

Good Planning

Participation

Dedication

Objectivity

Leadership

Variety

Implementation

Transferability

Originality

Deserves Recognition

The Vermont Planners Association 2011 Annual Awards

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Vermont Planners Association is accepting nominations for its 2011 Awards competition until Friday, July 5, 2011.

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 VPA awards will receive plaques commemorating their achievement. In addition, VPA will distribute press releases recognizing the winners.

NOMINATIONS

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

Nominations shall be submitted no later than Tuesday, July 5, 2011 to: VPA Awards Committee c/o bikeped@gmavt.net or by mail c/o Jim Donovan, Broadreach Planning & Design, PO Box 321, Charlotte, VT 05445.

2011 Award Categories

The Vermont Planners Association Award Program makes awards in the following four categories:

Project of the Year
Plan of the Year
Citizen Planner of the Year
Citizen Planning Board, Commission or Committee of the Year
Professional Planner of the Year

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 bicycle/pedestrian 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 and COMM/BRD OF THE YEAR

This award will be made to a citizen planner or Commission/Board/Committee which personifies commitment to community betterment and the application of effective planning principles. These categories include members of planning commissions, DRBs, zoning boards, economic development commissions, or other elected or appointed officials as well as the groups themselves. It could also include the more non-traditional roles of citizen activist or neighborhood leader.

Criteria:

Support of Planning. The citizen or group 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 group'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.