



Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

Landscape Architect Board

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OPEN LETTER TO:

ALL REGISTERED LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
IN GOOD STANDING AND LIVING IN OREGON

Subject: ***CHALLENGE TO CONSIDER SERVING THE PROFESSION OF LANDSCAPE
ARCHITECTURE AND THE CITIZENS OF OREGON AS A MEMBER OF THE
OREGON STATE LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT BOARD.***

Dear Registered Landscape Architect,

The Oregon State Landscape Architects Board (OSLAB) is a seven member licensing board composed of four registered Landscape Architects (RLA) and three public-at-large members. The Board is currently focused on finding candidates for two RLA positions with terms starting mid-year-2012 and running into 2016. The Board will have one additional RLA position opening mid-year 2013 and is also considering the need to eventually fill that third position.

As a member of OSLAB, you would be participating in an important and long tradition of citizen involvement in state governance. You would join the distinguished ranks of other Oregonians who volunteer their time and talent to ensure the effective operation of state boards and commissions. Through your service, you would contribute to OSLAB's primary mission of regulating the practice of Landscape Architecture while protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the citizens of Oregon – both public and private. Your technical expertise in landscape architecture and the application of project management, problem-solving, communications, and related skills are all the experience you need to be qualified for this position.

How to Apply:

The Governor appoints members to OSLAB, and information on the appointment process is at <http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/boards.shtml>. To include as many citizens in the process as possible, the Governor's position has been that a member will not generally be appointed for more than two terms on the same board except in very limited circumstances. For OSLAB, each term is 4 years, and a member has the option of requesting reinstatement by the Governor for a second 4 year term.

The Governor's Office uses a simple "interest form" as the application for Board membership. You can find this form at <http://governor.oregon.gov/Gov/pdf/forms/Interestformdown.pdf>. Once completed, the interest form must be sent to the Governor's Office for their review. Please do not send interest forms directly to OSLAB. The Board is not charged with reviewing the applications and does not make appointment decisions. However, the Board appreciates knowing when applications are submitted as the Governor's Office does often solicit input from the Board.

OSLAB's Role and Responsibilities:

OSLAB, as the Oregon "licensing" board for the profession, is responsible for determining education, examination, and experience standards for registration and renewal of registrations. OSLAB registers individual landscape architects and businesses offering landscape architecture services. As a Board member, you will help to:

- determine needs for rulemaking or other Board policy,
- oversee licensure standards,

- evaluate applications,
- make decisions about issuing or denying licenses,
- conduct investigations of alleged violations of the law and rules,
- determine appropriate disciplinary actions when violations are found,
- oversee continuing education standards,
- ensure prudent use and tracking of Board revenues, which are derived from registration fees,
- respond to public and registrant inquiries, and
- encourage public participation in Board meetings.

These responsibilities must be prudently exercised by each board member on behalf of the public and the profession. As you can see, you would be involved in a variety of licensure issues and could help shape the future of how the profession is regulated in Oregon.

Being a Board Member:

You may wonder what it takes to be an effective board member. If you can do all of the following, then you are well suited to being a board member:

- attend and prepare for all quarterly board and board subcommittee meetings
- recognize that serving the public and protecting health, safety, and welfare is top priority.
- recognize that the board must operate in a public and open manner.
- have an interest in learning about issues affecting the board and in obtaining public and RLA input on these issues
- be open minded and fair, examining all available evidence before making judgments.
- share your enthusiasm about the profession and its contributions to Oregon with the Board, other RLAs, and public
- remember that you serve as one part of a larger whole and do not represent individual views as those of the Board.

In closing, I trust that you will seriously consider submitting an application for Board membership to the Governor of Oregon. The Board's Administrator, Christine Valentine, is available to answer any questions you may have about service on OSLAB and can assist you with the application as may be necessary. She can be reached as indicated above or at christine.valentine@state.or.us.

OSLAB looks forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

David Olsen, RLA
OSLAB Chair