

May 4, 2009



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Dear Vermont Planners:

In recognition of all the great planning work in Vermont, every year the Vermont Planners Association awards outstanding projects, plans, and people. In order for this to happen, we ask that you do your part in nominating those people around you or those projects and plans that you or your neighbors have brought to fruition. The more nominations we receive, the more noteworthy the awards. Additionally, Vermont winners will be nominated for the Northern New England Chapter of APA's (NNECAPA) Annual Awards. This year the awards will be reviewed by an independent jury made up of prominent planners from other states and members of our allied professions here in Vermont.

Remember, we no longer require references and we need just one copy of the supporting documents if they are in electronic format. In fact, your nomination may be submitted completely electronically if you so choose. While up to three pages for the narrative is allowed, keep in mind that this is a maximum; you just need to supply enough info to help the jury understand why your nomination should win! So please, take the time to send in your nomination. Please note that the deadline is Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>.

It is important that the great work we all do gets recognized, not only here in Vermont, but also at the larger regional level. As last year, there are five nomination categories, including citizen board or committee. We look forward to seeing your nominations by the **June 25<sup>th</sup>** deadline. If you have questions, please let me know!

Sincerely,

Dana Farley  
President, VPA

# Good Planning

Participation

Dedication

Objectivity

Leadership

Variety

Implementation

Transferability

Originality

Deserves

Recognition

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## The Vermont Planners Association

### 2009 Annual Awards

#### ANNOUNCEMENT

The Vermont Planners Association is accepting nominations for its 2009 Awards competition until Thursday, June 25, 2009. Awards will be presented at the Fall Annual Meeting. The winners will be nominated by the Vermont Planners Association for the Northern New England Chapter of the American Planning Association's Annual Awards to be presented at the Chapter's annual meeting in September. Recipient of all VPA awards will receive plaques commemorating their achievement and VPA will distribute press releases recognizing the winners.

#### AWARD CATEGORIES

The Vermont Planners Association Award Program may make awards in the following five categories:

- Project of the Year
- Plan of the Year
- Citizen Planner of the Year
- Citizen Board of the Year **3<sup>rd</sup> YEAR**
- Professional Planner of the Year

#### NOMINATIONS

Nominations shall consist of a completed nomination form, plus any materials listed on the form.

Nominations shall be submitted no later than Thursday, June 25, 2009, to: VPA Awards Committee  
c/o Jessica Hill, Vermont League of Cities & Towns, 89 Main Street, Suite #4, Montpelier, VT 05602-2948 or by  
email to [jdonovan@gmavt.net](mailto:jdonovan@gmavt.net) with a subject line specifying "VPA Awards."

Winners are determined on the basis of the following criteria:

### **PROJECT OF THE YEAR**

This award will be made to a project, program or tool, which reflects the highest achievement of community planning efforts. Submissions could be regulations, ordinances or codes, growth management guidelines or ordinances, transferable development rights programs, land acquisition efforts, tax abatement initiatives, or similar efforts.

**Criteria:**

**Originality.** The project represents innovative concepts or an appreciable refinement of existing techniques or procedures.

**Transferability.** The project demonstrates potential application in other areas or to other projects.

**Quality.** The project demonstrates excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, and character of presentation.

**Comprehensiveness.** The project demonstrates application of comprehensive planning principles, especially in considering the project's effects on other public objectives.

**Participation.** The project incorporates or reflects substantial public participation.

**Project Effectiveness.** Proposals embodied in the project have either been carried out or show promise of being carried out.

### **PLAN OF THE YEAR**

This award will be made to a written plan that is a significant advancement to the science and art of planning. Eligible plans include comprehensive/master plans, housing plans, capital improvement plans, environmental/conservation plans, park and recreation plans, transportation plans, redevelopment plans, economic development plans, or trails to trails plans.

**Criteria:**

**Originality.** The plan presents a visionary approach or innovative concept within the context of the jurisdiction's situation. The plan "pushes the envelope" of planning norms.

**Transferability:** The plan demonstrates potential application in other areas.

**Quality:** The plan shows excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, and applies ethical planning principles.

**Comprehensiveness:** Planning principles have been observed, especially in consideration of the plan's effects on other public objectives.

**Participation:** The plan incorporates or reflects substantial public participation.

**Implementation:** The plan includes a strong element detailing measurable implementation tasks and goals, showing effectiveness in short, medium and long terms.

### **CITIZEN PLANNER OF THE YEAR AND BOARD OF THE YEAR (Both Categories)**

This award will be made to a citizen planner or board that represents commitment to community betterment and the application of effective planning principles. This category includes members of planning commissions, DRBs, zoning boards, economic development commissions, or other elected or appointed officials and committees. Citizen Planner could also include the more non-traditional roles of citizen activist or neighborhood leader.

**Criteria:**

**Support of Planning.** The citizen or board demonstrates an obvious and sustained dedication to the continued improvement of the community as a whole through the application of the principles of planning.

**Effectiveness.** Because of the citizen's or board's dedication, there is a demonstrated improvement in the community as a whole and in the advancement of planning, taking into consideration the sphere of influence this effectiveness has been realized.

### **PROFESSIONAL PLANNER OF THE YEAR**

This award will be made to a professional planner who has demonstrated outstanding contributions to successful planning in Vermont's communities, regions or the state, 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.** The professional planner's work has demonstrated an obvious and sustained dedication to the continued improvement of his or her community through the application of comprehensive planning principles.

**Innovation.** The professional planner's work demonstrates an ability to develop innovative tools or solutions to planning problems.

**Leadership.** The professional planner's work demonstrates leadership in successfully addressing a variety of planning issues.

**Effectiveness/Results.** The professional planner's has consistently demonstrated the ability to be effective in his or her work, taking into consideration the sphere of influence this effectiveness has been realized.

# 2009 VPA AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

**Nomination  
Form**  
(One Electronic  
Copy)

**Narrative  
Description**  
(One Electronic  
Copy)

**Support Info**  
(one e-copy or  
one paper copy  
of each)

Please submit one electronic copy of this form and attachments by **Thursday June 25, 2009** to [idonovan@gmavt.net](mailto:idonovan@gmavt.net) (subject - VPA Awards). If paper versions must be submitted, please send one copy to: **VPA Awards Committee** c/o Jessica Hill, Vermont League of Cities & Towns, 89 Main Street, Suite 4 Montpelier, VT 05602-2948.

I hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_ for a 2009 VPA Planning Award. This submission is for (Please check **ONE** of the following categories)

Citizen Planner      Citizen Board      Professional Planner      Plan of the Year      Project of the Year

## **Section A: Please submit the following items electronically.**

2009 VPA Award Nomination Form

A description of project, plan or the individual's qualifications and how the individual, plan or project meets the stated criteria (maximum of three pages)

For Plan or Project of the Year – A copy of the plan or project reports or documents titled: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ (One paper copy may be submitted if electronic copy is not available. Documents should be double-sided to the extent possible and bound in such a way to allow for photocopying.)

## **The following items are optional.**

Related documents or materials titled: \_\_\_\_\_

Audio or video presentations titled: \_\_\_\_\_

Other materials supporting the submission (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

Letters of support for nominations for Citizen Planner, Citizen Board, or Professional Planner nomination

## **Section B: Contact Information** (to relay results or ask additional questions)

### **Primary Contact** (Typically the nominator)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

### **Secondary Contact** (The nominee / others associated with the nomination)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Title \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Company/Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that the submitted work was done by the parties credited and meets the eligibility requirements. I understand that any entry that fails to meet submission requirements may be disqualified. (The undersigned must be authorized to represent those credited.)*

**Name of Nominator** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_