



American Planning Association

Sustainability Division ▪ Urban Design & Preservation Division ▪ International Division

2nd Annual Awards for

EXCELLENCE IN SUSTAINABILITY

Honoring projects, plans, policies, individuals and organizations whose work is dedicated to supporting and growing sustainable communities.

Representing a diverse range of experiences and industries but, possessing a shared attribute — a passion for sustainability and its rewards for our future, the American Planning Association Sustainable Communities Division (APA-SCD), in partnership with International (APA-I) and Urban Design and Preservation (APA-UDP) Divisions, proudly announces the Second Annual Awards for Excellence in Sustainability.



1 WHO + WHAT + WHY

The mature global economy has dramatically changed the economic base of most U.S. communities, leaving many formerly vibrant manufacturing regions with declining populations, fragile economies, and outdated infrastructure. And a host of serious environmental challenges, from freshwater depletion to global climate change, and a more diverse and complex energy future demand new thinking about how communities are planned, designed, and managed.

The need for leadership on comprehensive approaches to sustainability planning is growing. The APA Sustainable Communities Division's goal is to help planners engage in and collaborate on innovative approaches to this important emerging issue.

The APA-SCD supports planners who are committed to planning for sustainable communities by integrating all aspects of sustainability into our work through the combined economic, social, and ecological factors that shape our communities.

2015 marks the APA-SCD Second Annual Awards for Excellence in Sustainability expanded to include projects internationally, as well as those in the US and Canada in partnership with the APA International Division. As sustainability often includes urban design and preservation a new category is included this year in collaboration with this APA division, too. The 2015 Awards for Excellence in Sustainability categories:

- Sustainable Development Project
- Sustainable Park, Recreation or Open Space Project
- Sustainable Policy, Law or Plan
- Emerging Leader's Sustainability Plan or Project
- Sustainable Building Project
- Green Infrastructure or Transportation Project
- Sustainable Urban Design or Preservation Plan or Project
- Leadership in Sustainability

The 2015 Awards for Excellence in Sustainability honors those projects, policies, plans and people who show exemplary scholarship, leadership and inspiration in sustainability planning and implementation.

2 WHEN + WHERE

The Excellence in Sustainability Awards will be presented at the joint Sustainability Division, International Division and Urban Design and Preservation Division annual meeting and reception on Sunday, April 19th from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. during the 2015 National Conference of the American Planning Association in Seattle. The awards ceremony will be held at Pike's Place Market, Ground floor of the Economy Market building at 1433 First Ave, just south of the southwest corner of First Avenue and Pike St. Look for DeLaurenti Specialty Food & Wine on the corner, which is also located in the Economy Market building.

Award recipients will receive a formal award and be featured in the Sustainability Division's newsletter and/or promotional materials, and will be honored on the APA-SCD webpage throughout the following year. The International Division and Urban Design and Preservation Division anticipate promotion of the winners, as well.

3 ELIGIBILITY

What can be entered?

- Any plan, project, program, tool, process, report, or ordinance entered must have been published, implemented, or completed within three years of the date of submission. Published drafts of plans are not acceptable.
- Any plan, project, program, tool, process, report or ordinance may only be entered in one award category per award year.
- Projects or plans may have occurred within the United States or internationally.

Nominations for the Leadership in Sustainability Award

- Open to APA members and non-members.
- An individual may not nominate himself/herself (the individual) for the Leadership in Sustainability Award, but an individual employed by the government, firm, or other organization, may nominate the entity in which they are employed.
- Nominators may not be related by blood or marriage to any individual they wish to nominate.
- Recipients (whether an individual, government, firm, or other organization) of the Leadership in Sustainability Award are ineligible to receive the same award for 10 years after accepting it.

Nominations for all other awards

- Anyone working on a plan, project, program, tool, process, tool, report, or ordinance may nominate it for an award.
- Members of the APA-SCD, Urban Design and Preservation and International Awards Jury, APA staff, APA Board of Directors, and AICP Commission are not eligible to nominate or to receive individual awards.
- Any firm that employs APA members currently serving in national leadership positions is ineligible to be nominated.

4 AWARDS CRITERIA

Sustainable Development Project

This award honors efforts to create a sense of place, through sound land use and sustainable development, redevelopment or revitalization of a neighborhood or campus.

Examples of projects eligible for the Sustainable Development Award of Excellence may include but, not be limited to: mixed-use development projects, redevelopment projects, transportation equal community developments.

Sustainable development projects must include more than one building or structure and more than one lot or parcel. Individual building projects should apply for the Sustainable Building Project Award.

A. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your sustainable development project is innovative and unique.
- Explain how the use of the planning and development process in this context broadened sustainable planning and development principles.

B. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your sustainable development project integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and development goals of the neighborhood, community and environment.
- Describe how your entry has been integrated into other planning efforts.

C. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

D. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and any competing interests.

E. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to development projects.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness of sustainability planning.

Sustainable Building Project

This award honors an individual building project that utilizes green or sustainable principles in its construction, redevelopment or revitalization and operation.

Examples of projects eligible for the Sustainable Building Project Award of Excellence may include but, not be limited to: infill development projects, historic preservation projects, green building projects, building re-purposing or retro-fit projects.

Sustainable building projects are limited to a single building or structure on one lot or parcel. Multiple building projects should apply for the Sustainable Development Project Award.

A. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your sustainable building project is unique and innovative.
- Explain how the use of the planning and building process in this context broadened sustainable planning and building principles as it relates to the project.

B. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your entry integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and building goals of the project.
- Describe how your entry has been integrated into other planning efforts.

C. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

D. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.

E. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to other building projects.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness for sustainability.

Sustainable Park, Recreation or Open Space Project

This award honors a park, recreation or open space project that utilizes green or sustainable principles in its planning, implementation or preservation and operation.

Examples of projects eligible for the Sustainable Park, Recreation or Open Space Award of Excellence may include but, not be limited to: farmland preservation efforts, viewshed and landscape preservation efforts, development of trail linkages, repurposing of floodplain lands into public parklands, revitalization of active recreation spaces utilizing green principles, revisioning of vacant or secondary places into park or recreation spaces, innovative programs that improve access to parks, recreation and open space facilities, public health projects focused on parks, recreation and/or open space.

A. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your sustainable park, recreation or open space project is unique and innovative.
- Explain how the use of the planning and implementation process in this context broadened sustainable planning and building principles as it relates to the project.

B. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your entry integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and implementation goals of the project.
- Describe how your entry has been integrated into other planning efforts.

C. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

D. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.

E. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to other parks, recreation or open space projects.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness of sustainability.

Green Infrastructure or Transportation Project

This award honors a green infrastructure and/or transportation infrastructure project that utilizes sustainable principles in its planning, implementation or preservation and operation.

Examples of projects eligible for the Green Infrastructure and/or Transportation Project Award of Excellence may include but, not be limited to: stormwater management projects designed to improve water quality, sidewalk and pedestrian connectivity projects, cooperative multi-modal projects, transit facilities, road diet and green streets projects, cycling facility projects, not exclusively associated with parks, recreation or open space facilities, impervious to pervious surface transition projects.

Parks, recreation and open space projects should apply for the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Project Award of Excellence.

A. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your green infrastructure and/or transportation project is unique and innovative.
- Explain how the use of the planning and implementation process in this context broadened sustainable planning and construction principles as it relates to the project.

B. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your entry integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and implementation goals of the project.
- Describe how your entry has been integrated into other planning efforts.

C. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

D. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.

E. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to other infrastructure projects.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness of sustainability planning.

Sustainable Urban Design or Preservation Plan or Project

This award honors an urban design or preservation project that utilizes sustainable principles in its planning and/or implementation.

Examples of projects eligible for the Sustainable Urban Design or Preservation Award of Excellence may include but, not be limited to: land development plan that exemplify green or sustainability principles, comprehensive suburban re-visioning plan that balances existing and new development in a multi-modal context, brownfield redevelopment project, historic neighborhood stabilization project, historic commercial district revitalization project.

A. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your sustainable urban design or preservation plan or project is unique and innovative.
- Explain how the use of the planning and implementation process in this context broadened sustainable planning principles as it relates to the project.

B. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your entry integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and implementation goals of the project.
- Describe how your entry has been integrated into other planning efforts.

C. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

D. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.

E. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to other policies, laws or plans.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness of sustainability planning.

Sustainable Policy, Law or Plan

This award honors a policy, law or plan that utilizes sustainable principles in its planning and/or implementation.

Examples of projects eligible for the Sustainable Policy, Law or Plan Award of Excellence may include but, not be limited to: zoning codes and subdivision and land development ordinances that exemplify green or sustainability principles, comprehensive plans that balance existing and new development in context with the natural environment, neighborhood revitalization strategies, design guidelines, brownfield reuse plans, municipal, county or state laws that exemplify green or sustainable principles.

F. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your sustainable policy, law or plan is unique and innovative.
- Explain how the use of the planning and implementation process in this context broadened sustainable planning principles as it relates to the project.

G. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your entry integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and implementation goals of the project.
- Describe how your entry has been integrated into other planning efforts.

H. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

I. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.

J. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to other policies, laws or plans.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness of sustainability planning.

Emerging Leaders' Sustainability Plan or Project

This award honors a student policy, law, plan or project that utilizes sustainable principles in its planning and/or implementation.

Emerging Leaders' Sustainability Plan or Project must have been completed while the student or students were actively enrolled in an academic institution.

Examples of projects eligible for the Emerging Leaders' Sustainability Plan or Project Award of Excellence may include any student developed plan or project within the categories of: sustainable development project, sustainable building project, sustainable park, recreation or open space project, green infrastructure project, sustainable policy, law or plan and demonstrate a commitment to sustainable, balanced and innovative future.

A. Originality + Innovation

- Document how your sustainability plan or project is unique and innovative.
- Explain how the use of the planning and implementation process in this context broadened sustainable planning principles as it relates to the plan or project.

B. Compatibility

- Demonstrate how your entry integrates and supports the overall sustainable planning and implementation goals of the project.
- Describe how your entry can be or has been integrated into other planning efforts.

C. Effectiveness + Results

- Describe how your entry has made a difference in the lives of the people, place and environment affected.
- Convey the level of effectiveness your entry has and can have over time.

D. Engagement

- Explain how various interests were involved and the extent of that involvement.
- Describe the level of collaboration between leadership and competing interests.

E. Transferability

- Explain how the sustainability aspects of your entry are transferable to other policies, laws or plans.
- What aspects of your entry, if any, increase public awareness of sustainability planning.

Leadership in Sustainability

The Leadership in Sustainability Award of Excellence honors individuals, governments, firms and organizations whose vision, leadership and commitment have been fundamental to the evolution of sustainability planning, and have helped improve awareness of the sustainability movement.

Eligible applicants for the Leadership in Sustainability award are true innovators and by their practice and professionalism inspire others, promote new techniques or technologies, collaboration among other disciplines, advances in practice, and progress in the art and science of sustainability planning.

A. Quality

- Demonstrate consistent quality of the individual's, government's, firm's or organization's work and its recognition by the general public or those who practice or sponsor sustainability planning, teach planning, or develop sustainable communities.

B. Influence

- Detail the individual's, government's, firm's or organization's positive influence on the direction and professional advancement of sustainability planning.
- Identify the number of planners on staff and if any members hold specific certifications.

C. Innovation + Inspiration

- Demonstrate innovation and originality in the planning and implementation of sustainability plans, policies and projects.

D. Outreach and Engagement

- Demonstrate the individual's, government's, firm's or organization's efforts and skills in engaging stakeholders and resolving community conflicts with sustainable outcomes.
- Demonstrate responsiveness to the community in the planning process and willingness to incorporate ideas and suggestions from the community.

5 SELECTION

Judging for the 2015 Excellence in Sustainability Awards will take place through the following process.

- Jurors have the right to move an award nomination into a different category.
- Jurors may select not to present an award in any category.
- Contact with members of the jury to discuss an award nomination is prohibited. The jury may select up to one entry in each award category to receive an Excellence Award; with the exception of the Leadership in Sustainability category, where an unlimited number of entries may be awarded.

The Excellence in Sustainability Awards Jury will consist of leaders in the field of sustainability and will be announced on Sunday, April 19, 2015 at the joint APA-SCD, International Division and Urban Design and Preservation Division Annual Reception and Awards Celebration at Pikes Place Market, ground floor of the Economy Market building at 1433 First Ave, just south of the southwest corner of First Avenue and Pike St., 6:00-8:00 PM.

6 ENTRY

The following submittal requirements are necessary to be eligible for an Excellence in Sustainability Award.

All entry nominations shall be submitted digitally. Entries may be submitted to the Awards for Excellence in Sustainability Dropbox account starting on January 27, 2015. Entries will be accepted no later than 5:00 p.m. (EST) on Monday, March 16, 2015.

APPLICATION IS EASY. PLEASE PLAN AHEAD.

1. Get a unique award folder

- To access the Awards Dropbox account send an e-mail to APASustainabilityAwards@gmail.com.
- A custom and unique folder will be created for you in Dropbox and the link sent back to you.
- When you receive the link to your unique folder follow it to Dropbox and upload your Award Application.
- No other applicants will be able to access your unique Dropbox Award folder.

2. Upload your award application

- Include the following in your application:
 - An entry form (attached) must be completed in its entirety and uploaded to your Dropbox Awards folder.
 - A written description of how the nomination meets or exceeds the criteria established for that specific award category must be included. The written description shall not exceed 1,000 words.
 - At least three print quality (i.e., 300 dpi) digital photos, graphics, or illustrations may be included within or separate from the written description. Though you may include photographs in your application narrative and attachments they must also, be saved individually and upload to the Dropbox separately.
 - All application materials, with the exception of photographs, shall be compiled into a single PDF not to exceed 10 MB in file size and no more than 20 pages in length total including the entry form and any additional information (e.g., letters of recommendation or support). Hyperlinks to independent plans or ordinances may be provided, but are not necessary.

Application materials will not be returned, and the applicant agrees to the use of application materials for information and promotional purposes by the American Planning Association Sustainable Communities Division, International Division and Urban Design and Preservation Division.

Questions should be directed via e-mail to APASustainabilityAwards@gmail.com or to Becky Bradley, AICP, 610-264-4544.

BEST OF LUCK!



American Planning Association
Sustainability Division ▪
Urban Design & Preservation Division ▪
International Division ▪

2nd Annual Awards for Excellence in Sustainability

ENTRY FORM

Applicant Information					
Name:					
Title:					
Organization:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Telephone:			E-Mail Address:		
Website:			Organizational Facebook:		
Organizational Twitter:			Organizational LinkedIn:		

Awards for Excellence Category			
Mark which category you are applying for (check only one; if applying for more than one award complete a separate entry form for each award):			
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Development Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Building Project
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Parks, Recreation or Open Space Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	Green Infrastructure Project
<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Policy, Law or Plan	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sustainable Urban Design or Preservation Plan or Project
<input type="checkbox"/>	Emerging Leaders' Sustainability Plan or Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leadership in Sustainability

It Takes a Village.

List all partners involved. This includes:

- Funding entities that made the project or plan possible (i.e. grantors, developers)
- All consultants and professionals involved in the creation of the plan or project,
- Any community partners, neighborhood groups, critical individuals involved in making the project or plan a success,
- All government entities involved in making the plan or project a success,

All partners will be contacted should your entry be selected for an award. Use as many additional sheets as necessary to list all partners.

Partner 1 Information					
Name of Partner Organization:					
Role of Partner Organization in Plan or Project:					
Contact Name:					
Title:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:			
Website:		Organizational Facebook:			
Organizational Twitter:		Organizational LinkedIn:			

Partner 2 Information				
Name of Partner Organization:				
Role of Partner Organization in Plan or Project:				
Contact Name:				
Title:				
Street Address:				
City:		State:		Zip Code:
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:		
Website:		Organizational Facebook:		
Organizational Twitter:		Organizational LinkedIn:		

Partner 3 Information				
Name of Partner Organization:				
Role of Partner Organization in Plan or Project:				
Contact Name:				
Title:				
Street Address:				
City:		State:		Zip Code:
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:		
Website:		Organizational Facebook:		
Organizational Twitter:		Organizational LinkedIn:		

Partner 4 Information					
Name of Partner Organization:					
Role of Partner Organization in Plan or Project:					
Contact Name:					
Title:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:			
Website:		Organizational Facebook:			
Organizational Twitter:		Organizational LinkedIn:			

Partner 5 Information					
Name of Partner Organization:					
Role of Partner Organization in Plan or Project:					
Contact Name:					
Title:					
Street Address:					
City:		State:		Zip Code:	
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:			
Website:		Organizational Facebook:			
Organizational Twitter:		Organizational LinkedIn:			

List of Entry Filenames (i.e. Anytown Sustainability Plan.pdf)	
Name of Award Entry Adobe .pdf file:	
File name of Photograph 1:	
File name of Photograph 2:	
File name of Photograph 3:	

Sharing your Success.

Should your entry be selected as a 2015 Sustainability Award winner we would like to spread the word of your achievements. Please provide primary local media contacts below.

Media Contacts			
Primary Newspaper Name:		Press Release E-mail:	
Primary Television Affiliate Name:		Press Release E-mail:	
Other Critical News Outlet 1 Name:		Press Release E-mail:	
Other News Outlet 2 Name:		Press Release E-mail:	
Other News Outlet 3 Name:		Press Release E-mail:	

All Entries are due 5:00 p.m. (EST) on Monday, March 16, 2015.

Please remember to contact APASustainabilityAwards@gmail.com or Becky Bradley, AICP at 610-264-4544 to have your unique Dropbox folder set-up in advance of the deadline. Questions should also, be directed to the contact above.