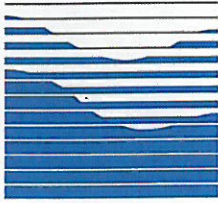


COLORADO



ASLA

February 10, 2010

Mr. Jon Mueller
President-Elect
American Society of Landscape Architecture
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Jon,

The Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects enthusiastically endorses Colorado-native son, Ken Salazar, for the ASLA Olmsted Medal.

As a lawyer, businessman, farmer and rancher, and more notably as a Colorado State Attorney General, U.S. Senator and now Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior, Ken Salazar has embodied the ethic of responsible land stewardship that forms the core of our love of the landscape and guides our practice of landscape architecture in the west.

There are many accomplishments that make Ken Salazar exceptionally worthy of this honor. As Director of the Colorado Department of Natural Resources he authored the Great Outdoors Colorado Amendment which created a statewide land conservation program to preserve, protect, enhance and manage the state's wildlife, park, river trail and open space heritage. Since it began awarding grants in 1994, Great Outdoors Colorado has awarded \$550 million for more than 2,700 land conservation projects across the state. Salazar also created the Youth in Natural Resources program to provide for environmental education in public schools. As the state's attorney general, he led a well-publicized fight against a ballot measure that would have transferred water across the Rocky Mountains from western Colorado to Denver. In his cabinet role, he established reforms that forced mining and petroleum operations to better protect the surrounding environment.

American Society of Landscape Architects Colorado Chapter
P.O. Box 200822 Denver, CO 80220 ♦ Phone: (303) 830-6616

info@ccasla.org ♦ www.aslacolorado.org

Ken Salazar has hands on experience with land and water issues, and has made great progress restoring the Department of the Interior's role as the premier steward of America's public resources. We urge ASLA to recognize these lasting contributions to the preservation and protection of America's land, water, and people by awarding Ken Salazar with the Olmsted Medal.

Sincerely,

Ian Anderson ASLA
President, Colorado Chapter

Mark Tabor, ASLA
Trustee, Colorado Chapter

February 10, 2010

The American Society of Landscape Architects

Attn: Board of Trustees

636 Eye Street NW

Washington DC 20001-3736

Re: Ken Salazar-Olmsted Medal Nomination

My Fellow Trustees:

I urge you to support the selection of Interior Secretary Ken Salazar to receive the Society's Olmsted Medal for 2010. Our selection process criteria refers to "commitment to safeguarding our natural heritage" and three areas of action on the part of the recipient. These include:

- Environmental Leadership
- Vision
- Stewardship

Before addressing these three areas, it is appropriate to provide a brief introduction to Mr. Salazar. His roots go all the way back to the "first peoples" in the American southwest. His traceable ancestors have lived there since the 1500s. Born and raised in Colorado, he has been a farmer, rancher, small businessman and lawyer. His law practice focused on issues related to water and environmental law. This background provided him with the experience to eventually serve as Colorado's Attorney General where in 2003 he led the successful fight against a ballot measure that would have transferred water over the Rockies from the western part of the state to Denver. He previously has served as the state's natural resources director (1990-94) and Legal Counsel to Governor Roy Romer (1986-90).

In 2004, Mr. Salazar was elected to the U.S. Senate and very quickly exercised leadership in bringing people together to address issues of importance of the 21st century. Because of his experience, outlook, and common sense connection to the land, he was tapped to serve as Interior Secretary by President Barack Obama and now enters his second year of service in that post.

With respect to **Environmental Leadership**, Ken Salazar warrants recognition because:

- As noted above, his successful effort to maintain the balance of natural systems as part of the intra-state water conflict that erupted in Colorado
- He reversed Bush administration policy on oil shale leases on federal lands, and as a Senator, he has put forth the right questions in committee and on the floor of the Senate, asking, "How is a federal agency to establish regulations, lease land and then manage oil-shale development without knowing whether the technology is commercially viable, how much water the technology would need, how much carbon would be emitted, the source

of the electricity to power the projects, or what the effects would be on Western landscapes?"

- As Interior Secretary, he reversed the rather cavalier Bush Administration opening of highly sensitive federal lands to oil & gas, exploration, leasing and eventual production.

With respect to Vision, Ken Salazar warrants recognition because:

- He quickly recognized the growing importance and role that farms play in the effort to both feed and fuel America, and with his influence helped shape the 2007 Farm Bill that had a dramatic impact to that end on the establishment of federal policy
- He has recognized both early and now later in his political career the looming importance of water to us all. In 2007, he co-sponsored a bi-partisan bill that called for more efficient use of water and more research into the effects of climate change on water supply, particularly in western states, stating, "Even if we move forward with significant increases in the use of renewable energies, we are learning that some adaptation measures are inevitable to reduce the harm from climate change that proves to be unavoidable. Many scientists are now saying the American West will experience the effects of climate change sooner and more intensely than most other regions. Our scarce snow and water of the west is already being impacted, much of it in ways that we do not clearly understand."
- As Interior Secretary, he has cited the "unprecedented scope of climate change", creating by signed order a federal Climate Change Response Council designed to coordinate responses to shifts in climate on U.S. territory, and launched regional and local centers to help better manage the impact of global warming
- Also as Interior Secretary, he has put the focus on and initiated important dialogue with respect to renewable energy by hosting a domestic summit on clean energy for a group of more than 160 guests from all walks and persuasions, including business, tribal leaders, conservationists and sportsmen

With respect to Stewardship, Ken Salazar warrants recognition because:

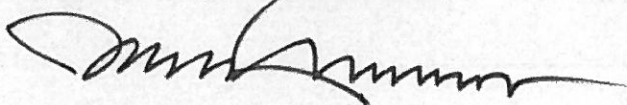
- He fought to uphold Colorado's interstate water compacts and the rule of law
- He created the Youth in Natural Resources Program in Colorado to educate thousands of young people about the vastness and importance of Colorado's natural resources
- He authored a Colorado constitutional amendment creating Great Outdoors Colorado, which he initially chaired and help make one of the most successful land conservation efforts in America
- He has brought a balanced outlook to energy policy. In a 2008 speech on the floor of the Senate, he said, "We need to be honest with ourselves and the American people about our energy future. We simply cannot drill our way to energy independence."
- He understands and pursues policy that recognizes while fossil fuels do have near term importance in our energy strategy along with renewables, protection of our wild and sacred areas is important. He has noted, "While it is important to maintain a balanced approach to solving our nation's energy problems, we must commit ourselves to recognize some areas as "off limits", and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is a national symbol of that commitment."

These are but a few of the important actions that are indicative of impact that Ken Salazar has had and will continue to have as a friend of the all that we hold as valuable.

In closing, one last quote from him clearly demonstrates that he clearly understands his role as well as his importance in the conservation issues that face us as a people. He says, "At Interior, we manage one-fifth of the nation's land mass and 1.7 billion acres of ocean off our coasts, including many of the best locations for large-scale renewable energy projects. We are also the department that is—and will be for years to come—on the front lines of our nations' response to climate change on our land, water, wildlife and tribal resources." This certainly speaks to a commitment to "safeguarding our national heritage".

Please join me in supporting Ken Salazar as the 2010 recipient of the ASLA Olmsted medal.

My thanks for your consideration,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jonathan Mueller", with a stylized, flowing script.

Jonathan Mueller, FASLA

2010 President-elect



Utah ASLA
PO Box 511125
Salt Lake City, Utah 84151
www.aslautah.org

February 3, 2010

Olmsted Medal Nominations
c/o Carolyn Mitchell
636 Eye Street, NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Re: Olmsted Medal for Ken Salazar

Dear Awards Committee:

Ken Salazar's appointment as Secretary of the Interior was the answer to a 911 call from America's Public Lands and citizens who care about them. He took over an agency steeped in "a culture of ethical failure," as stated by the department's inspector general, Earl Devaney in his report to Congress. Is it any wonder that one of Salazar's first acts upon taking office was to cancel many eleventh-hour Utah oil leases and delay others until they could be properly reviewed? Despite raising the ire of Utah's Congressional delegation and many of the state's citizens, he did not back down.

Those who had systematically gutted the budgets and demoralized the staff of agencies overseen by Interior scoffed at Salazar's declaration that there was "a new sheriff in town." While some of his directives, such as fast-tracking alternative energy projects, are controversial to supporters, his commitment to responsible management of America's public lands cannot be impugned.

Secretary Salazar has brought integrity and professionalism back to the Interior Department, and hope back to those who care about keeping public lands public for all Americans.

For his leadership as the chief steward of America's public lands, Utah ASLA endorses Ken Salazar as a worthy recipient of the Olmsted Medal.

With best regards,

Susan Crook, ASLA
Past Trustee



February 19, 2010

Board of Trustees
American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye Street NW
Washington, DC 20001

RE: Ken Salazar, Secretary of the U.S. Department of the Interior
Nomination for ASLA Olmsted Medal

Fellow Board of Trustees members:

It is with great enthusiasm that I submit this letter of support for the nomination of a fellow Westerner, Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior, for the ASLA Olmsted Medal. It is with the same spirit and conviction with which I put forward the nomination for Bruce Babbitt in 2001, that I support Mr. Salazar's nomination for this auspicious medal.

Mr. Salazar exemplifies the pragmatic, passionate leadership for conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in the West, and now, in the nation. He has demonstrated the ability to carry forward those principles into a national position of stewardship of our national parks and natural resources, following in the tradition of Mr. Babbitt.

The Olmsted Medal is intended to recognize individuals like Ken Salazar who are working outside the profession with vision, leadership, and stewardship on behalf of the environment. Mr. Salazar is already known for a legacy of stewardship in Colorado, through his Great Outdoors Colorado and Youths in Natural Resources programs. Now as Secretary of the Interior, he is in a position to carry that strong environmental ethic, with a dose of pragmatism to a national level, and even inspire conservation internationally.

- At a time when the focus for energy independence in our nation looks to our own natural resources within our public lands, Ken Salazar has already shown leadership in setting forward a balanced approach to energy development. He has rescinded many last minute oil and gas leases approved by the previous administration that would have permanently damaged sensitive western lands, in order to conduct a more thorough and legal review, upholding the National Environmental Policy Act, and taking a longer view to renewable sources of energy as part of the total energy quotient.
- He has shown vision in addressing the effects of climate change on our national treasures – our national parks, oceans, and historic resources – by establishing a Climate Change Response Council with regional and local centers to monitor such possible effects as rising ocean levels, wildlife migration and extinction, and plant life.
- The Youth in Natural Resources program he established in Colorado is now a national Office of Youth in Natural Resources. The Office will coordinate present and future youth initiatives, the



signature program of which will be a 21st Century Youth Conservation Corps. This vision of connecting children to nature is fundamental to future environmental stewardship and basic to our principles as landscape architects. It will also help to provide jobs, outdoor experiences and career opportunities for young people –especially women, minorities, tribal and other underserved youth.

- Mr. Salazar has been active in the resolution of water issues in the West since his days as Colorado's Attorney General, providing leadership to steward this scarce resource for municipalities and across state lines. From fighting transmountain diversion projects within Colorado, to helping Oregon, California and Native American Communities reach agreement to remove hydroelectric dams in favor of salmon on the Klamath River, he demonstrates that he knows the issues and works to conserve yet find balance, and then to resolve issues - the mark of a true leader.

In each of these cases, Ken Salazar has shown his vision, leadership and stewardship of the landscapes we hold dear. Please support him for the 2010 ASLA Olmsted Medal.

Sincerely,

Angela D. Dye, FASLA
Immediate Past President, ASLA

