AIA Massachusetts

a chapter of The American Institute of Architects

GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

November 11, 2026

8:30am – 10:00am

Zoom

8:30 **Welcome and Introductions**

Russ Feldman AIA and Larry Spang AIA, Co-Chairs

8:35 **Legislative and Regulatory Update**

- **Single-Stair Multifamily Residential Buildings**
- **Economic Development / Housing**
- **State Energy Bill / Data Centers**
- **Research and Experimental (R&E) Tax Treatment / Architectural Firms**
- **MAAB – 30% Rule**
- **Commercial Interior Design Registration**
- **11th Edition Building Code**
- **eLIPSE Architectural Licensing System**

8:55 **Election Review**

- **Referendum questions:** Revenue cap/single family home/conservation fund.
- **Election results**: identifying new and returning office holders.
- **Newly elected legislators breakfast**.

9:05 **Working Group Updates**

- **Housing Policy:** Status of draft housing affordability and production statement; next steps and potential Board consideration.
- **Embodied Carbon:** Resource webpage development, content, funding and anticipated first-quarter 2027 rollout.
- **Historic Preservation:** Stakeholder outreach, Massachusetts Historical Commission and Preservation Massachusetts engagement; legislative toolkit.
- **Data Centers:** November 4th Working Group discussion; energy, water, siting and regulatory considerations; next steps**.**

9:20 **Legislative and Regulatory Goals – 2027–2028**

Review and discussion of the GAC's existing priorities and potential additions or revisions for the new legislative session.

- **Existing priorities:** MAAB accessibility reform, housing policy, historic preservation legislation and ID licensure
- **Emerging priorities:** Data center regulation, embodied carbon implementation, single-stair study recommendations, professional liability/indemnification and R&E tax liability.

- **Advocacy strategy:** Identify matters warranting proactive legislative action versus continued monitoring, regulatory engagement or technical research.
- **Coordination:** Opportunities to work with legislators, state agencies, professional organizations and other stakeholders.

Desired outcome: Identify a preliminary set of GAC priorities and recommended next steps for Board consideration.

9:35 **GAC Planning and Programming – 2027**

- Potential guest speakers and topics, including legislators, state housing officials, regulators and municipal representatives.
- Legislative outreach following the November elections, including potential Boston and Western Massachusetts gatherings.
- Member engagement, potential in-person GAC meetings and opportunities for collaboration

9:55 **Other Business / Next Steps / Adjournment**
Confirm action items and follow-up responsibilities.

2026 AIA MA GAC Meeting Dates:

- Wed., December 9th