

Honorary Membership

Nomination Narrative

Nominee: Representative Doris Matsui

Nominee's Address: 222 Cannon Building

City/State/Zip: Washington, DC 20515-0505

Phone: (202) 225-7163

Nominator: Sierra Chapter President-Elect Keith Wilson, ASLA

In 2005 Representative Doris Matsui was elected to the United States House of Representatives from California's 5th Congressional District. Known for her strong advocacy of sustainable development and green infrastructure projects, Matsui has become a national leader in promoting green technology and applying green solutions to urban revitalization, redevelopment and development projects.

In the 110th and 111th Congresses, Rep. Matsui has demonstrated her leadership by sponsoring:

- HR 5867, the *Energy Conservation Through Trees Act*: Patterned after the successful model established by the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD), this bill will encourage public utilities to strategically plant trees around buildings, reducing energy costs and making homes more energy-efficient. ASLA worked with the Congresswoman's office to improve provisions to the legislation. Representative Matsui included three of ASLA's recommendations, including establishing an education campaign to help residents maintain their shade trees, requiring monitoring and reporting on the survival, growth, overall health, and estimated savings of the provided trees, and requiring tree recipients to care for the trees. Moreover, the legislation would also allow ASLA to recommend a registered landscape architect to participate on the local technical advisory committees to provide advice and consultation to the program. This bill was incorporated into the Waxman-Markey Climate Change bill that passed the House of Representatives in the summer of 2009.
- HR 1443, the *Complete Streets Act of 2009*. This bill will ensure that all users of the transportation system, including pedestrians, bicyclists, and transit users as well as children, older adults, and individuals with disabilities, are able to travel safely and conveniently on our streets. ASLA is a steering committee member of the Complete Streets Coalition, which works to implement a federal complete streets policy and state and local policies across the country.
- HR 1780, the *Smart Planning for Smart Growth Act of 2009*. It requires states and organizations to establish goals on a statewide basis and to consider specified transportation and land use planning strategies, including increasing public transportation systems and supporting land use regulation that coordinates transportation and land use planning and uses existing infrastructure. This bill was also incorporated into the Waxman-Markey

Climate Change bill that passed the House of Representatives in the summer of 2009.

- HR 2665, a bill which designates no fewer than three national centers of excellence for regional smart growth planning, selected from metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) that have demonstrated regional planning excellence;

As a Member of two high profile committees, the Energy and Commerce Committee and Rules Committee, Rep. Matsui has a proven track record of delivering for her district. From flood control to mass transit Mrs. Matsui has worked diligently to improve the quality of life for residents of the 5th Congressional District. Throughout her legislative career in Congress, Congresswoman Matsui has supported other key legislation important to ASLA:

- The *Omnibus Land Management Act of 2009*, which established the National Landscape Conservation System as a permanent entity and was signed into law in 2009.
- The *Water Quality Investment Act of 2009*, which authorizes grants and loans for wastewater treatment and other water quality projects.
- The *No Child Left Inside Act of 2008* which supports environmental education initiatives.

Rep. Matsui serves on a number of Congressional Caucuses that ASLA supports. Matsui is a member of the Congressional High-Performance Buildings Caucus, for whom ASLA sponsored a recent event on Capitol Hill as well as the Green Jobs Caucus, and the Green Schools Caucus.

Mrs. Matsui's support for legislation important to the environmental and conservation community have earned her a 94% rating from the League of Conservation Voters. She also works hand in hand with local organizations in Sacramento including the Sacramento Trees Foundation, the Sacramento Metropolitan Utility District, and The Arbor Day foundation.

Prior to representing Sacramento in Congress, Rep. Matsui worked for six years as a senior advisor to President Bill Clinton. She has served on numerous advisory boards, community organizations, and honorary committees in Sacramento and in Washington, DC. She was President and Chairwoman of the Board for the KVIE public television station in Sacramento, and she served in leadership capacities for the Crocker Art Museum, Sacramento Children's Home, Meridian International Center, Arena Stage, and Woodrow Wilson Center Board of Trustees.

As a champion of legislative issues important to the American Society of Landscape Architects, along with her passion for sustainable development and green infrastructure Rep. Doris Matsui is an excellent candidate for honorary ASLA membership.



February 17, 2010

PRESIDENT
Eric F. Douglas

SECRETARY
Rick LaMantain

TREASURER
Matt McCauley

PAST PRESIDENT
John Webre

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Susan Bitar
Della Gilleran
Valerie Hoffman
William Ishmael
John Lane
Gene Miller
Lynn Pomeroy
Tim Raney
Scott Rose
Mark Setzer
Jean Shaw
Miles J. Treaster
Jerry Way

BOARD EMERITUS
Jane Hagedorn
Ann Kohl

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Raymond L.
Tretheway III

Honorary Membership Selection Committee
Board of Trustees
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to support the nomination of United States Representative Doris Matsui for honorary membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects. Congresswoman Matsui has a distinguished record in supporting legislation important to landscape architects in California's Fifth Congressional district and nationwide. She has been especially supportive of efforts to promote sustainable development and utilize green infrastructure in communities across the country.

As the lead sponsor of the Complete Streets Act of 2009, which requires planning bodies to incorporate comprehensive green infrastructure principals into federally funded transportation projects, and The Energy Conservation through Trees Act, which would establish a grant program to assist electricity providers in planting shade trees to insulate residential buildings and minimize home heating and cooling demands, Rep. Matsui has proved her commitment to issues of importance to green practitioners, policy makers and landscape architects.

For the reasons outlined above the Sacramento Tree Foundation strongly supports the nomination of Congressional Representative Doris Matsui for honorary membership to the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Sincerely,

Ray Tretheway
Executive Director
Sacramento Tree Foundation



February 12, 2010

Honorary Membership Selection Committee
Board of Trustees
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

Dear Sirs:

I am writing to support the nomination of United States Representative Doris Matsui for honorary membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects. Congresswoman Matsui has a distinguished record in supporting legislation important to landscape architects in California's Fifth Congressional district and nationwide. She has been especially supportive of efforts to promote sustainable development and utilize green infrastructure in communities across the country.

Congresswoman Matsui is the author of the Safe and Complete Streets Act of 2009, which requires transportation planning bodies to develop transportation corridors that are safe and accessible for all users. These transportation corridors, which typically include pedestrian walkways, bicycle lanes, and paths and incorporate comprehensive green infrastructure principals, traditionally have been designed by landscape architects.

Representative Matsui is also the author of the Energy Conservation through Trees Act, which would establish a grant program to assist electricity providers in planting shade trees to insulate residential buildings and minimize home heating and cooling demands which in turn conserve energy and reduce harmful carbon emissions.

Both these measures demonstrate Rep. Matsui's commitment to sustainability and conservation issues which are important to green practitioners, community leaders, landscape architects and millions of Americans across the country. For the reasons outlined above, the Alliance for Community Trees supports the nomination of Rep. Doris Matsui for honorary membership to the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Sincerely,

Executive Director

President

Shannon Ramsay
PRESIDENT & CEO
Trees Forever

Vice President

Ray Tretheway
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Sacramento Tree Foundation

Treasurer

Riyad Abu-Sharr
CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER
Star Marketing Group

Secretary

Scott Jamieson
VICE PRESIDENT
Bartlett Tree Experts

Anna M. Dooley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Greenscape of Jacksonville

Scott Fogarty

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Friends of Trees

Guy Hager

DIRECTOR
Parks & People Foundation

Martha Ozonoff

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
California ReLeaf

Past Presidents

Marcia Bansley

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Trees Atlanta

Donna Curtis

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Shreveport Green

Executive Staff

Alice C. Ewen

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Alliance for Community Trees
alice@actrees.org

Alliance for Community Trees

4603 Calvert Road
College Park, MD 20740

T 301.277.0040

F 301.277.0042

E info@actrees.org

www.actrees.org

