

AIA Advocacy Tactical Subcommittee: Resiliency + Climate Response

Thursday, January 15, 2026
10:30-11:30am @ AIA Austin

Attendees:

Meeting Agenda

Notes in blue

Agenda:

1. [5 minutes] General items
 - a. Report on the Leadership Retreat
 - b. 2026 goals, activities, member participation, meeting format
2. [15 minutes] Of Note: FAR/GFA definition and update
 - a. Caroline presents issue; next steps
 - b. member questions/comment
3. [30 minutes] Priority items: Actions and interests
 - a. Other IRC code appendices to support like hemp? (natural building construction)
 - b. Explore Water issues
 - i. Gauge interest and delegate member participation
 - ii. Identify Water Forward / One Water items to support
 1. Reuse: purple pipe irrigation
 2. Incentivize GSI: swales and berms for insoak
 3. Propose funding mechanisms for affordable projects to include
 4. Model on passive house program in 2025
 - iii. Watershed: grouped/distributed GSI
 1. Waiver fees to strategize implementation of green stormwater / nature-based features around the city
 2. Green infrastructure incentives for affordable hsg projects
 - iv. Dedicated water + AEC conference
 1. Push needle on issue education, prioritization, and action
 2. How to use allocated AIA budget - bring in speakers etc.
 3. Target early Summer or Fall?
 4. Task group: Caroline, Lauren, others
 - c. Collaboration with other Advocacy Tactical comm's
 - i. Housing
 1. Green Social Housing resolution being considered (CM Siegel)
 2. Initiatives to integrate small retail/commercial with housing
 - ii. Mobility
 1. Initiatives on walkable communities / TODs (with services)
 2. Street shade (trees) & I-35 support
4. [10 minutes] Ongoing
 - a. Tracking items:

- i. Bird Friendly Design - finalize support letter for Nkiru to sign (Caroline)
- ii. Green Infrastructure in ROW - draft support letter (Lauren)
- iii. Resilience stations / programming
 - 1. Outreach to projects with resilience program element
 - a. Foundation Communities, maybe others
 - 2. Look for opportunities to collaborate on resilience station points
 - a. ARN partnership and collab (Natalie Lyell)
- b. [Continuing interests]
 - i. Cool pavement (San Antonio program)
 - ii. Independent power centers (district or small scale) & microgrids
 - iii. Conservation as a resilience measure (energy)
 - iv. Moratorium on New Construction (Caroline)
 - v. Deconstruction ordinance, with Resource Recovery
 - vi. Explore what's happening in San Antonio, establish connections and a cross-exchange platform to learn about programs and strategies
 - vii. Low carbon materials
 - viii. Standard tree details
 - 1. Consult City Arborist on best approach since there are pending updates following the recent green infrastructure report / roadmap
 - 2. Ask Naomi Retromel about how these details are faring out in the world
 - ix. Glass reflectivity (downtown overlay)
 - 1. needs to be overlaid with BFD
 - x. Low impact foundations
 - xi. Resilient by Design competition
 - xii. WUI recovery/design guide
 - xiii. Design Austin input + collab
- 5. [Parting mentions] Share out any key resil. / sust. items