



February 3, 2021

Honorary Membership Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

RE: Honorary Membership Nomination: Congressman Peter DeFazio

The Oregon Chapter of ASLA is honored to nominate Congressman Peter DeFazio for ASLA Honorary Membership. Congressman DeFazio has served Oregon's Fourth Congressional District with distinction since 1987, working on behalf of his constituents, the Oregon landscape, and the nation. The district is defined by urban, rural and tribal communities in the southern Willamette Valley, the southern Oregon Coast, the Siskiyou Mountains, and the Cascade Range – and the social, economic, and environmental opportunities and challenges that these places present. Congressman DeFazio's tenure is marked by his commitment to responsible management of our nation's natural resources, the transformation of our country's infrastructure and transportation system, and the urgent need to take action to address the climate crisis.

Natural Resources Leadership

Congressman DeFazio served on the House Natural Resources Committee for 28 years, including as the Ranking Member from 2013 to 2015. Over the many years of his committee membership, he served on every subcommittee and he was involved in legislation on every issue before the committee, impacting districts – and landscapes – across the country. Congressman DeFazio has worked to protect hundreds of thousands of acres of wilderness and natural areas, to maintain critical wildlife habitat, and to prioritize rural jobs and communities.

In Oregon, Congressman DeFazio has been instrumental in creating federal partnerships and securing funding for urban watershed restoration projects, including Eugene's Delta Ponds Project and Springfield's Mill Race Ecosystem Restoration Project. His leadership was crucial to securing appropriate protections for treasured and significant Oregon landscapes including Steens Mountain, Mt. Hood, the Cascade-Siskiyou, the Elk River and Copper Salmon area, the Oregon Badlands, Soda Mountain, and Spring Basin. One of the Congressman's proudest achievements is the 2014 legislation that expanded the Oregon Caves National Monument by 4,070 acres, transferred management responsibilities of the caves from the U.S. Forest Service to the National Park Service, and designated the River Styx, the underground stream that runs through the caves, as the first *subterranean* Wild and Scenic River in the nation.

Transportation Leadership

Congressman DeFazio's career is also notable for his efforts to advance transportation policy and funding in support of walking, biking and public transit, to build green and resilient infrastructure, to reduce carbon emissions, and to create jobs. A member of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure since he first came to Congress in 1987, his peers elected Congressman DeFazio to serve as Chair in 2018, a position he continues to hold in the 117th Congress which started in January 2021.

During his tenure on the committee, Congressman DeFazio has participated in drafting and negotiating transportation reauthorization bills dating to the *Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991* (ISTEA), the landmark legislation that gave state and local governments more flexibility in allocating funding for a broad range of highway, transit, safety, and bicycle and pedestrian projects. The *Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century* (TEA-21), a six-year spending bill, followed in 1998. In 2005, DeFazio served as the ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit where he helped negotiate SAFETEA-LU, a five-year spending bill. In 2012, again as the ranking Democrat on the Subcommittee on Highways and Transit, DeFazio helped negotiate MAP-21, a 27-month federal highway and transit spending bill. And in 2015, DeFazio led efforts to increase investment in surface transportation as a lead drafter and negotiator of the FAST Act.

Each of these bills funded programs and projects that created opportunities for landscape architects to direct the planning and design of transportation corridors, complete streets, safe routes to schools, recreational trails, scenic byways, green streets, bus, light rail and streetcar projects, and more. The value of these projects over thirty years of legislation – representing billions of dollars of investments, one project at a time – allowed landscape architects to become innovators, collaborators, and leaders in transportation, and expanded the practice of landscape architecture.

In July 2020, the House of Representatives passed *The Moving Forward Act*, Congressman DeFazio's comprehensive transportation legislation to invest more than \$1.5 trillion in our nation's roads, bridges, transit, rail, ports and harbors, schools, housing, broadband, drinking and wastewater systems, postal service, clean energy sector, health care infrastructure, and more. The Senate did not take action on the bill before the close of 2020, but looking ahead to the 117th Congress, the Congressman has committed to "bring America's infrastructure out of the 1950s and into the modern era, which means smarter, safer, greener infrastructure that cuts carbon pollution and is made to last."

Climate Leadership

Congressman DeFazio's leadership extends to taking action to address the climate crisis through legislation and policy. He is an original cosponsor of the *Green New Deal* and the *Climate Emergency Resolution*, and he pushed for the creation of the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. In February 2019, Congressman DeFazio held the first-ever hearing on the climate crisis in the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and as Committee Chair, he directed all six subcommittees to investigate ways to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and fossil fuel consumption. We eagerly await his climate legislation to come in the 117th Congress.

As demonstrated through his sustained leadership and his commitment to protect the environment, Congressman Peter DeFazio's work reflects ASLA's vision of healthy, beautiful and resilient places for all. We are thrilled to present such an outstanding candidate for honorary membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

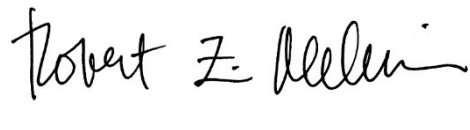
Sincerely,



Charles Brucker, ASLA
President



Jean Senechal Biggs, ASLA
Trustee



Robert Z. Melnick, FASLA
Professor Emeritus, University of Oregon

EARL BLUMENAUER
THIRD DISTRICT, OREGON
COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
1111 LONGWORTH BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
(202) 225-4811

DISTRICT OFFICE:
911 NE 11TH AVE
SUITE 200
PORTLAND, OR 97232
(503) 231-2300
website: blumenauer.house.gov

February 2, 2021

Honorary Membership Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Members of the ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees,

I write to share my support for Congressman Peter DeFazio's nomination for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA). I have served with Congressman DeFazio in the House of Representatives and known him personally for many years.

Over his 33-year career in the House of Representatives, Congressman DeFazio has been a steadfast proponent of multimodal transportation and creating livable communities. He has continually supported policies and investments in biking and walking, public transit, Safe Routes to Schools, and green infrastructure. His work has directly benefitted landscape architects leading transportation and infrastructure projects across the U.S. and the communities that they serve.

I would be proud to have Congressman DeFazio join me in the ranks of Honorary ASLA members. Please give his nomination your full and fair consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Earl Blumenauer".

Earl Blumenauer
Member of Congress
(Honorary Member of ASLA)



February 2, 2021

Honorary Membership Nominations
c/o Honors and Awards
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

I am delighted to support Congressman Peter DeFazio's nomination for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects. Congressman DeFazio has represented the people of Eugene, the second largest city in Oregon and the largest city in Oregon's 4th Congressional District, with conviction and integrity since 1987.

Congressman DeFazio's leadership over his long tenure in the House of Representatives has resulted in transformational change in communities across the country. Through his ongoing work on federal transportation legislation, he has supported policies and investments in biking and walking, public transit, and green infrastructure. We've built that vision in Eugene, where our multimodal transportation system – with bike lanes connecting across the city, sidewalks creating safe routes to schools, and one of the nation's first bus rapid transit systems – enhances our quality of life. Congressman DeFazio was instrumental in securing federal investments that made bus rapid transit a reality for our region including the \$75 million Federal grant that helped build the West Eugene EmX segment. He also brought strong federal support to completing the restoration of the Delta Ponds which utilized roughly \$7 million in federal funding and is a landscape level natural area asset that serves the entire Eugene community.

Now as we face our country's most pressing threat – the climate crisis – communities across the U.S. need federal leadership. As Chair of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, Congressman DeFazio understands the need to transform our transportation system to affect real and long-term change and end our dependence on fossil fuels. His 2020 legislation, The Moving Forward Act, created a vision for smarter, safer, greener infrastructure to address the climate crisis and create better opportunities for all. I am proud to see this transformational effort coming from Eugene's Congressman!

Congressman Peter DeFazio is a champion for multimodal transportation, livable communities and climate action. His stewardship and leadership reflect ASLA's vision of healthy, beautiful and resilient places for all. Please give his nomination your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Mayor Lucy Vinis

CAMERON McCARTHY

LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE & PLANNING

January 30, 2021

Honorary Membership Nominations
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

**Re: Endorsement Letter for Honorary Membership
Congressman Peter DeFazio**

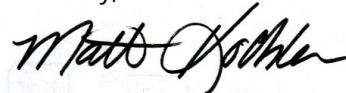
Executive Committee and Board of Trustees,

Please consider this letter a full endorsement of Congressman Peter DeFazio for Honorary ASLA Membership on behalf of myself, Cameron McCarthy, and the landscape architecture community located within the 4th Congressional District of Oregon. Congressman DeFazio's impact to landscape architecture, specifically transportation and infrastructure focused, has provided the catalyst for numerous improvement projects for multimodal transit, safe roads, multi-use path systems, rail, and waterways. In his 30+ years of representing our community he has sponsored 50 bills focused on transportation and public works. His tireless work in 2005 to create the Small Starts Program directly impacted our community and my office by providing funding to the Lane Transit District to extend and continue its bus rapid transit program (LTD EmX) to connect the Eugene, Glenwood, and Springfield communities with sustainable mass transit. He has directly impacted my office as his initiatives to improve infrastructure during the last recession allowed Cameron McCarthy to not only maintain our full staff but actually hire newly graduated landscape designers from accredited landscape architecture programs. During a period when many in the landscape architecture profession were losing their businesses and employment, Congressman DeFazio's commitment to connecting communities while sustaining our natural resources allowed Cameron McCarthy to grow and flourish.

Congressman DeFazio is continuing to lead the way for sustainable infrastructure and as the Chairman for the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, he is focused on transformative improvements across the country.

Congressman DeFazio is also a champion for natural resources and preservation. During his tenure he has sponsored numerous bills focused on the protection of wilderness and rivers in our region. He exemplifies stewardship of healthy, equitable, safe, and resilient environments and should be an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Sincerely,



Matt Koehler, ASLA
Principal Landscape Architect
mkoehler@cameronmccarthy.com

160 East Broadway
Eugene, Oregon 97401
www.cameronmccarthy.com





National Wildlife Federation

National Advocacy Center

1200 G Street NW, Suite 900 • Washington, DC 20005 • 202-797-6800

January 15, 2021

Honorary Membership Nominations

c/o Honors and Awards

636 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Members of the ASLA Executive Committee and Board of Trustees:

Congressman Peter A. DeFazio (D-OR) was first elected to represent Oregon's Fourth District in 1986. Stretching from the volcanic peaks of the Cascade Range to the rocky shores of the Pacific Ocean, the Fourth District encompasses a panoply of exceptional natural landscapes. Rep. DeFazio has spent his 33-year career ensuring that they and their bounty are enjoyed by the public, able to sustain an abundance of fish and wildlife, or simply left alone to be enjoyed by future generations. The National Wildlife Federation is honored to support Congressman DeFazio's nomination to be an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

Congressman DeFazio demonstrated his commitment to the intersection of the public and natural landscapes from the beginning. By 1991 he had secured the first Land and Water Conservation Fund allocation to restore the West Eugene wetlands. The area is now a popular destination for walking the Tsanchiifin Trail, viewing wildlife, picnicking, and biking the Fern Ridge Bicycle Path.

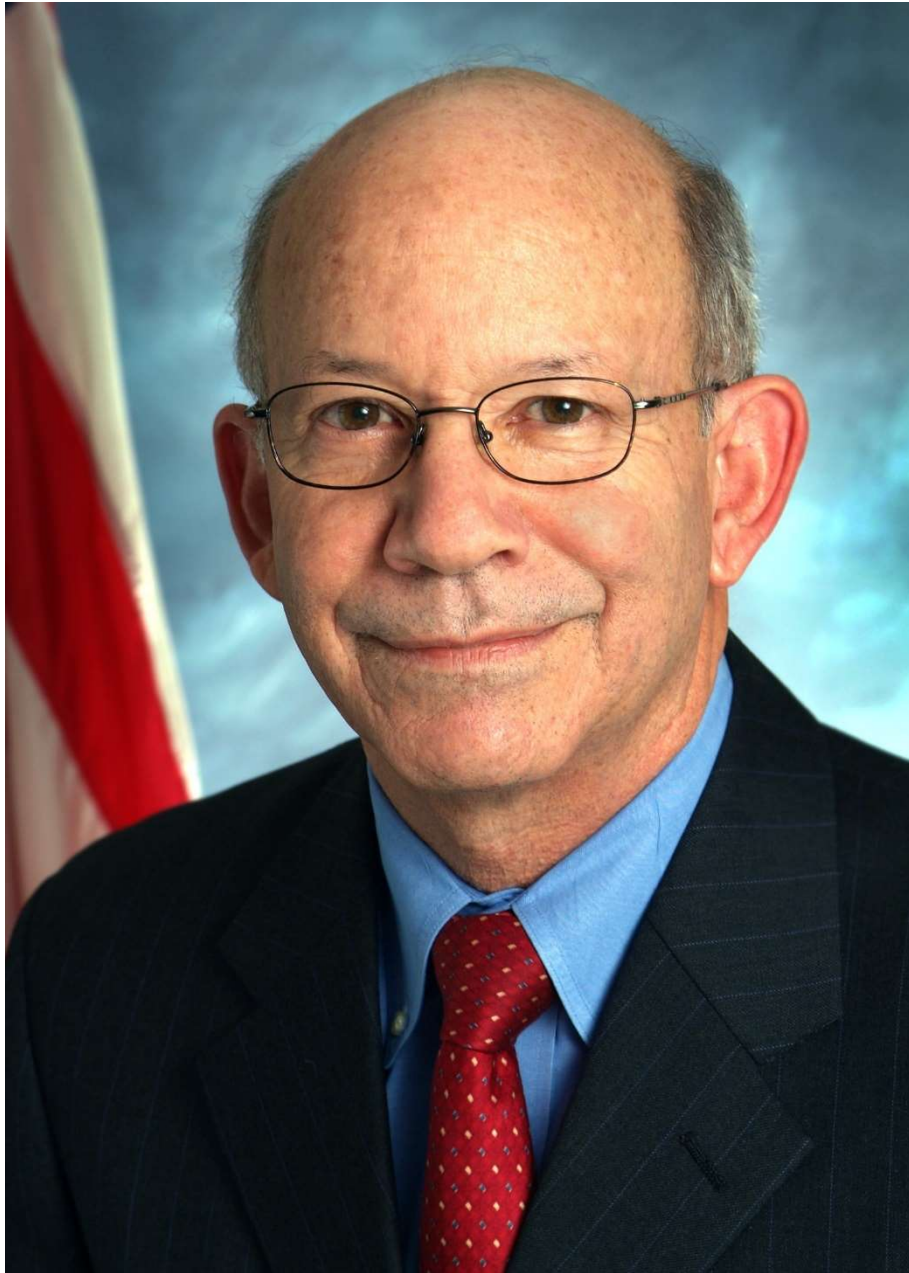
Similarly, Congressman DeFazio championed the development of the Dean Creek Elk Viewing Area on the banks of the Umpqua River, and was instrumental in the establishment, restoration, and development of the Bandon Marsh National Wildlife Refuge on Oregon southern coast. These are just a few examples of his contributions to landscape architecture over his distinguished career.

Wildlife crossings perhaps represent landscape architecture at its best. As chair of the House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, Congressman DeFazio ensured that \$300 million for wildlife crossings was part of his Moving Forward Act, which aims to build a transportation system for the 21st Century. Wildlife crossings are essential to landscape connectivity and the ability for fish and wildlife to safely reach the habitats they depend on for survival. These structures protect our nation's outdoor heritage, and make people safer when driving on rural and urban roadways and highways.

Congressman Peter DeFazio's career-long commitment to natural landscapes, the wildlife that call them home, and work to ensure they can be enjoyed by the public, make him a worthy recipient of honorary membership in the ASLA. The National Wildlife Federation is proud to support his selection.

Sincerely,

Collin O'Mara
President and CEO



Congressman Peter DeFazio (OR-4)

Contact:

2134 Rayburn Office Building

Washington, DC 20515

202-225-6416

<https://defazio.house.gov/>