

# 2024 LANDSCAPE X SYMPOSIUM



Saturday, 8/24

Landscape X Culture X Community

**NCC24-009 Integrating Community-Centered Affordable Housing and Equitable Landscape**  
(1.25 PDH, LA CES/HSW)

Event Type: Panel Discussion  
Time: 9:00 am - 10:15 am  
Location: Broadway Event Hall  
Capacity: 80

Join us as we explore how an inclusive and interdisciplinary design and development process can expand the impact of affordable housing projects by strengthening community identity and providing services and amenities to the overall neighborhood.



Image: Patrik Argast

## Panelists



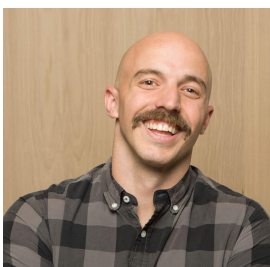
**Sam Moss | Executive Director, Mission Housing Development Corporation**

Sam Moss is the Executive Director at Mission Housing Development Corporation. In his 12 years at the organization, Moss has led Mission Housing through the construction of three new affordable housing developments totaling more than 300 units in San Francisco. He has also led the refinancing and rehabilitation of more than a dozen of buildings in the Mission Housing portfolio to the tune of nearly 1,000 rehabilitated units.



**Wendy Mok, PLA, ASLA | Director, GLS Landscape/Architecture | Session Moderator**

Trained in both architecture and landscape architecture, Wendy has been a practicing landscape architect in San Francisco since 2003. Wendy specializes in designing and managing large-scale planning projects with extensive outreach and entitlement processes through detailing and construction. Her neighborhood development projects include HOPE SF: Rebuild Potrero and Balboa Reservoir. She is an advocate for expanding participation by women and minorities in the field of landscape architecture. She is a member of ASLA's Women in Landscape Architecture (WILA) Professional Practice Network and has served as chair of the WILA advocacy walk for the organization's national conference.



**Orrin Goldsby, AIA, LEED AP, BD+C | Associate, David Baker Architects**

Orrin Goldsby is an Associate at David Baker Architects, a nationally known, locally oriented architecture and urban design firm based in California and Alabama. Orrin grew up in the redwood forests of Northern California and brings his deep admiration of the complexity of the natural world to his design work to make resilient places for people. As a leader of DBA's Site Ecology & Water working group, Orrin advocates for sustainable solutions in DBA's architectural projects, enacting meaningful change at the nexus of affordable housing, climate, and community.

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## Session Outline

A landscape architect, a non-profit developer, and an architect will discuss how they have worked together to leverage multilayered affordable housing partnerships to create impactful open spaces in San Francisco. Through an inclusive and interdisciplinary design process, affordable housing projects can go beyond serving basic needs; they can strengthen a community's identity while providing services and amenities to the overall neighborhood.

### Introduction

The speakers will set the table with "Affordable Housing 101." What is affordable housing and why is it important? How can affordable housing development play a role in addressing housing shortfalls, open space inequality, and the climate crisis?

### Developer's Perspective (Sam Moss)

Looking into the history of Mission District development and community advocacy, Sam will share his experience in leading Mission Housing, a non-profit development corporation, and engaging the Mission District community in affordable housing planning. How does community engagement inform and shape affordable housing differently in terms of programming and activation?

### Architect's Perspective (Orrin Goldsby)

Orrin will walk through the idea of landscape and architectural design synergy as the foundation for making affordable buildings livable. Building and site design can be strategized to maximize connection to open space, foster social interaction, and offer opportunities for cultural expression. Case studies will demonstrate the additional benefits affordable housing can bring to residents in urban communities, including promoting well-being through connection to art and nature, managing site-wide stormwater and increasing urban biodiversity.

### Landscape Architect's Perspective (Wendy Mok)

Using urban infill and a master plan case studies, Wendy will conclude the session by discussing the advantages of open space-centered design for high density affordable housing development and sharing key takeaways for other future developments.

## Learning Outcomes

1. Recognize how permanently affordable housing serves as a building block of society with exponential benefits, especially when community participation helps build stability and resiliency.
2. Explore engagement methods that effectively solicit local voices to develop an impactful community-based design.
3. Understand the developer's objectives and constraints and gain insight into how affordable housing financing impacts critical design decisions such as the programming of commercial, residential, and outdoor spaces.
4. Observe how landscape architects and architects blur the boundaries between disciplines in the design process to leverage each discipline's budget and elevate the greater whole.