Zoning Reform and the Central Area plan

What role have architects played?
How will your practice be impacted?
**September 2002**

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**Cover Photo** © Lawrence Okren, Chicago, August 2, 2002.
Infection Control During Healthcare Construction
Wed., September 4, 5:30 p.m.
Northwestern Memorial Hospital
Conference Center, 3rd floor
Rooms C & D
Sponsor: Architecture for Health PIA

What is the rationale behind new regulations for infection control in the building of healthcare facilities? Sandra Reiner, RN, nationally known infection control and prevention officer at Northwestern Memorial Hospital, has helped develop measures to contain the spread of construction dust and resultant aspergilllis infection during construction in healthcare environments. 1.5 LU/HSW

Housing Diversity: Act Four
Tues., September 10, 5:30 p.m.
DeStefano and Partners
445 E. Illinois St., #250
Sponsor: Housing PIA

From single-family to row house to high-rise, residential projects have figured prominently in the portfolio of DeStefano and Partners since its founding. At the fourth in our series of office visits examining diverse responses to housing needs, Avram Lothan, AIA and Robert Bistry, AIA will present several low-income and market-rate projects. 1.5 LU/HSW

Conserving Urban Open Space in an Expanding Region
Wed., September 11, 12:00 noon
AIA Chicago
Sponsor: Planning & Urban Affairs PIA

Gerald Adelman, executive director, Openlands Project, will discuss the organization’s role in understanding land consumption and preserving open space, both land and water, in the Chicago region. Learn more at www.openlands.org. Bring your lunch; beverages provided. 1 LU/HSW

Young Architects PIA
Wed., September 11, 6:30 p.m.
Cullen’s Pub, 3741 N. Southport Ave.

Join us to meet your peers, find out more about the AIA, and become part of the community of architect interns and anyone licensed under 10 years. Questions? Contact Mary Brush, AIA at mbrush@kleinandhoffman.com

Walking Tour: Bascule Bridges Over the Chicago River
Mon., September 16, 5:30 p.m.
The Merchandise Mart (south lobby)
Sponsor: Historic Resources PIA

What makes Chicago’s bridge-building heritage special? How do these bridges work and how are they kept working? Architect Jim Hanley, Antunovich Associates, will discuss the history and mechanical operation of the bascule bridge. The tour will conclude at the State Street Bridge. Limit 30 participants. 1.5 LU/HSW

Leadership: Leading an Extraordinary Life
Wed., September 18, 5:30 p.m.
AIA Chicago
Sponsor: Office Practice PIA

Very successful people may sometimes find that their work and lives have become predictable and routine. Andrea Putignano, Landmark Education, will teach a few ways to move towards an extraordinary life. Participants will have the opportunity to share experiences and look at the possibility of seeing these “realities” in new ways. Joe Putignano, AIA, S.N. Peck Builder Inc., and Barry Koren, AIA, Ph.D., KorenNetwork, will be additional resources. Preview the subject: www.landmarkeducation.com. 1 LU

continued on page 4
Tour: Sofitel Chicago Water Tower

Wed., September 18, 5:30 p.m.
Sofitel, 20 E. Chestnut St.
Sponsor: Corporate Architects PIA

Visit the Sofitel hotel, designed by Jean-Paul Viguier, Hon. FAIA, with associate architect Teng & Associates and interior design by Pierre-Yves Rochon, with associate interior design architect Perkins & Will. Project managers Alfredo Marr, AIA and Tak Louie, Assoc. AIA will lead the tour. Hear how these firms collaborated to create this striking new hotel, with its Cafe Des Architectes restaurant, and see the results first-hand. Limited to 35 participants. 1.5 LU/HSW

The Business of Your Business: Established Firms

Four sessions: September 19 and 26 and October 17 and 18
9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; AIA Chicago
Sponsor: AIA Chicago

Leonard Weitz and Mark Mann of Mann, Weitz & Associates LLC, auditors for AIA Chicago, present a four-session course on finance for experienced architects and business managers that covers these and related topics.
- Class 1: Internal controls, reducing theft and fraud, and accrual versus cash accounting
- Class 2: Tax and retirement planning, using financial statements to enhance profits, and break-even analysis
- Class 3: General business issues — partner negotiation/compensation, buy/sell agreements, marketing plans, and bonuses
- Class 4: Performance measurements — target markets, operating systems, and organizational structure
8 LU for the series.

Steel Solutions: Tall Residential Buildings

Thurs., September 19, 12:00 p.m.
Chicago Bar Association
321 S. Plymouth Court
Sponsor: Technical Issues PIA

Jeffrey Lane, regional engineer for the American Institute of Steel Construction, will present low floor-to-floor height...
structural steel framing solutions for multi-
story residential buildings. Find out how to
achieve greater architectural freedom while
reducing cost and increasing the speed of
construction of apartments, condominiums,
hotels, dormitories, and senior residences.
Bring your lunch or buy at the CBA cafe-
teria (purchase ticket in first-floor shop).
1 LU/HSW

- Tour: One North Wacker
  Building and Offices
  Thurs., September 19, 5:30 p.m. sharp
  One N. Wacker Dr. (meet in lobby)
  Sponsor: Interior Architecture PIA
  Visit downtown’s newest office building and
two of its tenants. An architect from Lohan
Caprile Goetsch Architects will discuss the
building and its lobby. Participants will
then visit and hear the designers discuss
venture capital firm Willis Stein & Partners
(Gary Lee Partners) and financial services
company UBS (The Environments Group).
Limit 40 participants. 1.5 LU/HSW

- Design/Build: New Illinois
  Regulations
  Wed., September 25, 5:30 p.m.
  AIA Chicago
  Sponsor: Design/Build PIA
  Attorney Kevin Sido, Hinshaw &
  Culbertson, will present Illinois’ recent
  amendments to design/build regulations.
  1 LU/HSW

  Tues., October 1 through
  Thurs., October 3
  Radisson Hotel
  1725 E. Algonquin Road, Schaumburg
  Cost: $385
  Co-Sponsor: Architecture for Health PIA
  The Illinois Department of Public Health
  (IDPH), in conjunction with the Architecture
  for Health PIA, is sponsoring a seminar on
  the 2000 edition of the NFPA 101 Life Safety
  Code. AIA members can submit a self-report
  form for up to 21 CES learning units, all of
  which qualify as HSW hours. Registrations
  must be received by September 18. For details
  and to register, contact Jody Gudgel at IDPH,
  217/785-4264 or jgudgel@idph.state.il.us.

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www.mcsinet.com for details.
Chicago is Ready for Zoning Reform  
Wed., October 9, 12:00 noon  
AIA Chicago  
Sponsor: Planning & Urban Affairs PIA

Tim Barton, assistant director of the Mayor’s Zoning Reform Commission of the Chicago Department of Planning and Development, and Kirk Bishop of Duncan and Associates, primary consultant to the commission, will discuss the zoning reform process. They will summarize the main issues in this major undertaking. Bring your lunch; beverages provided. 1 LU (See Cover Story, page 14).

Young Architects PIA  
Wed., October 9, 6:30 p.m.  
Cullen's Pub, 3741 N. Southport Ave.

Join us to meet your peers, find out more about the AIA, and become part of the community of architect interns and anyone licensed under 10 years. Questions? Contact Mary Brush, AIA at mbrush@kleinandhoffman.com

Designight 2002  
Fri., October 11, 5:30 p.m.  
Grand Ballroom, Navy Pier  
Sponsor: AIA Chicago

Join the Chicago architecture community and special guest former Gov. James R. Thompson for an evening celebrating the 47th annual Design Excellence Awards. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner, the awards presentation, and a dessert buffet. Invitations have been mailed to members. For information, visit www.aiachicago.org.

Restoring the Great Pink Lady: Edgewater Beach Apartments  
Tues., October 15, 12:00 noon  
AIA Chicago  
Sponsor: Historic Resources PIA

The Edgewater Beach Apartments, a 1927 steel-framed high-rise covered in stucco and structural clay tile, is in the third of a four-year restoration of the entire façade. Anne Sullivan, AIA, Johnson-Lasky Architects, will discuss the unusual conditions found there and how repair systems were selected. 1 LU/HSW

O'Hare Airport Terminal 6  
Wed., October 16  
5:00 to 6:30 p.m.  
Terminal 6 Project Office, O’Hare Plaza, 8755 W. Higgins Rd., #700, Chicago  
Sponsor: Corporate Architects and Design/Build PIA

The only design/build terminal project in the U.S., Terminal 6 (T6) includes a new terminal, extension of the ATS people mover and associated roadways, and a new parking structure. T6 Partners, the prime contractor, is lead by Bechtel Infrastructure. DeStefano and Partners is executive architect of the terminal team, with Gensler providing planning, programming and interior design. OWP/P heads the LEED and art program. Additional design participation comes from Mann Gin Dubin and Frazier, STL, UrbanWorks, and Brook Architecture. Speakers for this program include: John Adams Dix, AIA, John Albright, AIA and John Winner AIA from DeStefano and Partners; William Hooper, AIA of Gensler; O’Hare Partners, World Gateway program manager for the Chicago Department of Aviation; and Red Beebe, AIA of T6 Partners. Limit 50 participants. (The T6 project office is located just west of the Cumberland stop on the CTA Blue line. There is free parking at O’Hare Plaza, north of I-190 between Cumberland Avenue and East River Road.) 1.5 LU

The Comfortable Home  
Thurs., October 17, 12:00 noon  
Chicago Bar Association  
321 S. Plymouth Court  
Sponsor: Technical Issues PIA

Kevin Buddinger of Allied Contractors and Ralph Eimerman of Temperature Equipment Control, who represent the Carrier Equipment Co., will discuss the newest technology for heating and cooling single residences. Furnaces, boilers, radiant floors, air conditioning and energy ventilation recovery systems will be addressed. Bring your lunch or buy at the CBA cafeteria (purchase ticket in first-floor shop). 1 LU/HSW

Pushing the Envelope: Innovation in Design Practice. Step 4 - Detailing  
Tues., October 22, 5:30 p.m.  
AIA Chicago  
Sponsor: Design PIA

Detailing is the fourth step in our look at local firms that are bringing new thinking to the five-step building process. Philip Castillo, AIA of Murphy/Jahn will present recent work, describing how materials and detailing relate to overall design. Jeanne Gang, AIA, Studio Gang/O’Donnell, and Ron Krueck, FAIA, Krueck and Sexton, will respond. 1.5 LU

New Members Breakfast  
Wed., Oct. 23, 7:45 a.m.; AIA Chicago  
Sponsor: AIA Chicago

The Board of Directors and staff preview upcoming activities and answer questions. RSVP by October 21.
Panel Discussion: Diversity Within the Profession

Wed., October 23, 5:30 p.m.
Knoll Showroom
#1111 Merchandise Mart
Sponsor: Diversity Alliance

Join Chicago Women in Architecture, the Illinois National Organization of Minority Architects (INOMA), Arquitectos, and AIA Chicago for a lively discussion regarding current and future issues about diversity within the architectural profession. This event will be graciously hosted by Knoll. 1 LU

Becoming a Mentor

Fri., October 25, 8:30 a.m.
AIA Chicago
Sponsor: AIA Chicago

Frank Heitzman, AIA, an Intern Development Program (IDP) coordinator for Illinois, will explain how to become a mentor to an emerging architect. An IDP mentor is someone who demonstrates a long-term commitment to an intern's professional growth, and the intern-mentor relationship personifies the architectural profession's history of counseling and guidance. The basic requirements are to meet with the intern at least once every four months to review training progress and discuss career objectives, and to sign the IDP Training Unit Report. Mentors must hold a current architectural license; however, they do not have to be registered in the state in which the intern is working. If a mentor was important to you when you entered the profession, or if you wish you had had more guidance in those early years, consider becoming a mentor now. 1 LU
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AIA Issues Upgrade to EF 3.0

The latest upgrade to the electronic contract documents software (EF 3.0) now makes the documents easier to purchase, install and use. For existing users, this free upgrade can be downloaded from www.aia.org; it includes 11 new or revised contract administration forms. Other improvements through EF 3.0 Plus include:

- Faster printing and a less intrusive “draft” watermark that permits copying and faxing without obscuring text
- User-friendly pop-up navigation aids at key points. In particular, standard contract language that cannot be edited is identified.
- Improved formatting for the most popular documents.

In addition to software and production improvements, the national AIA has enhanced product support services, featuring a new online help desk at www.aia.org.

The upgrade is available at no charge to existing users. Visit www.aia.org. To purchase the electronic contract documents software for the first time, go to www.aiachicago.org and click on “Contract Documents and Books.”

New Study Reveals What Clients Want

The results of new AIA market research exploring the client experience of working with an architect are now available free of charge exclusively to AIA members. *The Client Experience, 2002* covers government, institutional, private-sector business, real-estate development, and single-family homeowner clients. It explores the interaction between architect and client throughout the entire project process: genesis, focus, design, construction and operation. The research pinpoints in each phase how the client’s attitudes, biases and perceptions affect the client-architect relationship and the project-development process. The “Opportunities” and “Barriers” sections of the report are designed to help architects improve their processes and service offerings in an increasingly demanding marketplace.

**Experience 2002 covers government, institutional, private-sector business, real-estate development, and single-family homeowner clients. It explores the interaction between architect and client throughout the entire project process: genesis, focus, design, construction and operation. The research pinpoints in each phase how the client’s attitudes, biases and perceptions affect the client-architect relationship and the project-development process. The “Opportunities” and “Barriers” sections of the report are designed to help architects improve their processes and service offerings in an increasingly demanding marketplace.**

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The research is the basis for a new national advertising campaign that begins this month. In the Chicago area, the radio spots will air on popular stations during the morning and evening "drive times." For your free copy of the report, go to www.ala.org.

Chicago Becomes Home to Chapter of Green Building Council

The U.S. Green Buildings Council (USGBC) has granted provisional chapter status to a local group of architects and planners. Chicago is now one of only seven USGBC chapters in the country, joining Atlanta, Cascadia (Pacific Northwest), New York, Los Angeles, St. Louis and Washington, D.C. The new chapter will hold an open planning meeting on Thursday, September 19 from 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. at Knoll, 1111 Merchandise Mart. For more information, contact Amy Coffman Phillips at acoffman@voa.com.

Architecture Careers Focus of Program for High School Students

Now in its 17th year, the Chicago Career Day 2002 for Architecture, Interior Design, Construction Management, and Landscape Architecture will be held on Saturday, October 5, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at the Chicago Cultural Center, 75 E. Washington. Sponsored by the Consortium for Design and Construction Careers, the Chicago 2002 Career Day is a free event open to high school and college students, parents, teachers and counselors interested in learning more about careers in architecture, interior design, construction management and landscape architecture. For further details and to register for the event, see go to www.chicagocareerday.org

Art Institute Upgrades Access to Architects Oral History Project

The Department of Architecture of the Art Institute of Chicago has announced major improvements and additions to the Chicago Architects Oral History Project. Launched in 1997, the site includes a complete list of archi-
tects interviewed, as well as biographical summaries, interview highlights, and links to other resources. Now, 20 oral history transcripts can be downloaded. Visit www.artic.edu/aic/collections/dept_architecture/oralhistory.html

The Oral History Project is funded from public and private donors, most notably the Illinois Humanities Council and the Graham Foundation for Advanced Studies in the Fine Arts.

October Newsletter Slated for Late Delivery

The next issue of Focus will be mailed on Friday, October 11. A special edition, it will feature winners of the 2002 Design Excellence Awards that will be announced that same day. See pages 5 through 7 in this issue for October programs. Or, check the Web site at www.aiachicago.org for the most up-to-date listing.

Save the Date!

AIA Illinois Annual Meeting to be Held in Chicago

The state chapter of the AIA will hold its annual meeting, including a reception, continuing education programs and professional service awards, on Friday, November 8 and Saturday, November 9 at the Allegro Hotel Chicago, 171 W. Randolph St. Check www.aiail.org for a complete list of events.

Legislative Report

Excerpted from Envision, the newsletter of AIA Illinois. Visit www.aiail.org for the complete legislative recap.

After the conclusion of the regular session business and a special legislative session to resolve budget issues, the Illinois General Assembly stands adjourned until November 19. While the media has already covered the major issues in Springfield, it was an eventful lobbying season for AIA Illinois too, reviewing hundreds of introduced bills and actively tracking 70 pieces of legislation.

The biggest challenge of the year came in HB 5596, a bill that would overturn a Supreme Court case and dramatically alter the professional liability climate in Illinois. The legislation was proposed by CNH Insurance Company but opponents believed it would have led to greater insurance costs and premiums and more liability exposure for designers, owners and lenders. AIA Illinois was the first to raise concerns, with 20 other organizations joining the effort to defeat the bill. A position paper, committee testimony and other information on HB 5596 are available at www.aiail.org.

Illinois Architects Political Action Committee

The Illinois Political Action Committee (IAPAC) is the way the profession shows support to our friends and allies in the political arena. Every year, IAPAC relies solely on contributions from members and firms to make donations to candidates (dues are prohibited from use) and to supplement government affairs work. This year, the need is greater than ever with a highly contested race for Governor and the redistricting that is putting every member of the state legislature up for re-election. As long as money is required to win elections, our friends will ask for our support. To contribute, please make checks payable to: IAPAC, 1 Old State Capitol Plaza North, Suite 300, Springfield, IL 62701.
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Mayor Richard M. Daley’s ever-increasing political clout is enabling Chicago to overhaul its outdated Zoning Ordinance and implement a substantial Central Area master plan. Draft versions of both documents were published this summer for public review.

The final Central Area Plan is anticipated in 2003. There is little concern about its actual completion, only debate over key issues such as parking and affordable housing. Zoning Reform, on the other hand, is another animal.

Four mayors have attempted to update the obsolete zoning ordinance, which was heralded as a model when introduced in 1957 but has long been in need of a substantial overhaul. But with aldermen clinging to their almost sovereign right to adjust zoning – read property value – in their wards, reform is not an easy task.

Alicia Berg, commissioner of the Department of Planning and Development and a key participant in the development of both documents, indicates that Chicago is not alone in its struggle to adopt zoning changes. “New York City spent 10 years trying to change its zoning policy and failed. Seattle just finished its zoning policy revision after 15 years, and Boston has spent 10 years on its zoning ordinance and is still in process,” she said.
Berg recognizes zoning reform is not an easy political exercise, but she does not anticipate Chicago will need as long to move through the process as other cities. "The Mayor is in a good place to be taking on incredibly complex tasks, and it is because of his leadership that we are finally taking on these projects," Berg said.

The documents present major concepts the City wants to address and spell out the steps needed to accomplish them. However, as drafts, they both leave room for detailed development and further refinement that will come with the continued assistance of Chicago architects. Diane Legge Kemp, FAIA is a member of the Zoning Reform Commission; Skidmore Owings & Merrill is principal consultant for the Central Area Plan and Linda Searl, FAIA serves on the Steering Committee.

In addition to these leadership positions, AIA Chicago members serve key roles on task forces and have participated in the public review meetings held to date.

"Architecture is at the core of what we are doing," said Berg. "The beauty of the city and quality of life are intricately related. But these documents are not about architectural style and how to design in general. They are concerned with scale and setbacks and how to open opportunities for architects to look anew at buildings and communities."

Berg hopes the Central Area Plan and the new Zoning Ordinance will raise the bar for design sensitivity in the city. "We would like to challenge developers to do better -- we want to help them see eye-to-eye with architects and what they want to achieve," she said.

A major issue in both zoning reform and planning for the central city is affordable housing, according to Berg. "The City is already participating in many initiatives to create affordable housing, and zoning and planning can be key parts of solving that puzzle," she said. "New density bonuses for the creation of affordable housing downtown or near transit centers in neighborhoods can help. Also, we can streamline the zoning approval process for affordable housing."

Parking is another area of overall concern. "People do drive, we have to recognize that," said Berg. "At the same time we have to encourage public transportation." The new Central Area Plan calls for an underground bus tunnel, and the zoning draft calls for special transportation districts to allow more parking flexibility and increased transportation options.

Also, the zoning draft calls for new requirements that ease shared parking, limits parking in the base of high-rise buildings, increases requirements for single-family dwelling parking, and adjusts parking demands for buildings near public transportation.

The Rubik's Cubes of parking requirements and affordable housing are just examples of the complex negotiation of zoning policy that will impact the future design of Chicago.

Unfortunately, zoning reform will start out as a text-based document before mapping and block diagrams are tackled. And the Central Area Plan does not fulfill the need for a master plan for the entire city. However, the steps being taken will allow major moves toward enhancing the long-term vitality and viability of Chicago.

Mike Bordenaro is a Chicago-based writer and a regular contributor to Focus.

**AIA Chicago Participation**

**Zoning Reform**
- Farr Associates
- Diane Legge Kemp, FAIA
- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill

**Central Area Plan**
- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (principal consultant)
- Cal Audrain
- Larry Booth, FAIA
- Dan Coffey, FAIA
- Doug Garofalo, AIA
- Jack Hartray, FAIA
- Chris Lee, AIA
- Judith McBrien
- Larry Okrent
- Linda Searl, FAIA
- John Syvertsen, FAIA
- Stanley Tigerman, FAIA
- Mike Tobin, AIA
- Ed Uhlir, FAIA
Diane Legge Kemp, FAIA is president of DLK Architecture. She was appointed to the Zoning Reform Commission by Mayor Daley and has participated in most meetings, community hearings and workshops since its inception in 2000.

How can the new zoning ordinance make a major step forward from what is currently in place?
As a physical planner, I believe that zoning should be form-based, not Euclidean or numbers-based. We need to know what our communities will look like with the zoning we put in place. The most attractive parts of Chicago, after all, were not built with the current zoning ordinance but with the previous one based on bulk, setbacks, height and distance between buildings. I have tried to aid the consultants in making that point to the other Commission members.

What elements of the new zoning ordinance will impact architects most directly?
The new ordinance, so far, will not impact architects any differently than the current one does. We will still have to work with height, setback and bulk issues. However, the new ordinance will be easier to read, use and understand because it will be shorter, illustrated and aimed at property owners, lay or professional.

Will the new zoning ordinance force architects to change the way they do business or approach a project?
Good architects will not have to change anything. It will not impact architects who understand that the quality of urban life depends on the shaping of our public spaces – the spaces between buildings – streets, yards, parks, etc. Those that do not understand this may have difficulties convincing their clients that buildings should face the street and that there should be windows on the ground floor and other basic aspects of good design practice. Whether a building design is modern or traditional, the new zoning ordinance is just going to seem like “common sense” for making Chicago livable. In fact, the new ordinance will prohibit the kind of building that has laid waste to certain parts of our city.

How have architects been involved in the process so far?
Architects were well represented at the public workshops last summer, voicing personal, as well as professional, opinions. The point of view of most architects – make zoning form-based and stay away from design guidelines – has been heard.

Is there a way architects can still get involved in the process?
The Commission has published a progress report that endeavors to reiterate and reconfirm the basic principles upon which
the new zoning text will be based. This is important because the “quality of life” issues translate into certain restrictions on properties. Some owners may object to that. Architects should read and comment on this document.

Did architects express concern about specific issues such as historic preservation, environmental issues, or urban design integrity?

Yes, all of the above. But many of us thought, and still do, that at least a framework plan, even a compilation of the many plans and studies that have been done for various parts of the city, should precede revising the zoning text. This would allow us to test whether the new zoning classifications work. However, it will go the other way – we will create the text first and then the zoning map.

What was the most heated conflict among architects?

Design guidelines. No architect likes being told what to do, but some think design guidelines make less-talented architects produce better buildings – or at least contribute to making better clients. The debate over guidelines was primarily a concern about “style,” such as requiring all Georgian buildings in certain areas. The issue isn’t style; it is “What makes a city great?” We want to encourage streets for strolling, shady green spaces, window shopping, very private and quiet spaces at home, daylight, and other elements that are known to enhance urban life. To achieve this requires an urban sensitivity on the part of architects and a zoning ordinance that will allow us to do the right thing. Curiously, parts of the current ordinance encourage us to do what we know contributes to bad urban design.

### Principles for Chicago’s New Zoning Ordinance

The following is a small sample of basic issues the Mayor’s Zoning Reform Commission wants to address. Download a complete copy of the report at www.cityofchicago.org/mayor/zoning – click on “Zoning News.” Copies also are available at 121 N. LaSalle St., Room 1004, Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

#### Residential Buildings

- Replace FAR with building height, setback and coverage limits
- Regulate building mass in a predictable manner
- Eliminate street facing parking and front yard patio pits
- Allow high rise residential to cover more than 50% of a site

#### Residential Neighborhoods

- Create R3.5 and R4.5 categories to encourage more diverse housing types
- Consolidate high-rise zoning districts and mitigate traffic, parking and other density issues

#### Affordable Housing

- Establish expedited zoning processes for affordable housing
- Create new FAR bonuses for affordable housing downtown and elsewhere
- Permit more residential development in commercial areas

#### Business Districts

- Allow a greater mix of uses to activate streets
- Better match zoning classifications to market needs
- Create pedestrian friendly commercial districts
- Refine auto-dominated commercial strips
- Create transitional commercial areas that accommodate pedestrian and auto traffic

#### Enhancing Transportation

- Increase parking requirements for residential buildings
- Reduce parking requirements for affordable housing and housing near transit centers
- Simplify zoning for shared commercial parking
- Create a new transportation zoning district

#### Other considerations

- Provide zoning incentives for sustainable building practices
- Give parking bonuses for rehabilitation of older buildings
- Encourage strong “corner” buildings
- Reduce signs on buildings
- Make the zoning ordinance easier to understand
- Establish standards regarding pedestrian amenities for downtown buildings
- Require review of new buildings in special character areas
Linda Searl, FAIA, president of Searl and Associates, is a member of the Chicago Central Area Plan Steering Committee. She has helped guide the process and will review public comments made to the draft recommendations. The following are her comments on what has been achieved to date and what needs to occur so Chicago will be ensured a strong guiding plan for its future.

Now that the preliminary recommendations for the Chicago Central Area Plan have been made, what do you think of the process to this point?
The City has done a very good job, and I am proud of what has been achieved so far. But the full plan is not there yet.

Many of the ideas are in place, but we do not have a complete picture of what we want to achieve. That is the goal of our next stage.

Are there any concerns you would like to see addressed going into this next stage?
I wonder if we are dreaming enough? There are some ideas that are definitely big dreams in the Central Area Plan. Covering over a good portion of the Kennedy Expressway west of the Loop to make it a park connecting downtown and the area west of Halsted Street is a really big idea. Making the river a continuous park is a big idea. But are there enough of these ideas? The plan is still in the draft form, and people can still comment on what is there and what should be there. The Plan’s three guiding themes – mixed-use districts, waterfronts and open spaces, and transportation – appear to be pointing toward big ideas.

The guiding themes are very good, but how do we get them to be in the forefront of the plan? And how does the rest of the plan follow through on delivering these ideas? There is no hierarchy for implementation now. We need to say, “These are the top 10 ideas that need to be addressed.”

For example, keeping downtown accessible and connected is a key theme that needs to be made into a reality if we are going to have a vibrant and dynamic downtown. The proposed underground bus tunnels, West Loop Transportation Center, and other initiatives are a way to help achieve this. But they have to be presented as a definite priority so developers know not to build basements in areas where underground transit activities are planned.

What about the attention that has been given to the creation of two islands off Monroe Harbor?
The barrier islands [envisioned in the 1909 Plan of Chicago] are an important
idea, and if television commentators are criticizing them, it means the plan is getting attention and is worthy of being debated. But again, it is a matter of establishing a hierarchy for the plan. It should be clear that the barrier islands are more of a long-term concept than resolving transportation issues or addressing mixed-use balance.

**What are the concerns for mixed uses?**

The plan establishes four district types: downtown core, mixed-use, residential and services districts. We need to balance these districts so there is a level of density that makes sense, so residential and offices and services are not fighting each other, and the liveliness of downtown is enhanced. I don’t think anybody has the answer now for what the right balance is.

**There seems to be a lot of struggle over parking in these districts.**

The issue of parking is not fully resolved in this document. The issue of short-term parking especially needs to be addressed. We need to encourage retail, but we can’t do that with one-hour parking that costs $13 or $20, especially when street parking is non-existent. One philosophy states, ‘We don’t want people to drive downtown, we want people to use public transportation.’ But there are many reasons people don’t use public transportation. This can’t be ignored. There needs to be a balance of solutions. Others cities are able to enforce one-hour street parking regulations, we should be able to also.

**Another major area of debate is affordable housing.**

It would be great to encourage the development of downtown affordable housing. We could give increased floor area ratio percentages to developers who provide affordable housing, but there has to be a logical method worked out in detail. Bonuses drive development. But the idea of bonuses shaping buildings and the environment is not very clearly addressed. The question is: What should those bonuses be, and for what should they be given? Bonuses must be a value to the city as a whole. Green space and arcades - are those the most important needs for which developers receive bonuses? Are developers going to provide another nice way to get to the lakefront? Are they providing pleasant ways to get across the street? What do we want them to do for our city?

**How have architects helped to answer these questions in the planning process?**

There are many architects on all the task force committees. There is a lot of good input from the architecture community. Without the architects’ involvement, the plan certainly would not be what it is. But it is not just the architects who are involved. The pragmatism of developers and the concerns of public interest groups like Friends of Downtown have been crucial in seeing the big picture. There is a great balance of visionary developers, architects, government officials and the citizens groups that has evolved in this pro-developer city.

**Why is this planning process happening now?**

Because of the Mayor’s popularity he now has flexibility to allow innovative thinking to occur. We don’t have to promote the same old comfortable buildings and environment. I don’t think he fully realizes how much ability he has to allow more innovative planning and architecture to occur in this city. The talent is here. We just need the support and encouragement of a strong city government and a well-articulated master plan.

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**The Chicago Central Area Plan**

The draft plan is hundreds of pages long and represents two years of work. The following are the guiding themes behind the plan at this point. The Central Area is roughly defined by Lake Michigan to the Stevenson Expressway and Halsted to Division streets.

**Create vibrant and dynamic mixed-use districts**

- Expand the downtown core west to center on rail stations
- Promote transit corridors that encourage higher intensity uses outside the downtown core
- Increase residential usage around the perimeter of the Central Area
- Provide FAR bonuses for affordable housing development
- Map zoning amenities to promote newly created zoning classification districts

**Focus on waterfronts and open space**

- Cover the Kennedy Expressway west of the Chicago River with a park
- Make the entire Chicago River a parkway
- Continue planting trees along major arteries
- Provide FAR bonuses for plazas, small parks, winter gardens, terraces and roof gardens

**Make the Central Area accessible and connected**

- Create new subway lines and an underground busway system
- Create a West Loop Transportation Center to connect new systems with existing train stations
- Improve pedestrian experience with footbridges, river walks and sidewalk enhancements
- Encourage water taxi and bicycle usage
- Improve traffic circulation with electronic monitoring
- Reduce parking requirements for new developments inside the Loop and promote parking facilities on the outer ring of the Central Area
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Copyright Protection Deadline Looming

by Vicki E. Allums, Esq.
AIA Associate General Counsel

Copyright protection for architectural works that were unconstructed and embodied in unpublished plans or drawings on December 1, 1990, will terminate on December 31, 2002, unless the building has been constructed by that date.

In 1990, Congress enacted the Architectural Works Protection Act, which amended the Copyright Act to provide full protection for architectural works. The 1990 act defines "architectural works" as "the design of a building as embodied in any tangible medium of expression, including a building, architectural plans, or drawings. The work includes the overall form as well as the arrangement and composition of the spaces and elements in the design, but does not include individual standard features." (See 17 U.S.C. Section 101.)

Architectural works eligible for protection under the 1990 Act include those works created on or after December 1, 1990, the date the legislation was enacted, and architectural works that were unconstructed and embodied in unpublished plans or drawings on that date. Publication of an architectural work occurs when underlying plans or drawings of the building or other copies of the building design are distributed or made available to the general public by sale or other transfer of ownership, or by rental, lease, or lending. Construction of a building does not itself constitute publication for purposes of registration, unless multiple copies are constructed. (See 37 C.F.R. 202.11[5].) Architectural works created before December 1, 1990, are still covered by the pre-1990 statute and case law.

So, what does this mean for you? If you created a plan or drawing, which existed on December 1, 1990, and that had not been published on that date, the copyright protection in that work will expire on December 31, 2002, unless the building has been constructed by then. Architectural works that fall under this category and have been constructed by the December 31 deadline will continue to receive copyright protection until December 31, 2027. The legislative history for the Architectural Works Protection Act notes that Congress included this provisional cut-off date to encourage construction of these unpublished creations.

Some details of the 1990 Act

The Architectural Works Protection Act grants the owners of architectural works the same exclusive rights as other copyright owners, with two exceptions:

1) The copyright in an architectural work that has been constructed does not prevent the making, distributing, or public display
of pictures, paintings, photographs, or other pictorial representations of the work, if the building in which the work is embodied is visible from a public space. (See 17 U.S.C. Section 120[a].) In other words, taking a photograph of the building in which the work is embodied does not violate the copyright law.

2) The owners of a building embodying an architectural work may, without the consent of the copyright owner of the architectural work, make alterations to the building and destroy or authorize the destruction of it without infringing the copyright owner’s rights. (See 17 U.S.C. Section 120[b].)

The term of copyright protection for a particular work is governed by a number of factors. Therefore, you should consult a copyright lawyer regarding works that you believe may be affected by the December 31, 2002, deadline, as well as the nuances pertaining to the scope of protection for specific architectural works.

Reference

The U.S. Copyright Office has published an information circular (Circular 41—Copyright Claims in Architectural Works) describing the scope of protection for architectural works and the registration process, which can be www.copyright.gov/circs/. Finally, you may contact Vicki Allums, the AIA’s General Counsel, at vallums@aia.org or 202/626-7375 with general questions regarding copyright and other intellectual property issues.

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Jeff Case, AIA, a partner at Holabird & Root, was recently named president of the Northern Illinois chapter of the International Facility Management Association.

FWC Architects Inc. has relocated to 303 Waukegan Ave. in Highwood.

The Skidmore, Owings and Merrill (SOM) Foundation in July announced the 2002 Architecture Traveling Fellows. Zane Karpova, a student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, won one of two Master of Architecture Professional Degree Traveling Fellowships. She is joined by Scott Melancon from Louisiana State University who was awarded the undergraduate fellowship, and Joshua Uhl from Columbia University who won the other professional degree fellowship. With these awards, the SOM Foundation tops $1 million in educational awards given to students, faculty and young professional engineers.

Khatija Hashmy, AIA of the Chicago Park District has been named a finalist in the City of Chicago's 2002 Kathy Osterman Awards. The award recognizes government employees for their service to the public.

Billy Tindel, AIA has joined Mekus Studios Ltd. as a project manager. He has more than 16 years of experience, most recently with Legat Architects.

PPKS Architects is designing a new mixed-use office complex in Amsterdam. The 1.5 million-square-foot project includes office space for a major financial institution as well as retail space and fitness facilities. Construction is scheduled to begin in 2004. In other news from the firm, Rene Steevensz, AIA has been participating in design workshops with Sir Norman Foster, Adolfo Natalini and Kees Christiaanse for a 3 million-square-foot mixed-used development in the Zuidas. Construction is planned for 2003.

Ross Barney + Jankowski is designing a science laboratory building at the University of Minnesota in

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Duluth and a technology center for Oakton Community College in Skokie. The 97,000-square-foot, $27 million laboratory facility will include teaching and support spaces for programs in chemistry, fresh water research and biology and will link the academic and residential areas of the campus. The space is marked with a 40-foot-high light collecting element and a "picture" window that looks toward Duluth and Lake Superior. The new 59,000-square-foot, $9.4 million technology center in Skokie will house computer and manufacturing technology and art and architecture programs. Daylighting figures prominently in the design, with light-filled laboratories for learning.

William Wom Arcllitects has been selected to design a new faculty/student center for University Hall on the campus of the University of Illinois at Chicago. Originally designed by Walter Netsch, FAIA in the 1960s, University Hall and the faculty/student center will be re-oriented toward a new plaza to the west, designed by Acconi Studios of New York City.

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The Edge Lofts and Tower, designed by Pappageorge/Haymes, was featured in the July 21 edition of the Chicago Tribune. The original five stories of the 1913 Western Newspaper Union building at Adams and Des Plaines streets will be rehabbed for residential lofts and then topped off with a 16-story condo tower.

Contract magazine has featured three AIA Chicago members in recent months. The June issue included DeStefano and Partners’ 12,457-square-foot executive offices for Leo Burnett and VOA Associates’ new shop and tour center for the Chicago Architecture Foundation. Peter Exley, AIA wrote an essay for the July issue on designing for children.

Chicago Tribune architecture critic Blair Kamin recently praised the Block 89 project in Madison, Wis. by Valerio Dewalt Train Associates (July 26) and the Skidmore, Owings & Merrill design for Donald Trump’s planned Chicago skyscraper (July 31). www.chicagotribune.com

The July 30 edition of the Chicago Sun-Times included an update on and construction photos of the Soldier Field renovation by Lohan Caprile Goettsch Architects. The July 31 edition reported work has begun on the renovation of the Water Tower Water Works into a permanent space for the Lookingglass Theatre Co. designed by Morris Architects/Planners. Also, Jonathan Fine, AIA was quoted in an article about efforts to preserve Cook County Hospital once the new facility opens in September. www.suntimes.com

The professional training section of the August 4 edition of the Chicago Tribune included the following AIA Chicago members: Stella Koop, AIA of RTKL Associates was quoted in the lead article on empty-nesters; the renovation of a Queen Anne house at 6223 N. McClellan Ave. by Stuart Cohen, FAIA and Julie Hacker, AIA was profiled as a winner of the Chicago Landmark Awards for Preservation Excellence; and high-rises and town homes designed by Warman Olsen Warman.
were mentioned in an article about changes to the south end of the Central Station project.
www.chicagotribune.com

ArchitectureWeek.com features an excerpt from a new book about Murphy/Jahn by Michael J. Crosbie.
www.architectureweek.com

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
A collection of the renderings of Helmut Jacoby is on display at the Art Institute of Chicago, 111 S. Michigan, through October 27. Helmut Jacoby: Master of

**Architectural Drawings** includes more than 100 original works in ink, pencil and spray-paint commissioned by architects such as Philip Johnson, FAIA, Eero Saarinen, Kevin Roche, FAIA, Helmut Jahn, FAIA and Harry Seidler, Hon. AIA to name a few. For more information, visit http://www.artic.edu/aic/exhibitions/jacoby.html

For the first time in 22 years, the Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois (LPCI) will hold its annual conference in Chicago from September 12 to 14 at the Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel, 701 N. Michigan Ave. Timothy Samuelson, Chicago’s newly appointed cultural historian, will deliver the keynote address. For a complete list of seminars and tours, visit www.landmarks.org

PSMJ is sponsoring a two-day Project Management Symposium September 26 through 27 at the Palmer House Hilton, 17 E. Monroe, in Chicago. The conference is presented in four tracks: owners, designers, constructors, and a special concurrent technology track concentrating on Web-based applications. AIA members can earn up to 12 learning units for attending. Complete details and a registration form are posted at www.psmj.com or, call 1-800-537-7765.

**Local Government Redevelopment of Brownfields/Contaminated Property in Illinois** will be the subject of a seminar on Friday, September 27.
at the Radisson Hotel, 160 E. Huron St. Speakers include Robert Knuze, deputy commissioner of development finance for Chicago's Department of Planning and Development, and David LaPorte, a partner with the law firm of Querrey & Harrow. AIA members who attend will be eligible for 6.5 LUs. For more information, visit www.lorman.com

A consortium of local professional groups concerned with sustainable growth is sponsoring a lecture series through 2003. The series uses the U.S. Green Building Council’s LEED Rating System as a starting point from which to discuss a wide variety of issues related to sustainable development. Historic Preservation will be held on Friday, September 27 at the Motcalfe Federal Building, 77 W. Jackson Blvd., from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Speakers include Vincent Michael of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Bradford White, vice president of affordable housing development for LR Development Co. Advance registration is requested. Call the University of Illinois at Chicago’s Great Lakes Center at 312/696-6904. Box lunches are available.

The AIA’s Regional and Urban Design Committee is holding its 2002 conference on Mixed-Use Development September 27 through 29 in Des
Moines, Iowa. For more information, contact Michael Tucker at mtucker@iaia.org or 202/626-7557.

The Metal Construction Association is sponsoring its 2002 conference and tradeshow October 1 through 3 at the Donald E. Stephens Convention Center in Rosemont. For conference and registration information, go to www.metalcon.com.

The National Council of Structural Engineers Associations is holding its 10th annual conference in Chicago October 17 through 19 at the Knickerbocker Hotel, 163 E. Walton Place. For complete details, visit www.ncsea.com.

On Tuesday, November 12, Chicago Women in Architecture will sponsor Generating Executive Presence, a communication seminar with former radio talk show host Catherine Johns. The event is being hosted in the Allsteel showroom, #1120 Merchandise Mart. A light buffet reception begins at 6:00 p.m.; the presentation will begin at 7:00 p.m. Admission is $10 for CWA members and $15 for all others. For more information and to reserve a space, call 312/409-8855.

The Chicago Center for Green Technology is seeking volunteers to educate the public about this innovative new green building. Docents will guide tours for architects, engineers, students, homeowners, and others interested in learning how to make their buildings more energy-efficient and environmentally friendly. Call 312/744-8691 for more information.

The Landmarks Preservation Council of Illinois is presenting Building Illinois at 12:15 p.m. on Thursday, September 19 at the Chicago Cultural Center, 77 E. Randolph St., 2nd Floor. Stephen Sennott, architectural historian and author of the forthcoming Buildings of Illinois, will discuss some of the predictable and unpredictable buildings that characterize the architectural history of Illinois.

ArchiTech Gallery has assembled original drawings by Frank Lloyd Wright, George Mann Niedecken, Orlando Giannini, and Alfonso Iannelli for a show and sale illustrating the avant-garde architecture of the early 20th century. Frank Lloyd Wright and the Prairie School opens Friday, October 4 and runs through Saturday, November 30. Visit www.architechgallery.com for more information.
The August issue of Focus incorrectly reported that architectureisfun, the office of Peter J. Exley, AIA had relocated. The firm remains at 111 W. North Ave. Focus regrets the error.
Calendar

September/October 2002


2. Chicago is Ready for Zoning Reform. Planning & Urban Affairs PIA. 12:00 noon; AIA Chicago. Bring your lunch; beverages provided. 1 LU

3. Young Architects PIA. 6:30 p.m.; Cullen's Pub, 3741 N. Southport Ave. Questions? Contact Mary Brush, AIA at mbrush@kleinandhoffman.com

4. Infection Control During Healthcare Construction. Architecture for Health PIA. 5:30 p.m.; Northwestern Memorial Hospital Conference Center, 3rd floor, Rooms C & D. 1.5 LU/HSW

5. Housing Diversity: Act Four. Housing PIA. 5:30 p.m.; DeStefano and Partners, 445 E. Illinois St., #250. 1.5 LU/HSW

6. Conserving Urban Open Space in an Expanding Region. Planning & Urban Affairs PIA. 12:00 noon; AIA Chicago. 1 LU/HSW

7. Young Architects PIA. 6:30 p.m.; Cullen's Pub, 3741 N. Southport Ave. Questions? Contact Mary Brush, AIA at mbrush@kleinandhoffman.com

8. Walking Tour: Bascule Bridges Over the Chicago River. Historic Resources PIA. 5:30 p.m.; Merchandise Mart (meet in south lobby). Limit 30 participants. 1.5 LU/HSW

9. Leadership: Leading an Extraordinary Life. Office Practice PIA. 5:30 p.m.; AIA Chicago. 1 LU

10. Tour: Sofitel Chicago Water Tower. Corporate Architects PIA. 5:30 p.m.; Sofitel, 20 E. Chestnut St. Limited to 35 participants. 1.5 LU/HSW

11. The Business of Your Business: Established Firms. 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.; AIA Chicago. 8 LU for the four-part series which continues through October. (See page 4.)

12. Steel Solutions: Tall Residential Buildings. Technical Issues PIA. 12:00 p.m.; Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Court. Bring your lunch or buy at the CBA cafeteria (purchase ticket in first-floor shop). 1 LU/HSW

13. Tour: One North Wacker Building and Offices. Interior Architecture PIA. 5:30 p.m. sharp; One N. Wacker Dr. (meet in lobby). The tour will conclude at 7:30 p.m. Limit 40 participants. 2 LU/HSW

14. Design/Build: New Illinois Regulations. Design/Build PIA. 5:30 p.m.; AIA Chicago 1 LU/HSW

15. O'Hare Airport Terminal 6. Corporate Architects and Design/Build PIA. 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.; Terminal 6 Project Office, O'Hare Plaza, 8775 W. Higgins Rd., #700. 1.5 LUs

16. The Comfortable Home. Technical Issues PIA. 12:00 noon; Chicago Bar Association, 321 S. Plymouth Court. Bring your lunch or buy at the CBA cafeteria (purchase ticket in first-floor shop). 1 LU/HSW

17. Panel Discussion: Diversity Within the Profession. Diversity Alliance. 5:30 p.m.; Knoll Showroom, #1111 Merchandise Mart. 1 LU

18. Pushing the Envelope: Innovation in Design Practice. Step 4: Detailing. Design PIA. 5:30 p.m.; AIA Chicago. 1 LU

19. New Members Breakfast. 7:45 a.m.; AIA Chicago. RSVP by October 21; registration form on page 2.

20. Becoming a Mentor. AIA Chicago. 8:30 a.m.; AIA Chicago. 1 LU