MEMORANDUM

To: All members of AIA Massachusetts
From: John Nunnari, Executive Director, AIA Massachusetts
Date: 01/22/24
Re: **Joint Meeting of the AIA MA GAC and BSA K-12 Ed. Facilities Mtg.**

Who: Open to all members of the three local chapters of AIA Massachusetts
What: A moderated Roundtable discussion
Where: **Virtual**, via Zoom (AIA Massachusetts account)
When: **9:30 a.m. – 11 a.m., Thursday, January 25, 2024**
Topic: A moderated Roundtable discussion – Proposed legislative act to allow use of temporary door locking devices to provide security in the event of a school shooting

Topic Summary

In response to the continued school shootings since 2010, lawmakers are working on legislation to enable emergency door-locking technology in schools. Senator Michael Moore, one of the bill's sponsors, emphasizes the Department of Homeland Security's endorsement of the effectiveness of properly locked doors during active shooter situations and feels Massachusetts should update building and fire codes to allow certain locks in public buildings.

The proposed bill seeks to create new regulations allowing emergency door-locking devices in schools and other public buildings, with local approval processes and consultations with fire and police departments. The bill also requires training for educators and annual inspections of these devices to enhance school safety. The goal is to provide additional security measures in the face of the growing concern over school shootings.

Meeting Moderators:

Tina Stanislaski AIA
Robert Bell AIA

Panel Participants:

Michael Dorn – Global Expert (Security)
Pamela Perini – Security Specialist
Kristen McDonough – Dept. of Fire Service
Patty Sheehan – Town of Shrewsbury – Building Commissioner – MFBO

Meeting Agenda

- Welcome   9:30 – 9:35
  - Larry S./Bob B.
- Summary of Legislative Proposal/Calendar   9:35 – 9:45
  - Goal of this meeting is to develop a summary of issues – a briefing paper – to send to legislators regarding the proposed bill. – John N.
- Context   9:45 – 9:55

- o Review of AIA's role and findings in Patrick Administrations
  Massachusetts Task Force Report on School Safety and Security – Tina S.
- o Brief introduction to locking devices available on the market – Tina S.
- Perspective on Shootings and other School Safety Concerns   9:55 – 10:05
  - o Michael Dorn
- Moderators questions to the Panel   10:05 – 10:40
- Q/A from participants   10:40 – 11:00
- End   11:00

Summary of Legislative Proposal:

The bill, **SB 2514 – An Act to allow temporary door-locking devices in public buildings**, would empower the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) to establish regulations allowing the use of temporary door locking devices in public buildings, particularly schools. The regulations would cover various aspects, including defining circumstances for their use, determining appropriate locations and consistent operations within buildings, establishing a local approval process involving consultation with fire and law enforcement departments, integrating these devices into safety plans and training, providing in-service training for first responders and public employees, and setting standards for annual inspections to ensure proper usage. These temporary door locking devices are defined as mechanisms that prevent doors from opening, but they must meet specific criteria such as ease of engagement and removal, not modifying existing door hardware, and complying with fire safety standards, with exceptions for buildings equipped with automatic sprinkler systems. The legislation aims to enhance security in public buildings while maintaining safety standards.

Panelists

Pamela Perini, PSP
Principal Security Consultant
Is the owner and principal security consultant for Pamela Perini Consulting, a Massachusetts based, certified WBE serving greater NE. Pamela is an independent security consultant, and a certified PSP (Physical Security Professional) with ASIS International. Pamela's practice includes school and municipal buildings projects here in Massachusetts and the north east. Pamela has numerous security and safety credentials, certifications and training as a security consultant and has spoken on the subject across the State, including MASBO, MAFMA & RIASMD.

Michael Dorn
Executive Director, Safe Havens International
Is one of the most credentialed school and campus safety experts in the nation and a graduate of the FBI National Academy. He is routinely used as a resource by the FBI, U.S. Department of Education, National Emergency Management Association, Federal Emergency Management Agency, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, and many other state and local agencies. He is also a co-author for the IS 360 Active Shooter Training Program for the 2013 White House School Safety Initiative

AIA Massachusetts is the consortium of the Boston Society of Architects,
the Central Massachusetts Chapter of the AIA and the Western Massachusetts Chapter of the AIA

Kristen McDonough, P.E.
Fire Protection Engineer, Department of Fire Services
Is currently a full-time Fire Protection Engineer at the Massachusetts Department of Fire Services, and has a B.S. Mechanical Engineering (2013) and M.S. Fire Protection Engineering (2015) from Worcester Polytechnic Institute. In 2017, she became a P.E. in with a specialty in Fire Protection. Kristen also serves as the current DFS designee for the state Fire Marshal to the Board of Building Regulations and Standards.

Patty Sheehan
Building Commissioner, Town of Shrewsbury, MA
Is currently the building commissioner in the Town of Shrewsbury, a suburb of Worcester with a population of 38,999. She is a member of the Metro West Building Officials and the Mass Building Commissioners and Inspectors Association as well as the Vice-President of the MASS Federation of Building Officials (MFBO), the organization representing all Mass building officials in code education and implementation. She also represents building officials on the Board of Fire Prevention Regulations and is a graduate of WPI with a B.S. in structural engineering.