

Committee on the Environment

an **AIA** Knowledge Community



A neighborhood near Lake Houston, where homes and cars were decimated by hurricane flooding.



Letter from the Chair

By Angela Brooks, FAIA

My final newsletter of the year is dedicated to the amazing AIA COTE[®] advisory board, the incoming 2019 Chair Marsha Maytum and Mary Ann Lazarus, past chair. The best part of collaborating with this amazing group of people is the friendships I have made. We have accomplished so much this year and built a momentum that will continue for years to come.

[Read more >](#)

A message to AIA COTE[®] from the AIA President

By Carl Elefante, FAIA

In November, a group of AIA COTE[®] members met in Chicago during Greenbuild. While Carl could not join us, he offered a message to our gathering and the COTE[®]

membership writ large.

[Read more >](#)



Four ways architects can fight climate change

By Paula Melton and AIA Staff

We have less than 12 years to slow down global warming. Here's what you can do.

[Read more >](#)

AIA COTE[®] + ARCHITECT

This year AIA COTE[®] has worked with the editors of ARCHITECT magazine to promote more in-depth content about AIA COTE[®] Top Ten. The following articles were featured in their November issue.

Exploring the winners of the 2018 AIA COTE[®] Top Ten Awards

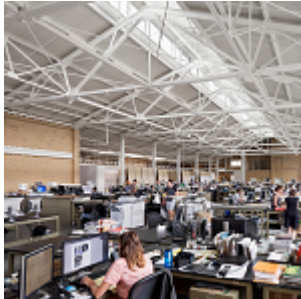
Katie Gerfen | ARCHITECT magazine

The AIA Committee on the Environment's annual program lauds projects that demonstrate that sustainable design is good design—and that it is more important than ever that the



architecture industry move toward a carbon neutral future.

[Read more >](#)



AIA COTE® to Release New Tools to Help Firms Achieve Sustainable Design

Katie Gerfen | ARCHITECT magazine

New resources will be released this winter that will provide case studies, information, calculators, and more, to help firms of any size or discipline better understand and achieve sustainable goals in their projects.

[Read more >](#)

Get your project ready for the AIA COTE® Top Ten Awards

The AIA COTE® Top Ten Awards is the industry's best-known award program for sustainable design excellence. Each year, ten innovative projects are recognized for their integration of design excellence with environmental performance.

[Learn more >](#)

AIA COTE® Advocacy Update: New opportunities in 2019

By Mike Davis, FAIA

In 2019, the new Chair of the House Energy and Commerce Committees will have the power to put progressive environmental legislation on their agendas and to review the lawful compliance of agencies such as the Department of Energy and the Environmental Protection Agency.

[Read more >](#)

New tool review: Architecture 2030's Carbon Smart



Materials Palette

By Larry Strain, FAIA

The CSM Palette is great introduction to embodied carbon and how to reduce it—explanations and advice are clear and simple enough for someone unfamiliar with the topic to understand, but it's also a good resource for those of us that have been working on this for a long time.

[Read more >](#)



AIA 2030 Commitment by the Numbers: the 2017 Report

With 40 percent of US energy consumed by buildings, architects play a key role in making significant reductions in CO₂ emissions. Learn more about the impact 2030

Commitment firms are making in this year's report.

[Read more >](#)



Blueprint for Better Housing: New Urban Agenda

By Phil Bona, AIA

In a time of rapid change, generational transitions, and significant global population growth, attainable housing remains a fundamental need and expectation of the human experience. As such, the world's housing crisis and its impacts on social equity is one of the most difficult challenges facing leaders and policymakers.

[Read more >](#)

New on AIAU: Professional Risk and the Business Case for Resilience

The newest course in the AIA Resilience & Adaptation online education series shares best practices for guiding business and building owners on how to address their risk through resilient design. Look for the final courses in the series later this month!

[Read more >](#)

The importance of advocating for affordable housing

By Susan King, FAIA | gb&d magazine

Susan King is principal at HED, a longtime AIA COTE® Chicago member and leader, as well as a Women in Sustainability Leadership award winner. Here she writes about affordable housing as a key part of sustainable communities.

[Read more >](#)

Calendar

AIA COTE® Top Ten Toolkit release

December 12

The toolkit will be a resource, accessible to all architects, that closes the information gap to designing high performing, equitable, beautiful buildings.

AIA COTE® Top Ten Awards submissions are open

Submissions due January 16

Each year, ten innovative projects are recognized for their integration of design excellence with environmental performance. [Learn more >](#)

Yann Weymouth Graduate Scholarship

Submissions due January 16

This scholarship was established to support a graduate student studying architecture within a NAAB-accredited master's degree program. The student's work should demonstrate an exemplary focus at the design intersection of sustainability, resilience, wellness, and beauty. [Learn more >](#)

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