# Five Forms of Flooding

# In Florida

Legislative Issues



The Consultant's Competitive Negotiation Act (CCNA) was enacted by the Florida Legislature in 1973 as a qualifications-based public procurement system for professional design services and continues to be the gold standard for states across the country. CCNA works, and empirical data supports qualifications-based selection of design professionals. It is the only objective and fair way to select design professionals. The health, safety and welfare of Floridians and the efficient use of limited resources and development of high-performing buildings demands the CCNA process.

Request: Oppose legislation that would amend the CCNA's qualifications-based selection process.

#### 2 Limitations of Actions

SB 536 (Passidomo) and HB 875 (Leek) improve legislation passed in 2017 that defined the completion of contract as the last day services are performed on a project. This bill establishes that once a certificate of occupancy has been issued, punch list and warranty items do not extend the time for filing a complaint. Additionally, should a design professional be sued in the waning days of the 10-year statute of repose, the bill would allow 45 days for the design professional or contractor to then file a counterclaim or cross-claim against one of the other parties in the suit or sue a third party whom may be responsible for the claim being made against the design professional.

Request: Support SB 536/HB 875 fairly limiting actions within the 10-year statute of repose and adding protections for design professionals and contractors to allow third-party claims.

## Five Forms of Flooding

In Florida, there is a high risk of water intrusion in the form of flooding events. Five flooding events include rainfall, storm surge, seasonal high groundwater, urban runoff and tidal flooding such as King Tides. Even inland cities like Orlando and Tallahssee face increased risk from urban runoff and rainfall. Coastal cities like Miami and Tampa face risk of storm surge and tidal flooding that will decrease property values and create un-inhabitable areas.

Request: AIA Florida strongly encourages legislators to consider the impacts of water intrusion on current and future development and construction in Florida. AIA Florida supports the creation of an interim task force to study the impacts of the five forms of flooding and to make recommendations that foster resilient communities.

## Temporary Licensure

HB 1413 (Smith) provides for certain licensed professionals in Puerto Rico to temporarily transfer that license to Florida for two years. Puerto Rico sustained immense damage as a result of Hurricane Maria and its already bruised economy has come to a standstill leaving very limited employment opportunities. Many professionals have migrated to Florida in hope of finding a better financial future. As Puerto Rico has an established chapter of the American Institute of Architects with 250 members meeting the educational criteria, continuing education mandates, professional and ethical standards set forth by the Board of Architecture and Interior Design and the AIA, AIA Florida supports an amendment to include architects among the licensed professionals eligible for temporary licensure.

Request: Amend HB 1413 to include Puerto Rico's licensed architects as professionals eligible for temporary licensure in Florida.

