

Call for Nominations . . .

Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association

2010 Chapter Planning Awards

The Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association extends an invitation to submit applications for the 2010 Planning Awards to be presented during the 2010 APA Virginia Annual Conference at The Sheraton Waterside in Norfolk from May 3-5, 2010. Please help us recognize outstanding efforts in Planning by submitting one or more nominations. Visit the APA Virginia web page (<http://www.apavirginia.org>) to download forms and instructions for submitting nominations. The deadline for submittal will be no later than 2:00 PM EST, Wednesday, January 27, 2010. If you have questions about the awards, please contact Bob Kuhns, AICP at 202-461-3260 or via awards@apavirginia.org.

Award Winners will be notified during the first week of March 2010. Award Winners will be expected to attend the Awards Luncheon during the Conference in May to receive their awards and have photographs taken. Winners will also be encouraged to consider submitting their project/entry to the National APA for consideration for a National Award. Support will be provided by the APA Virginia Awards Program to help in the application process with a supporting letter and reimbursement of the fee for the National Award submission.

Awards Eligibility

- All Award Nomination Forms must be complete and must be signed by the nominator/entrant.
- Applications must be condensed to fit on the application sheet. The Application Package should include: two sets of paper copies and seven CDs of each application and one copy of the original plan and associated graphics/maps. Incomplete applications may be disqualified.
- Nominations must be received by Wednesday, 2 PM EST, January 27, 2010. Late submittals will not be considered.
- The number of pages for the nomination may not exceed 50 (does not include the application page and does not include the one copy of the original plan and associated graphics/maps). Pages over the limit will not be included in jury evaluation and excessive overages may invalidate the nomination. Attachments may include photos, news articles, a PowerPoint presentation, maps, drawings, etc.
- When making a nomination for Outstanding Plan, Outstanding Private Sector Plan, Planning Innovation Award or Public Outreach and Engagement Award, the jury may not review the original document. The submission should draw out portions of the tool, practice, program, project, process or plan that should be considered by the jury and explain what the significance of it is.
- Any project submitted for the Student Project Award must have been prepared during the 2007-2008 or 2008-2009 school years.
- Any nomination for consideration as an Outstanding Plan, Outstanding Private Sector Plan, Planning Innovation Award or the Public Outreach and Engagement Award must have been published or completed within two (2) years of the date of submission.
- Nominators must select the most appropriate category for the submission. No changes will be allowed by the nominator after the submission deadline. The Awards Jury, by unanimous vote, may move a submission from one category to another.
- Submissions are ineligible to receive an award more than once. Non-winning entries from last year may be resubmitted this year if they meet the time frame criteria.
- Any person, regardless of membership in the American Planning Association, or the Virginia Chapter may submit an award nomination.
- Members of the APA Virginia Awards Jury and the APA Virginia Board of Directors are not eligible to enter or be nominated to receive individual awards. The exception to this is that they may nominate an individual for outstanding local or state elected official or citizen planner, as long as the local official is not in their chain of command. However, nominations may be submitted from employers of Jury or Board members for projects in which they or their jurisdictions played a part. These individuals may not attempt to influence or affect the outcome of the selection process for projects nominated in other

award categories, and Award Jury members may not participate in the discussion or selection of a nomination in which they played a part.

- Communications with the Awards Jury for the purpose in influencing the selection on behalf of nominee or submission is considered cause for disqualification.
- All submitted material becomes the property of APA Virginia and will not be returned.
- If the jury feels that none of the nominations in a particular category meet all the requirements, the jury is not obligated to give an award in that category.

2010 Awards Nomination Form

What Award Category is this submission for?

Title of Submission (i.e., Nomination of John Doe for Outstanding Citizen Planner; City of Nowhere Comprehensive Plan; US Army BRAC Plan for Fort Monroe; Master Plan for Fantasy Acres Development for Ideal Development Company by Perfect Planning Company, etc.)?

Date of Publication, Completion, or Acceptance?

Name, address and phone number of Organization and/or Person(s) who prepared the project?

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Person(s) Who Prepare Project?

Name, address, phone number, and employer of Person(s) making the submission?

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Employer _____

I hereby certify that I have submitted this nomination and that to the best of my knowledge it meets all the awards eligibility requirements.

Signature: _____

Name (please print): _____

Date: _____

Please send all submissions to
Bob Kuhns, AICP
Clark Nexsen
1331 L Street NW Suite 600
Washington, DC 20005

All nominations must be received by 2 PM EST, Wednesday, January 27, 2010

2009 – 2010 Outstanding Plan Award

The Outstanding Plan Award is for an outstanding plan for a neighborhood, community, region, campus etc. prepared for a jurisdiction, or local, state or federal agency. Categories include, but are not limited to Master Plans, Comprehensive Plans, Neighborhood Plans, Regional Plans, University Campus Plans, Military Base Plans, etc. the award category will recognize the achievement of a group not an individual. Size of the jurisdiction or agency for which the plan was prepared is not a factor in selection. This category emphasizes best practices, results and state-of-the-art planning methods.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Vision: the plan presents a clear vision for the future.
- Comprehensive: the plan is thorough in nature and contains good information that provides the basis for its recommendations. The plan contains elements important to the community.
- Appealing: The plan is well laid out, easily read, and contains good graphics, maps and illustrations that clarify the points and recommendations in the plan.
- Citizen Participation: The plan is supported by the community as documented by the design and quality of citizen participation techniques.
- Relevant: The plan is timely, useful, not likely to sit on the shelf, and is a guide that helps the community make decisions.
- Implementation: The plan contains strategies and actions for its implementation.
Adaptability: The plan is capable of being amended to address changed situations or circumstances. The plan provides a good example that can be used as a guideline for other communities or agencies.
- Quality: the plan is well organized and defined. The plan properly applies planning principles.
- Adoption: The plan must have been adopted by the appropriate legislative body within the past two years prior to submission.

Please submit appropriate documentation demonstrating adoption of the document.

2009-2010 Planning Leadership Awards

Exceptional planning leadership is recognized in each of the four categories of planners: All of us who make our living practicing, teaching or writing in the field of Planning should demonstrate outstanding Planning Practices without receiving an award. But those who are not paid for their planning efforts, but practice good planning should be acknowledged. The Planning Leadership Award will be given to an individual in each of the four categories that has made a sustained contribution to the field of planning.

Professional Planner

To merit this award, the nominated individual must have made a sustained contribution to the profession through distinguished practice, teaching, or writing. This award is granted to a person who makes his/her living in the practice of planning, either in the public or private sector. In order to receive this award, it must be demonstrated that the nominee has gone above and beyond their job duties. The successful nomination will demonstrate how the nominee meets each of the following criteria:

Support of Planning

- To what extent has the nominee's work increased the understanding of planning principles and the planning process?

Effectiveness/Results

- To what extent has the nominee been effective in formulating and implementing his/her plans and ideas and, thus, advanced the cause of planning?
- Within what sphere of influence has this effectiveness been demonstrated, and how?

Citizen Planner

To merit this award, the nominated individual must have made a significant contribution to the field of planning. This award is granted to a person who has advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena and may be or have served on a planning commission, board of zoning appeals, economic development board, or other appointed capacity. Prospective nominees may also include the more non-traditional roles of citizen activists or neighborhood leaders. (Persons earning their living as planners and elected officials are not eligible in this category of award.) The successful nomination will demonstrate how the nominee meets each of the following criteria:

Support of Planning

- To what extent has the nominee's time and dedication increased the understanding of planning principles and the process as well as the goals of the organization of which he/she is a part?
- How has this advocacy role been pursued?

Effectiveness

- To what extent has the nominee promoted the cause and advanced the merits of planning?
- Within what sphere of influence has this effectiveness been realized?

Local Elected Official

To merit this award, the nominated individual must have made a significant contribution to planning in a local elected position. The successful nomination will demonstrate how the nominee meets each of these criteria:

Support of Planning/Planners

- To what extent has the nominee's political career increased the understanding of planning principles and the planning process?
- How has the nominee shown a clear understanding and support for the role of planners in public life?

Effectiveness

- To what extent has the nominee been effective in furthering the cause of excellence in planning at the local level?
- Within what sphere of influence has this effectiveness been realized?

State Elected Official

To merit this award, the nominated individual must have made a significant contribution to planning in a State elected position. The successful nomination will demonstrate how the nominee meets each of these criteria:

Support of Planning/Planners

- To what extent has the nominee's political career increased the understanding of planning principles and the planning process?
- How has the nominee shown a clear understanding and support for the role of planners in public life?

Effectiveness

- To what extent has the nominee been effective in furthering the cause of excellence in planning at the State level?
- Within what sphere of influence has this effectiveness been realized?

2009- 2010 Outstanding Private Sector Plan Award

The outstanding private sector plan award is intended to recognize planning efforts prepared by a private sector planning firm for a private sector or non-profit organization such as a developer, a development corporation, a university, a conservation organization, charitable institution, private individual, or other non-government entity. This planning effort includes but is not limited to: a master plan or neighborhood plan for a particular development, a revitalization plan or study, a sub-area plan, a campus plan, or an urban design plan. Entries can include urban, suburban or rural planning efforts and should demonstrate high quality, state-of-the-art planning. Projects in this category can include both built and unbuilt projects, planning processes and strategic planning.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Quality: Quality of the analysis and planning recommendations and how they provide appropriate context sensitive solution.
- Participation: Incorporation of an appropriate and effective public or stakeholder participation process in developing and achieving consensus for the plan.
- Results: Effectiveness and results that are an outcome of the plan and/or planning effort.
- Durability: Incorporation of sustainability concepts and/or protection of the natural environment as part of the plan.
- Example: Sets a standard or benchmark for future plans, studies or other planning processes.
- Innovation: Provides innovative planning solutions to meet the challenges of the project or process.

Identify the role of the planner(s) in the process and how they participated in the outcome of the planning process or project.

2009-2010 Planning Innovation Award

Nominations for the Planning Innovation Award must relate to a specific planning tool, practice, program, project or process that is a significant innovation to specific elements of planning, emphasizing results and demonstrating how innovative and state-of-the-art planning methods and practices help further the planning profession. This category emphasizes innovation in sustainability practices.

Entries may include such things as sustainable building codes, individual green building projects, growth management or design guidelines; transferable development rights programs, public/private partnerships, applications in technology, land acquisition efforts or efforts that foster greater participation in community planning.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- **Originality and Innovation:** Document how your entry presents a visionary approach or innovative concept in addressing the needs of the community or jurisdiction covered. What innovative practices or measures were used? For example, is there originality in the way new data were collected and incorporated? Explain how the use of the planning process in this context broadened accepted planning principles within the context of the local situation.
- **Transferability:** Illustrate how the nomination has potential application for others and how use of your entry's components and methodology would further the cause of good planning. **Quality:** What makes this nomination worthy of emulation by others? Does the nomination incorporate basic concepts or direction such as smart growth and sustainability? Competitive entries will represent excellence of thought, analysis, writing and graphics within a plan, regardless of budgetary limitations. Indicate how available resources were used in a thoughtful and ethical process.
- **Public Participation:** Explain how various public interests were involved and the extent of what involvement affected this nomination. Competitive entries need to demonstrate a strong effort to solicit input from those who historically have been left out of the planning process. Show how the nomination obtained public and private support.
- **Role of Planners:** Clarify the role, significance and participation of planners, how in-house staff and consultants worked together. Demonstrate the connection between the success of this effort and increased awareness in the community of planners and the planning process.
- **Effectiveness and Results:** What impact has the innovation had on how the community responds to and manages change? Be specific about the community impact. What is the level of commitment by elected officials, business and community leaders, citizen groups and others? Be explicit about how the results have made a difference in the lives of the people affected. Convey the level of effectiveness your entry can have over time.
- **Environmental Planning and Impacts:** How has the nominated effort identified, evaluated and addressed potential beneficial and adverse consequences of implementing a project, development, or program on the surrounding environment including its flora and fauna? In situations where adverse environmental impacts were unavoidable, what mitigation measures were undertaken and how effective have they been?

2009-2010 Student Planning Project Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize a student or group of students for an outstanding plan, paper, planning activity or project. Submission must clearly demonstrate accepted planning principles. Submission must have been prepared during the 2007-2008 or 2008-2009 school years.

Entries will be judged on the following criteria:

- Analytical Quality: Does the submission exhibit sound planning in judgment and analytical thinking through data evaluation, and forward-thinking goals, objectives? Does the submission consider multiple alternatives and interrelationships of planning elements in a comprehensive view for the future? Does the student effectively synthesize information and documented trends with their recommendations?
- Applicable: Is the plan, paper, or project applicable in the real world?
- Presentation Quality: Is the submission well written and easy to comprehend? Do the graphics and maps (if any) support the narrative and assist in the understanding of planning or geographical concepts?

2009-2010 Public Outreach and Engagement Award

The Public Outreach and Engagement Award is given to an individual, group or entity for a project or program that has been effective in informing or educating the general public, or a specific segment of the population about planning. Eligible nominations include journalistic or educational programs that address how planning can make a difference, curriculum designed to teach children about planning, neighborhood or citizen planning programs, initiatives designed to involve individuals and groups who typically do not participate in community issues, use of electronic media to expand the effectiveness of planning, outreach programs to the media, and comprehensive media coverage of topic(s) that expand community interest in planning. The successful nomination will demonstrate how the public education or planning awareness program accomplishes each of these criteria:

- **Quality**: Presentation of a quality project; creative product with a clear, concise message; quality graphics that are easy to understand; follows accepted planning principles, etc.
- **Effectiveness**: Demonstrated effectiveness in reaching the target audience.
- **Change**: Measurable change in attitude/behavior to some aspect of planning as a result of the outreach program.
- **Impact**: Positive impact of the outreach program on a specific planning initiative; increase in number of people involved in planning initiatives.

The successful nomination will submit documentation of the program or project and demonstrated outcomes.