

THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN

March 10, 2005

Professor Patrick Miller, Ph.D., FASLA
President, American Society of Landscape Architects
636 Eye St., NW
Washington, DC 20001-3736

Dear Patrick:

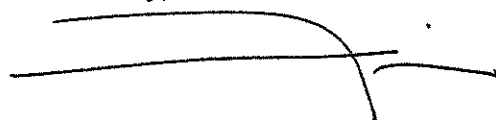
I am delighted to support Bob Yaro's nomination for the Landscape Architecture Medal of Excellence. Bob is the president of the Regional Plan Association (RPA) and a Professor of Practice at the University of Pennsylvania. He has also taught at Harvard and Columbia universities and was on the Faculty of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning at the University of Massachusetts. With the University of Massachusetts, he founded and directed the Center for Rural Massachusetts. He was chief planner and deputy director of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection from 1976 to 1984. Through all these positions, he has made significant contributions to landscape architecture policy, research, and education.

Bob Yaro co-authored two books that have had considerable influence: *Dealing with Change in the Connecticut River Valley* and *A Region at Risk*. The Connecticut River Valley book received awards from the ASLA, the American Planning Association, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and other groups. *A Region at Risk* was the third plan for the New York metropolitan region.

Recently, he chaired the Civic Alliance to Rebuild Downtown New York, a broad-based coalition of civic groups formed to guide the redevelopment of Lower Manhattan in the aftermath of the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center. In this role, Bob Yaro has been a crucial leader for open planning and good design.

Bob Yaro is arguably the most influential planner of his generation. He is a strong supporter of landscape architecture. He would be a most deserving recipient of the Landscape Architecture Medal of Excellence. Bob Yaro has my wholehearted and enthusiastic endorsement for the Medal.

Sincerely,



Frederick R. Steiner, FASLA
Dean