**Agenda Item #20: Public Policy Revisions**

**Purpose:** To review and approve the proposed changes to ASLA’s policies on Invasive Species and Memorials.

**History and Background:**

*Invasive Species:* In 2003 the Board of Trustees approved the Non-Native Invasive Species, which has not been updated since. The proposed amended public policy on Invasive Species strengthens the policy position of the organization by emphasizing the adverse impact invasive species have on the integrity of ecosystems, and increases emphasis on the profession to not introduce or support the use of known invasive species, as well as encourage the eradication of invasive species.

*Memorials:* The Board of Trustees last approved an update to the Memorials policy in 2009. In light of recent events, the proposed amended public policy on Memorials clarifies the policy position of the organization by emphasizing the recognition of significant events and people, rather than “honoring” significant events and individuals. The policy also emphasizes that ASLA supports government facilitated public debate in reviewing, and potentially altering, memorial design under evolving, common understandings of equity, inclusion, and safety.

**Governing Rules/Procedures:** ASLA Bylaws, Section 802: Adoption, amendment, or repeal of public policies on matters of professional interest or concern shall require an affirmative vote by two-thirds (2/3) of the entire voting membership of the Board of Trustees.

**Strategic Objectives:**

- Advance the image, visibility, and understanding of the profession with client groups, public policy makers, allied professions, media, and the general public.

- Promote adoption of laws and regulations that: enhance the design, planning, and stewardship of the natural and built environment; and foster a business and regulatory climate that supports the practice of landscape architecture.

- Keep the profession and the Society in the lead on critical and emerging practice areas and issues.

**Financial Impact:** N/A

**Action Requested:** Review and approve each policy statement as recommended by the Policy Committee and endorsed by the Executive Committee.

**Staff Contact:** Elizabeth Hebron