



**Committed to the good of the public realm and the profession of architecture, Trey Wheeler has led the Institute through persistent advocacy, shaping policy and statute, and teaching others to work effectively to create change.**

#### **Committed to the Greater Good of the Public Realm and the Profession**

As a leader, Trey Wheeler's advocacy efforts are characterized by active listening and respect for others. His inclusive and intentional approach has protected the profession and the communities he serves. He skillfully facilitates discussions, connects great thinkers, includes underrepresented parties, and consistently advocates for the good of the public realm.

Trey's practice and built work are consistent with his value for humanity and commitment to the best interests of the public. While designing the Ocoee Olympic Venue, Trey honored both the Cherokee Nation and the Pityopsis Ruthii species defending their home and habitat. Trey's design choices for the Cummins Falls State Park Visitor Center protected the environment and led him to create potentially life-saving design solutions enabling rangers to adequately protect visitors. As part of the Westside Evolves Master Plan, he amplified the public voice and included the community in the decision-making process to ensure their involvement in the revitalization of their neighborhood. The entirety of Trey's work continuously illustrates his commitment to the benefit of society and the equitable involvement of all parties.

#### **Steadfast Advocacy and Impact on Public Policy**

Trey's commitment to the greater good and persistence in advocacy has impacted nearly every aspect of his involvement with public policy. His involvement with AIA spans the entirety of his career, and many of his advocacy efforts have required more than a decade of methodical, determined service for a single cause. He has successfully shaped more than 20 pieces of legislation, each instance of impacted legislation an important and intentional milestone toward an ultimate goal. For more than nine years, Trey has worked to protect our historic structures in a manner that promotes our profession and considers the needs of historic preservationists, developers, the State, the economy, and the general population. For more than 12 years, Trey has simultaneously advocated for the profession and helped government entities navigate the complexities of P3 project delivery in the best interests of the public.

#### **Teaching Architects and Emerging Advocacy Programs the Art of Engaging with Elected Officials**

As a leader, Trey has increased his impact by volunteering his own time to create a replicable model of successful advocacy. This has earned him the trust and attention of states with components facing similar challenges and seeking to implement the proven solutions that Trey utilized as a leader of AIA Tennessee. At State Government Network meetings and speaking engagements around the nation, Trey shared these strategies and taught effective techniques to help architects engage with legislators to advance the Institute. In addition, Trey intentionally includes students and young professionals in advocacy efforts, mentoring them in the art of engaging with officials. By training others to be impactful, Trey has multiplied his impact around the nation.