

*Northern New England Chapter
of the
American Planning Association*

2017 Awards Criteria

Every year, planners and their work are acknowledged through the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association (NNECAPA) awards program. The program is designed to recognize a special person, organization, or project for its contribution to the field of planning. Award categories are **Citizen Planner, Professional Planner, Project of the Year, and Plan of the Year.**

The Awards Committee is actively seeking nominations for the year 2016 which will be awarded at the NNECAPA Conference in Manchester, Vermont in September, 2017. If you wish to nominate a person, organization, plan or project, please review the following criteria and submit to nneccapa.awards@gmail.com a copy of your nomination form and any attachments (form available on-line at www.nneccapa.org). Nominations **must be received by Friday, August 4, 2016 at 5:00pm** for consideration.

The Committee will work with the winners on preparations for press releases as well as nomination materials and submissions for possible submission to APA.

Questions or comments regarding the 2017 NNECAPA Awards Program may be directed to your State Director by phone or by email.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Citizen Planner of the Year

ELIGIBILITY: To an individual who advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena. This could include members of planning boards/commissions, zoning boards of adjustment/ appeals, economic development boards/commissions, or other elected or appointed officials. It could also include the more non-traditional roles of citizen activists or neighborhood leaders.

CRITERIA:

- **Support of Planning:** To what extent has the nominee's time and dedication increased the understanding of planning principles and the planning process, as well as the goals of the organization of which he/she is a part?
- **Effectiveness:** How has the nominee promoted the cause and advanced the merits of planning?

Professional Planner of the Year

ELIGIBILITY: To an individual – for a sustained contribution to the field of planning through distinguished practice, teaching, or writing. This person must make his/her living in the practice of planning, either in the public or private sector.

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 furthered the cause of planning?

Project of the Year

ELIGIBILITY: For a project, program or tool that is a significant advantage to the cause of planning. This category emphasizes results and demonstrates how a project, program, or tool implemented a plan. The submissions could be regulation, ordinances or codes, growth management guidelines or ordinances, transferable development rights programs; land acquisition efforts; tax abatement initiatives; projects that encourage participation by those who do not typically participate in setting community/public agendas; or similar projects, programs or tools which meet the following criteria.

CRITERIA:

- **Originality:** To what extent does the project incorporate creative and innovative ideas?
- **Transferability:** How does the project provide example for others?
- **Quality:** To what extent does the project show excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, etc.?
- **Comprehensiveness:** How have planning principles been observed, especially in support of other public objectives? To what extent does the submission produce results for other programs important to the local community?
- **Public Participation:** How has the project encouraged participation and included those left out of similar efforts in the past?
- **Results:** How has the project made a difference in the lives of the people affected?

Plan of the Year

ELIGIBILITY: To a written plan that is a significant advancement to the science and art of planning. This could include such plans as comprehensive/master plans, housing plans, capital improvement plans, environmental/resource conservation plans, park and recreation plans, transportation plans, redevelopment plans, economic development plans, or rails-to-trails plans.

CRITERIA:

- **Originality:** To what extent does the plan incorporate creative and innovative ideas?
- **Transferability:** How does the project provide example for others?
- **Quality:** To what extent does the project show excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, etc.?
- **Comprehensiveness:** How have planning principles been observed and to what extent does the plan include elements important to the local community?
- **Public Participation:** How has the project encouraged participation and included those left out of similar efforts in the past?
- **Implementation:** Does the plan incorporate measurable implementation tasks and goals and has the plan been supported by those responsible for implementation tasks?