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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**CTASLA To Award 2005 Connecticut Olmsted Award to  
State Senator Bill Finch**

***Reception at Middletown's Wadsworth Mansion on Tuesday,  
October 18 to Be Part of An Olmsted Celebration — The Public Is  
Invited!***

New Haven, Connecticut, October 10, 2005 — The Connecticut Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (CTASLA) will present the **2005 Connecticut Olmsted Award** to **State Senator Bill Finch** (22nd Dist.) during an "Olmsted Celebration" at the Wadsworth Mansion in Middletown on Tuesday, October 18. The free program, which begins at 5:00 p.m., will also include an illustrated presentation on Olmsted sites in Connecticut and an update on the recently formed Connecticut Olmsted Heritage Alliance.

The Connecticut Olmsted Award is given annually by CTASLA to a person or organization who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to stewardship of the land. The award is named after Connecticut native Frederick Law Olmsted, who founded the landscape architecture profession in the 19th century. Best known for his creation of New York's Central Park, Olmsted's prominent Connecticut landscapes include Bridgeport's Beardsley and Seaside parks, New Britain's Walnut Hill Park and Hartford's Pope Park.

"We're very pleased to be able to present our Connecticut Olmsted Award to Bill Finch," said CTASLA president Rod Cameron. "His actions as a citizen, and as a

member of our legislature, have been very much in sync with Olmsted's philosophies about preservation of our natural resources and landscape heritage."

Recently named co-chairman of the legislature's Environment Committee, Senator Finch, of Bridgeport, has championed efforts in the state to reduce air pollution by encouraging the use of biodiesel fuels, and is a chief proponent of a stronger "bottle bill" in Connecticut. He introduced bills this past legislative session to promote preservation of agricultural land and the protection of Long Island Sound.

Senator Finch is also the architect of Public Act 05-179, which recognizes April 26th each year as "Frederick Law Olmsted Day." The new law is the result of a four-year effort by Finch to raise awareness of the vast influences of Olmsted's legacy on the way we think about public lands and open space. Turning the spotlight on Olmsted each year will encourage land use decision-makers and members of the public to take renewed interest in preserving Connecticut's landscape heritage.

Recent winners of the Connecticut Olmsted Award have included Senator Joseph I. Lieberman (1997); Jack Shannahan, Connecticut Historical Commission (1999); (then) Lieutenant Governor M. Jodi Rell and (then) Senate President Pro Tempore Kevin B. Sullivan (2002); the Town of Simsbury (2003); and the Green Valley Institute (2004).

The "Olmsted Celebration" on October 18 is co-sponsored by The Rockfall Foundation, The Connecticut Forest and Park Association, the Long Hill Estate Authority, the Connecticut Olmsted Heritage Alliance, and the Connecticut Chapter of ASLA. The public is invited to attend.

Founded in 1899, the American Society of Landscape Architects is the national professional association for landscape architects, representing more than 15,000 members. Landscape architecture is a comprehensive discipline of land analysis, planning, design, management, preservation and rehabilitation. ASLA promotes the landscape architecture profession and advances the practice through advocacy, education, communication and fellowship. Learn more about landscape architecture online at [www.asla.org](http://www.asla.org). For more information on activities of the Connecticut Chapter, please see our website at [www.ctasla.org](http://www.ctasla.org).

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For more information:

**Roderick E. Cameron, ASLA, AICP**, President of the Connecticut Chapter of ASLA, is a licensed landscape architect and certified planner with over 25 years of experience in the fields of environmental planning and design. He is a senior landscape architect and planner with the firm of CCA, LLC in Brookfield, Connecticut. Tel: (203) 775-6207. Email: [roderickcameron@ccaengineering.com](mailto:roderickcameron@ccaengineering.com). Web: [www.ctasla.org](http://www.ctasla.org).

**Norma Williams, ASLA** is a licensed landscape architect with a private practice specializing in historic landscape preservation. She is President of the Connecticut Olmsted Heritage Alliance (COHA), a non-profit organization recently formed to preserve Olmsted's Connecticut landscapes, and promote his principles and philosophies, through advocacy, research and public education. Tel: (203) 431-5866. Email: [norma\\_williams@sbcglobal.net](mailto:norma_williams@sbcglobal.net). Web: [www.ctolmsted.org](http://www.ctolmsted.org).

**Senator Bill Finch**, of Bridgeport (22nd Dist.) was re-elected to a third term in the State Senate in November 2004. He was named co-chairman of the legislature's Environment Committee earlier this month. Tel: (860) 240-0414. Email: [Finch@senatedems.ct.gov](mailto:Finch@senatedems.ct.gov). Web: [www.senatedems.state.ct.us/Finch.html](http://www.senatedems.state.ct.us/Finch.html).