



TO: The Professional Practice Committee

FROM: Douglas E. Lentivech

SUBJECT: Update on the Architecture and Landscape Architecture Professions

DATE: April 11, 2013

AUTHORIZATION(S): 
SUMMARY

Issue for Discussion

This item will present a general update on the architecture and landscape architecture professions.

Reason(s) for Consideration

For information.

Proposed Handling

This item is submitted for information and discussion at the April 2013 meeting of the Professional Practice Committee.

Procedural History

The Office of the Professions routinely briefs the Professional Practice Committee with respect to the status of various professions and their professional boards in an effort to present the current state of the regulated professions. This item is the latest in a series of presentations.

Background Information

The State Boards for Architecture and Landscape Architecture assist and advise the Board of Regents and the State Education Department in the licensure, discipline, and regulation of two of the five design professions. As the practices of architecture and

landscape architecture continue to evolve and new technology is developed, the professions have changed as a result.

Legislation signed into law in 2011 has affected the professions of architecture and landscape architecture. The creation of design professional service corporations (D.P.C.'s) allows for a minority interest to be held by non-licensees in an architecture or landscape architecture firm incorporated in accordance with the new law. Additionally, language permitting design build in New York State allows limited use of this project delivery method for certain public projects. Design build occurs when a single entity provides the design and construction services on a project. Although the professional services are provided by licensees, the professional services and the construction services are passed through a single entity, typically a general business corporation.

Additional issues facing the architecture and landscape architecture professions include the increased use of technology and the distinction between landscape architecture and landscape design. These issues, as well as others, are brought to the State Board for Architecture, the State Board for Landscape Architecture, and the State Board office in various ways. The State Boards and the Board office consider numerous practice issues, trends in licensure, and proposed professional programs. The Architecture and Landscape Architecture Boards also assist in the resolution of complaints of professional misconduct in fulfilling their role of assisting the Board of Regents and the State Education Department.

At the April meeting of the Professional Practice Committee, the Executive Secretary for the Architecture and Landscape Architecture Boards will provide an update and discuss some of the trends and issues facing the architecture and landscape architecture professions. In addition, he will be available to answer questions from the Committee.