Stephanie Wilson

West Virginia

State Lead: Jacob Burns



American Society of
Landscape Architects

ASLA's GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TEAM





Questions?

governmentaffairs@asla.org

Texas 1 – Senator Cruz

State Lead: Jonathan Wagner

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- Sarah Fitzgerald
- Marissa McKinney
- Margarita Padilla-Posey
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Texas Participants