



AIA Central Pennsylvania

**The American Institute of
Architects**

AIA Central Pennsylvania

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Please send feedback to the above
email address with the subject
“Restructure Opportunity”.

COMPONENT RESTRUCTURE OPPORTUNITY

The purpose of this document is to inform our members of the national member-driven effort to reposition-realign-restructure AIA from the national, state and local level – focused on bringing value to the members and furthering the profession of architecture. The current leadership is currently in an exploratory phase with the idea of this opportunity and is seeking to gather information and solicit member input on this topic.

DEFINITIONS

Component – a generic term used at AIA National to address every level of membership within the organization. AIA Pennsylvania is a state component; AIA Central Pennsylvania is a local component.

Chapter – a term used locally instead of the word ‘component’, especially in reference to local components.

Section – a local organizational unit within AIA that does not have a board or fiscal responsibilities. A section may be subsection of a state or local component, which will have an elected board and fiscal authority over the section.

SUMMARY

Historically, in Pennsylvania and throughout the country AIA membership has consisted of an individual belonging and paying dues to three separate components: National, State and Local. AIA launched a repositioning initiative in 2013 with surveys and interviews of 31,000 members and stakeholders which generated several national initiatives. One of the major complaints was lack of consistent service, to all members.

In 2015, AIA National devised the Core Member Services Plan to address this issue. Beginning in 2016, AIA National required all components within a state to coordinate their efforts to meet or exceed defined AIA National Core Member Services. In 2016, AIA Central PA successfully met all Core Members Service requirements and was granted a three year Member Service agreement. The agreement will expire at the end of 2018 at which time we will be required to resubmit the application to attain another three year agreement.

One option that has been developed by AIA national is called Component Restructuring. One of the common component restructuring business models consists of local components becoming sections of the state component. Under this restructuring option, a local component becomes a voluntary section of a state component. This model allows for more efficient delivery of services (emails, newsletters, website can be consolidated), while giving volunteer members of the section more time to organize local events, programs and initiatives.

A list of FAQ can be found on the reverse side of this document.



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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

WHAT COULD THIS MEAN FOR OUR MEMBERS?

If restructuring occurs, members of the local chapter would be assigned to the state component. The former local chapter (Central Chapter) would then become the AIA Central Section of AIA Pennsylvania. The goal would be for members of AIA Central to not perceive any change to services provided, events held, or opportunities presented.

WHAT COULD THIS MEAN FOR OUR CHAPTER?

The Central Section would then not be required, to obtain AIA National accreditation as they would be receiving this accreditation through AIA PA, file an IRS 990 form, maintain Directors & Officers insurance, hold an expensive contract for member services, document filing, clerical support, etc., and contract for accounting services, etc.

WHAT SERVICES WILL BE PROVIDED?

All services and all particulars will be decided between AIA Pennsylvania and the new section. The agreements will be memorialized in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that will govern the new relationship. The goal would be to maintain all current events and increase other opportunities.

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO OUR LOCAL EVENT SERIES?

They would continue as they always have. The events will be run by section volunteers as always.

IF A COMPONENT BECOMES A SECTION, MAY THEY KEEP THEIR BOD AND BYLAWS?

Yes. Any options explored by the current leadership would retain our board and continue our events and outreach programs.

IF A COMPONENT BECOMES A SECTION, WHAT ACTIVITIES CAN THEY KEEP DOING?

You can continue to run activities for your members as before, including continuing education, networking, advocacy, communications, and others.

DOES THE SECTION STILL GET REPRESENTATION ON THE AIA PENNSYLVANIA BOD AND NATIONAL CONVENTION DELEGATES?

Yes.

ARE THERE ANY CHAPTERS IN THE STATE GOING THROUGH THIS PROCESS?

Yes. The Northwestern Component is currently transitioning to become the Northwestern Section.