

center FOR ARCHITECTURE & DESIGN

September 2023

Dear Friends of the Center for Architecture & Design,

Since 2015, the Center for Architecture & Design has been a community space for partner organizations Seattle Architecture Foundation, AIA Seattle, AIA Washington Council and Seattle Design Festival who have worked in concert for programming, advocacy, and community building.


Like all organizations, the partners in the Center have adjusted in the past few years to new ways of collaborating and convening community. After a period of a lack of in person opportunities, we are thrilled to be back to engaging our community in person, as well as new formats such as many virtual opportunities which provide heightened accessibility. We have found new ways to meet our community where they are at.

Covid did have many silver linings, including an opportunity to lean into the strength of relationships among Center partners rather than viewing partnership linked to a shared physical space. In recent years and looking ahead, the expense of the shared space has continued to increase disproportionately to its use. The partner organizations have thoughtfully considered the shifting ways our community engages and have decided not to renew the lease on 1010 Western when it expires after 10 years of occupancy in 2025.

Between now and the end of the lease, partner organizations will continue to fully leverage the space in support of our AEC community, while we each explore options for next steps after the end of the lease. Each partner may take a different path out of 1010 Western Ave, and we will continue to collaborate as partners with missions with many shared interests and stakeholders. We are excited to lean into the flexibility of connection we've strengthened together over the past years.

We will continue to keep you updated on what path each organization will take and encourage you to continue to engage as a valued partner in our community.

Sincerely,



Michele M. Hill
President, AIA Seattle and Seattle Design
Festival



Tom Rieger
President, AIA WA Council



Dave Rauma
President, Seattle Architecture Foundation