



American Planning Association South Carolina Chapter

2020 PLANNING AWARDS – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The South Carolina Chapter of the American Planning Association (SCAPA) Planning Awards recognize outstanding efforts and achievements that advance the art and science of planning in the Palmetto State. Each of the plans, projects, organizations, and individuals recognized will demonstrate a contribution to the improvement of the quality of life for South Carolinians. Awards are a valuable public awareness tool for local governments, agencies, and community organizations. SCAPA awards offer one of the few opportunities that South Carolina planners and communities have to highlight the virtues of planning and recognize those who contribute to the profession.

Awards are offered this year for each category shown below. Based on the caliber of nominations received, more than one award may be made in each category, or no award may be made in certain categories. Except for the Distinguished Planner category, the 2020 award schedule will recognize effort and achievements occurring from August 2018 through December 31, 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the awards nomination period has been extended to December 31, 2020 and the awards will be presented at the 2021 Winter/Spring Conference. In addition, there is no fee for award nominations submitted by December 31, 2020.

A. Outstanding Planning Project

Awarded in the following subcategories for a policy, plan, study, inventory, program, development project, implementation strategy, ordinance, or other product.

- **Outstanding Planning Project – Large Urban**
Jurisdictions with a service area of 30,000 residents or greater.
- **Outstanding Planning Project – Small Urban**
Jurisdictions with a service area of more than 10,000 and less than 30,000 residents.
- **Outstanding Planning Project – Rural**
Jurisdictions with a service area of less than 10,000 residents.
- **Outstanding Planning Project – Multi-jurisdictional**
A multi-jurisdictional project is a partnership of two or more local governments or two or more levels of government.
- **Outstanding Planning Project – Innovative Use of Technology**
Awarded for the innovative use of technology in planning practice which has improved the efficiency, effectiveness, and accuracy of planning efforts. Efforts can include the use of telecommunications, information technology, the Internet, information management and software resources, and other technology tools.
- **Outstanding Planning Project – Public Outreach and Engagement**
Awarded for the innovative use of public outreach and engagement in planning practice which has improved the effectiveness and accuracy of planning efforts.
- **Outstanding Planning Project – Implementation**

Awarded for the successful implementation of a plan adopted by the local jurisdiction. Efforts can include projects from public, private, and non-profit entities with significant investment and/or oversight of the project.

Submissions in Category A will be reviewed based on the following evaluation criteria:

- **Innovation:** originality of concept or appreciable refinement of existing techniques.
- **Transferability:** potential application to other geographic areas, jurisdictions, and/or projects.
- **Quality:** excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, presentation, and/or communication.
- **Implementation:** success and effectiveness of project or potential for such if not already implemented.
- **Comprehensiveness:** consideration of planning principles and broad range of public and private objectives.
- **Significance:** overall importance at local, regional, and/or state planning levels.
- **Sustainability:** degree to which the plan, policy, project, etc. is designed to achieve economic, social, and environmental sustainability.
- **Cost Benefit:** overall benefit of the plan in relation to the amount of resources (i.e. staff time, consultant fees, direct expenses, etc.) expended on the project.

B. Distinguished Planner

Awarded to a planning professional who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to the planning field within South Carolina over an extended period of time, and exhibits qualities which have led to successful accomplishment of planning goals, programs, or projects. Evaluation criteria include planning leadership, creativity, professional commitment, community service, recognized expertise, and ethical conduct.

C. Planning Advocate

Awarded in recognition of an individual or a group for an outstanding contribution to the advancement of quality planning in South Carolina, and the exhibition of qualities which have led to successful accomplishment of planning goals, programs, or projects. Nominees must have promoted the cause of planning in the public arena and can include members of planning commissions, boards of zoning appeals, architectural review boards, economic development boards, or other appointed or elected officials. Nominations can also include neighborhood leaders, conservationists, and other citizen planners or organizations. Persons earning their living as a professional planner are not eligible for this award. Criteria include the extent of support for planning and planners, the effectiveness of advocacy, and the broader potential for benefiting planning in South Carolina.

D. Planning Awareness

Recognizes a journalist, reporter, internet blogger, citizen planner, or other individual whose use of media has been utilized for insightful and in-depth coverage of planning issues at the local, regional, and/or state levels that promote public understanding of and participation in the planning process. Evaluation criteria include effective communication of planning principles and concepts, depth of coverage, presentation style, the audience(s) reached, and impact on public awareness.

2020 PLANNING AWARDS – NOMINATIONS PACKAGE OUTLINE

Please review the Call for Nominations evaluation criteria for each award category. A nomination package should be completed for each nomination submitted. Please provide information relevant to the nomination category as required. Except for the Distinguished Planner category, the SCAPA 2020 Awards are for efforts and achievements occurring from August 2018 through December 31, 2020. Nomination packages must be complete with all information outlined herein.

A. Submittal letter:

- Nomination summary outlining the nomination and supporting information. [500 words or less]

B. Nomination category:

- Outstanding Planning Project – Large Urban Jurisdiction
- Outstanding Planning Project – Small Urban Jurisdiction
- Outstanding Planning Project – Rural Jurisdiction
- Outstanding Planning Project – Multi-jurisdictional
- Outstanding Planning Project – Innovative Use of Technology
- Outstanding Planning Project – Public Outreach and Engagement
- Outstanding Planning Project – Implementation
- Distinguished Planner
- Planning Advocate
- Planning Awareness

C. Nominee project or individual information:

- Name of Project or Individual
- Organization or Agency
- Contact Name and Title
- Mailing Address
- Phone and Email Address

D. The achievements of the project or person nominated for the award. [250 words or less]

E. Why the nominee’s achievements are exceptional and deserve recognition. [250 words or less]

F. Total resources expended on the project:

- Number of hours expended by public agency staff (if applicable)
- Consultant fee (if applicable)
- In-kind percentage/out-sourced percentage (if applicable)
- Direct expenses incurred (if applicable)



G. Number of persons impacted by the project.

H. Population of the jurisdiction(s) in which the project is or was located or conducted.

I. Narrative: [500 to 1,000 words]

A narrative that details the project or individual with respect to the specific award category evaluation criteria. This narrative should be typed with a minimum of 11-point type and 1-inch margins. A list of all attachments should be included for juror reference.

J. Contact information related to the person or organization submitting the nomination:

- Name and Title
- Organization or Agency
- Mailing Address
- Phone and Email Address
- Signature of Person Submitting the Nomination
- Date of the Nomination

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Nominations and all supporting materials shall be provided in a digital format. All files should be provided in PDF format and uploaded to the SCAPA website at the following address: <https://scapa.org/conferences/2020-scapa-planning-awards/>. This year we are waiving the nomination fee for submissions that are received by December 31, 2020.

Complete nomination packages must be received no later than 5:00PM on Thursday, December 31, 2020 to be considered. A reply email will be sent to confirm the date/time the submission was received. Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered. SCAPA is not responsible for late, nondelivered, and/or undeliverable nominations.

The Awards Jury has final determination as to the evaluation criteria, the selection of award recipients, and whether an award(s) is made in each category. Those submitting nominations will be notified of the results approximately one month prior to the 2021 Winter/Spring Conference at which the awards will be presented. Attendance is encouraged, but you do not have to attend the conference to receive an award.

All award recipients will be asked to provide a PowerPoint presentation of not more than 20 slides summarizing the project for use at the conference and on the Chapter website; graphics with minimal words are encouraged. Award recipients may also be asked to host a session on their project at the annual conference at the discretion of the Programs Chair.

Questions should be directed to Andrea Melocik at amelocik@charlestoncounty.org.