

Honorary Membership Nomination Narrative

Nominee: The Honorable Barbara Boxer, United States Senator (CA)

Nominee's Address: 112 Hart Senate Office Building

City/State/Zip: Washington, DC 20510

Phone: 202-224-3553

Nominator: Tim Smith, ASLA, San Diego Chapter President

Senator Barbara Boxer (CA) has been a forceful advocate for many issues. But some of her most important legislative work has been in the areas of transportation, environment, natural resources and clean water, all issues that are important to ASLA and landscape architects across the country.

Barbara Boxer became a United States Senator in January 1993 after 10 years of service in the House of Representatives and six years on the Marin County Board of Supervisors. In November 2010, she was reelected to her fourth term in the Senate. After many years of stalwart service, in January 2015, Boxer announced that she would not seek reelection and would retire after her term expires at the end of 2016.

Currently, Senator Boxer serves as the Ranking Member on the Senate Environment and Public Works (EPW) Committee where she has also served as its Chair. During her tenure on the Committee, Senator Boxer has been a strong advocate for biking, walking, and transit use and works to ensure that these modes of travel are included in surface transportation law. As a leader on active transportation issues she has worked to strike bipartisan agreements to continue active transportation programs and policies like the Transportation Alternatives Program, the Safe Routes to School, and Recreational Trails Program. Her committee staff have worked with ASLA and other active transportation organizations and coalitions to ensure that our voices were heard during surface transportation legislation debates and reauthorizations.

To ensure that future generations of Californians and Americans will be able to enjoy our natural heritage, Senator Boxer has written laws designating more than 1 million acres of California wilderness. She wrote the Senate bill that elevated Pinnacles National Monument into America's 59th National Park. She helped champion the creation of the Fort Ord National Monument and Cesar Chavez National Monument, as well as efforts to expand the Gulf of the Farallones and Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuaries. She also authored the California Missions Preservation Act to protect and restore California's 21 historic missions, and led the effort in the Senate to create the Manzanar National Historic Site.

Senator Boxer is also a strong advocate for clean water and water conservation issues. In June 2014, she and Senator Diane Feinstein (CA) introduced "*W21: Water in the 21st Century*," legislation that would help communities nationwide better prepare for the future by providing new incentives and investments to help residents, businesses and local water agencies to conserve, recycle and manage limited water supplies.

Senator Boxer has been a longtime champion for many issues critical to ASLA and its members. It is fitting that she be recognized as an honorary member of the Society.

[Senator Barbara Boxer's official color photo](#)



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

Dear Board of Trustees;

Please accept this letter of support regarding the nomination of Senator Barbara Boxer as an Honorary Member of the American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA).

As a licensed landscape architect and an active member of ASLA since 2002, currently serving on ASLA's Government Affairs Advisory Committee and as Vice President of Membership for the San Diego Chapter of ASLA, I appreciate the significance of our society bestowing the title of "Honorary Member" on persons outside of our profession whose achievements warrant such recognition. In my opinion, Senator Boxer is deserving of this honor due to her long-standing commitment and leadership in support of issues and legislation at the federal level of government that has positively influenced and promoted the profession of landscape architecture.

Senator Boxer has been a strong advocate for projects that promote active transportation programs and policies that encourage walking, bicycling and increased access to public transportation over the use of single-occupancy vehicles. She has also supported legislation that would give local communities more choices when it comes to transportation funding through the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Projects that receive TAP funding include streetscapes, bike and pedestrian improvements, and recreational trails. These projects help to strengthen local economies, improve public health, manage stormwater, and create local job opportunities; including jobs for landscape architects.

Senator Boxer has also been a voice for the Complete Streets movement nationwide and a long-time supporter of the Safe Routes to School program; programs that have also been a focus of ASLA advocacy. In addition, Senator Boxer, the Ranking Member of the Senate's Committee on the Environment and Public Works, has advanced clean air and water legislation and prioritized efforts to address our country's aging infrastructure. Her efforts will help to ensure environmental protection our county's precious natural resources long after her retirement from public service in 2016 and leave a significant impact on the growth of our profession.

It is my hope that you strongly consider the many achievements that Senator Barbara Boxer has contributed to public policy throughout her career in the United State Senate and House of Representatives, which have been in support of issues that influence or have provided notable service to the profession of landscape architecture. It is my opinion that Senator Boxer is worthy of the distinction "Honorary Member" or our society.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike Nichols', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Mike Nichols, ASLA
Councilmember
City of Solana Beach



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

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

As the Director of Advocacy for Circulate San Diego, please accept this letter of support for Senator Barbara Boxer as a candidate for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

At Circulate San Diego, we share many of the same values and goals as members of your profession, seeking the advancement of active transportation projects, increased walkability and enhancements to bicycle infrastructure – all in a quest for better, healthier and more-livable communities.

It is our belief that Senator Barbara Boxer, in her 23-years as a member of the US Senate and 10-years as a member of the US House of Representatives, has demonstrated a long-standing commitment and support to many of our profession's common interests. As the Chair and Ranking Member of the US Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Senator Boxer has a proven track record as a steward of the environment, has battled for clean air and water legislation, and has worked to promote infrastructure projects that support that our economy and create green jobs, while providing better means for moving people and goods.

One of the best examples of Senator Boxer's commitment to policy that directly affects our work at Circulate San Diego and the profession of landscape architecture is her advocacy for Complete Streets legislation at the national level. In her quest to combat congestion, improve air quality and promote better community health, Senator Boxer has identified Complete Streets policies as a key to improve quality of life and the environment by promoting transit, walking and bicycling as other alternatives to cars. Landscape architects have been instrumental to the success of the Complete Streets movement and the creation of policies in support of its goals, which are aligned with this more comprehensive approach to planning and designing our communities.

We understand that Honorary Membership in your society is among the highest honors that ASLA can bestow upon non-landscape architects in recognition to notable service and support of the profession. Given Senator Boxer's demonstrated, long-standing commitment to many of the core values shared with landscape architects, and her leadership and support of policies and legislation that have fostered growth and awareness of the profession of landscape architecture, we hope that you strongly consider her worthy of this distinguished honor.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Ferrier, AICP
Director of Advocacy
Circulate San Diego



Local Government Commission

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Dear Board of Trustees;

My name is Paul Zykofsky. I have been the Director of Land Use and Transportation Programs at the Local Government Commission and managed its Center for Livable Communities since 1995. The Local Government Commission is a non-profit, non-partisan, membership organization of local elected officials and city and county staff throughout California and other states. The Center was established in 1993 to help communities be proactive in their land-use and transportation planning and to encourage the adoption of programs and policies that lead to more livable, sustainable and walkable communities.

I write to you in support of Senator Barbara Boxer, a nominee for Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects.

Senator Barbara Boxer has served the State of California in the United States Senate for 23 years, prior to which she served for 10 years as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives. Senator Boxer is the former Chair and now a Ranking Member of the Senate Committee on the Environment and Public Works, a committee that is responsible for dealing with legislation related to America's critical transportation systems and the other public infrastructure that provides the foundation for our quality of life and our nation's economy.

Throughout her career in public service, she has demonstrated leadership on issues that are of great importance to our organization's mission and the profession of Landscape Architecture, including: "Complete Streets" (Bicycle- and pedestrian-oriented street and neighborhood design), Safe Routes to School, Transit-Oriented Development, clean air and clean water legislation.

Senator Boxer recently announced her retirement at the end of her current term, ending in 2016. Honorary Membership in the American Society of Landscape Architects is an honor that is deserving of Senator Boxer in recognition of her long career in federal government in support of significant issues and legislation that has advanced the profession of Landscape Architecture.

Sincerely,

Paul Zykofsky, AICP, Associate AIA
Director, of Land Use and Transportation Planning
Local Government Commission

