



26 January 2006

To: Community Technical Assistance Program (CTAP)

Re: Involvement as a participating NGO in CTAP

By way of background, the American Institute of Architects, founded in 1857, is a national community of 77,000 licensed architects and associated professionals dedicated to improving the quality of the built environment. AIA has on-going efforts in many aspects of design including; Historic Preservation, Community Design, Education and Disaster Assistance. From before city planner and architect Daniel Burnham made his statement: "make no little plans," to Daniel Libeskind's design for redevelopment of the world trade center in New York, AIA architects have always been at the forefront of planning and design.

The New Hampshire chapter of the AIA includes the majority of licensed architects in the state and has been active since 1940. Its mission is to illuminate the profession of architecture through advocacy, public outreach, education, fellowship, and recognition of design excellence. Architects are uniquely suited to advocate for more livable communities. They are trained to solve problems, make ideas visible, and synthesize fragmented parts into a coherent whole, all within the context of the built environment. AIANH architects are leaders in promoting sustainable design and in leading design-based technical assistance projects in communities.

We believe that having architects involved in the planning of the I-93 corridor communities is essential to assuring responsible growth and development that enhances our communities and makes them livable and healthy. Architects form the backbone of most community design events and are the ones responsible for creating works that bring to life the issues presented. The AIA is the only group involved that is capable of consolidating ideas from all special interest groups into one cohesive and viable vision.

Specifically for CTAP communities AIANH would act as a resource for design assistance. AIANH architects will likely be the source for any designed based initiatives that could include: build-out analysis, housing needs assessment, downtown revitalization and many other needs. For the past three years AIANH has hosted the Integrated Design Integrated Development conferences which have attracted many planners and design professionals from across the region to New Hampshire to learn about sustainable design and development. These initiatives plus many more resources from AIA are available to CTAP if AIANH is selected to be involved.

I encourage you to find out more about the American Institute of Architects by visiting the website [www.aia.org](http://www.aia.org) or to visit the New Hampshire chapter at [www.aianh.org](http://www.aianh.org). There are many, many ways that architects could be of assistance for one of the greatest design challenges to face our State. If you need any further information please contact us.

Sincerely,

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