



Council Member Liz Brown

City of Columbus
90 West Broad St.
Columbus, OH 43215

March 23, 2020

The American Institute of Architects

AIA Columbus
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Council Member Brown,

As our city grapples with the COVID-19 illness sweeping through the world, we are all, as citizens, looking for ways to help contain or stop the spread.

As the president of AIA Columbus (the American Institute of Architects), I am reaching out to offer our membership as a resource for city and local leaders looking for information. As architects, we can offer vast knowledge of buildings, building systems, and how the public's welfare is impacted by the built environment.

We are currently working to develop a list of professionals who would volunteer to make themselves available to you for technical advice on existing buildings and on temporary facilities such as field hospitals or isolation units. Our members and associated professionals could offer input such as what can be done to adjust settings on existing mechanical systems to provide proper ventilation thus decreasing the chance of the illness spreading; what's the best use of an existing building from a space planning perspective should it be needed to be repurposed for an emergency operation center, etc.

We stand by as a resource and hope that you will reach out to us in this time of great confusion and concern for all in the community. We implore you to utilize the knowledge and guidance we can offer.

We are available by phone – you can contact me at the phone numbers below, and/or contact the executive director of AIA Columbus, Elizabeth Krile, at 614-580-4432 or ekrile@aiacolumbus.org. Please call us and let us know how we can be of assistance.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Michael J. Vala, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Michael J. Vala, Jr. AIA, NCARB
AIA Columbus President, 2020