



August 2, 2023

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Dear Community Leader,

The Cincinnati Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) represents architects living and working in nine southwestern Ohio counties. We want to be a resource for you on ways that buildings impact communities socially, economically, and culturally. Our members are a resource for local governments and communities addressing built environment issues. We are focusing this letter on funding sources that can help promote more resilient and sustainable communities.

The built environment contributes more to carbon emissions (nearly 40%) and uses more energy (nearly 40%) than any other sector. At the federal level there are tax incentives to encourage sustainable building. State and local municipalities may also offer tax credits or property tax abatements for specific green credentials, materials, or processes.

Historic tax credits, although not directly tied to sustainable design, do have a positive environmental impact. Existing buildings have already "paid off" the energy used by their materials, manufacturing, and construction. Demolition and new construction require significantly more energy consumption. Adaptive reuse of existing buildings is not only more sustainable, it also contributes value to the community by maintaining the fabric of the built environment and helping to promote further growth and development.

AIA Cincinnati members have previously worked with the City of Cincinnati on the use of tax credits to incentivize energy efficient buildings and promote healthier communities and economic development. If your community is considering incentivizing sustainable design or adaptive reuse of existing buildings, architects can help you evaluate the options.

We can be reached through our executive director Julie Carpenter, [julie@aiacincinnati.org](mailto:julie@aiacincinnati.org) or 513-609-2757.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Angela Mazzi".

Angela Mazzi, FAIA, FACHA, EDAC  
AIA Cincinnati President

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Chris Patek".

Chris Patek, AIA  
Local Advocacy Chair

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