

Committee on the Environment

an **AIA** Knowledge Community



Greenbuild will be held in Boston November 8-10.

Hi COTE members:

It's time for COTE's annual Greenbuild preview newsletter and there's a lot of great information to share.

As in the past, many COTE members will be sharing their expertise at Greenbuild in Boston November 8-10. Check out the many sessions summarized below and be sure to sign up for some if you're attending Greenbuild.



And related to the recent spate of extreme weather events, check out the relevant article below in the Boston Globe on their approach to addressing rising sea levels.

One more thing, it's not too late to submit your name to work with the National COTE Advisory Group. Nominations close October 9. More information [here](#).

I hope to see you at Greenbuild.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "MAL".

Mary Ann Lazarus, FAIA
2017 Chair, Committee on the Environment



TOGETHER IN BOSTON

Session highlights

LD18 Built Positive: Exploring Buildings as Material Banks

Tuesday, November 7 at 8:30am

Dialogue and charrettes will guide you in coupling your growing expertise in selecting safe ingredients with thoughtful design strategies, so that the materials and products you are manufacturing or specifying can be disassembled and recovered later for reuse. [More >](#)

IS07 The Time Value of Carbon

Tuesday, November 7 at 2pm

We need strategies that produce large savings fast. This session will expose the often hidden embodied carbon footprint as a critical piece in the realization of carbon neutral buildings and suggest how we can bring the attention of the building sector to embodied carbon. [More >](#)

F06 Climate Ready DC: Creating a City-wide Resilience Plan

Wednesday, November 8 at 8:30am

This session will explore the multi-step process Washington, DC completed to create a community-wide climate adaptation plan and take a look at the first year of the plan since the official launch [More >](#)

EL25 Shaw Industries Presents: The Great Indoors: Creating Safe, Sustainable Environments

Wednesday, November 8 at 12:30pm

This session will demonstrate how Cradle to Cradle Certified products can contribute to LEED v4 MR Credits and how those responsible for selecting products can differentiate among the tools recognized by LEED v4 on the continuum from disclosure to transparency to optimization. [More >](#)

A02 Social Justice and LEED: 10 Things You Can Do NOW

Wednesday, November 8 at 2pm

How do we propose a socially just project and actually measure these outcomes? In this session, you will explore the metrics that measure social equity, and develop your own tools to create more socially just outcomes through your work. [More >](#)

B07 Kicking Carbon for Credits: LEED v4 Whole-Building LCA

Wednesday, November 8 at 4pm

The panel will give a technical foundation for LCA and discuss key topics the design teams faced when performing LCAs, including: selecting the right LCA tools, the process of defining a reference building; determining the greatest opportunities to achieve the credit; what time, effort, and compromises were required; and how the entire team, including the client, was engaged in the process. [More >](#)

B10 Fitwel: Driving Occupant Health & Wellness in the Built Environment

Wednesday, November 8 at 4pm

A growing body of evidence links the design of our built environment to individual health behaviors and broader public health outcomes. Learn how you can positively impact building occupant health and productivity across small and large building portfolios using the Fitwel system. [More >](#)

C02 Design Process Hackathon

Thursday, November 9 at 8am

This session will reveal the simple truth about why we do things, and present an authentic, transparent account of what has and hasn't worked to change the design process at firms to improve integration and achievement of sustainable and health outcomes. [More >](#)

C07 Material Transparency—Positive Revelations

Thursday, November 9 at 8am

This session will provide 10 optimization strategies related to both health and environmental impact. Attendees will be encouraged to adopt and refine these strategies for guidance beyond the workshop in making supportable, solid product decisions. [More >](#)

C12 How to Live up to Your Marketing Claims

Thursday, November 9 at 8am

Claiming is easy, delivering is hard! This session gives you practical tools and proven methodologies to successfully implement change of any kind, including sustainability. [More >](#)

D05 Redefining Sustainable Design: The New AIA COTE Measures

Thursday, November 9 at 1pm

Members of the COTE Advisory Group will present the new COTE Top Ten criteria and discuss what defines sustainable design. They will examine how the new criteria compare to the new credits in LEED v4. [More >](#)

D07 BuildingGreen's Top 10 Products for LEED v4 and Beyond

Thursday, November 9 at 1pm

In this session we also explain how these Top 10 products can be applied to credits in LEED BD+C ID+C, Homes, and/or O+M projects, including Raw Material Extraction, Optimize Energy Performance, Indoor Water Use Reduction, Low-Emitting Materials. [More >](#)

E05 Harmonized Market Transformation

Thursday, November 9 at 3pm

Comparing and selecting products can be challenging and time consuming. This session will present 4 distinct and intersecting perspectives on the matter of material health and the imperative for market transformation. [More >](#)

H03 Participate in Live POE while learning about Comfort & Tools

Friday, November 10 at 9:30am

While POE are not often done in convention centers, it is an especially appropriate typology as we often spend an entire day inside, subject to stresses of an artificial environment. Attendees will learn what it means to be a 'user' of a space, and how to think around common user-related pitfalls that often hamper POE efforts. [More >](#)

Boston

As seas rise, city mulls a massive sea barrier across Boston Harbor (*Boston Globe*)

The idea, raised in a recent city report on the local risks of climate change, sounds like a pipe dream, a project that could rival the Big Dig in complexity and cost. It's just one of several options, but the sea wall proposal is now under serious study by a team of some of the region's top scientists and engineers, who recently received a major grant to pursue their research. [Read more >](#)

Upcoming events

Built Environment and Embodied Carbon Emissions

October 12, webinar

Significant greenhouse gas emissions occur before the building is even inhabited, during design, construction and the sourcing of building materials. These 'embodied' carbon emissions can be addressed by understanding their sources and designing our built environment to optimize material use. This webinar brings together four industry and government leaders in analyzing and finding solutions through the Embodied Carbon Network and their academic and professional practices. [Learn more >](#)

Sustainable Detroit Forum

October 25, Detroit

The event will provide a day of interactive learning with morning and lunch keynotes followed by a series of short presentation of sustainable projects. These 10-15 minute Lightning Rapid Fire Presentations of completed/ongoing/future projects form the bulk of the sessions, allowing as many people as possible to share their sustainability actions and visions.

[Learn more >](#)

Where building science meets climate science

November 4, Asheville, North Carolina

This symposium, presented by AIA Asheville, will incorporate problem-based learning and draw from numerous case studies to help participants identify the role of architects in addressing the challenges presented by climate change. Participants will learn methods to achieve climate adaptive design from experts in both building science and climate science. [Learn more >](#)

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