



## Award Categories

Nominations may be made and awards given to any of the following categories.

### — Comprehensive Plan Award | Large Jurisdiction

Awarded to a comprehensive plan of unusually high merit completed within the past 3 years that advances the science and art of planning by or within a jurisdiction with a population of 100,000 or more.

### — Comprehensive Plan Award | Small Jurisdiction

Awarded to a comprehensive plan of unusually high merit completed within the past 3 years that advances the science and art of planning by or within a jurisdiction with a population of less than 100,000.

### — Best Planning Practice

Awarded to a specific planning tool, practice, program or development project that is a significant advancement to specific elements of planning. Entries may include such things as regulations and code, tax policies, or initiatives, growth management, design guidelines, land acquisition efforts, public/private partnerships, applications of technology, or handbooks.

### — Implementation Award | Large Jurisdiction

Awarded to an effort that demonstrates a significant achievement for an area, in accomplishing positive changes as a result of planning. Nominations can include, but are not limited to, plans for smart growth, signage, urban design, wetland mitigation, resource conservation, capital improvements, citizen participation, neighborhood improvement, transportation management, and sustained economic development. Project must be completed within 3 years by a jurisdiction with a population of 100,000 or more.

### — Implementation Award | Small Jurisdiction

Awarded to an effort that demonstrates a significant achievement for an area, in accomplishing positive changes as a result of planning. Nominations can include, but are not limited to, plans for smart growth, signage, urban design, wetland mitigation, resource conservation, capital improvements, citizen participation, neighborhood improvement, transportation management, and sustained economic development. Project must be completed within 3 years by a jurisdiction with a population of less than 100,000.

### — Innovation in Green Community Planning

Awarded to an innovative plan, program, tool, or related effort that demonstrates advancement in planner's efforts to address the serious consequences of development and everyday living on the environment.

### — Grassroots Initiative

Awarded to an initiative addressing a need that extends beyond the traditional scope of planning. This could include such efforts as community policing or drug prevention, neighborhood outreach initiatives, programs designed for special populations, public art or cultural efforts, community festivals, environmental or conservation initiatives, summer recreational initiatives for children, or focused tourism ventures.

### **Economic Development**

Awarded to an effort to transform economies and stimulate economic development in communities of all sizes.

### **Urban Design**

Awarded to an effort to create a sense of place, whether a street, public space, neighborhood, or campus.

### **Transportation Planning**

Awarded to an effort to increase transportation choices for all populations, reducing dependence on private automobiles and helping to ease congestion and reducing climate change impacts.

### **Neighborhood Planning**

Awarded to a neighborhood plan, program, design, or related effort that demonstrates innovative planning principles and measures that create sustainable neighborhoods of lasting value.

*(Awarded locally only)*

### **Environmental Planning**

Awarded to an environmental assessment document of unusually high merit that has been certified within the past 3 years. *(Awarded locally only)*

### **Public Outreach Award**

Awarded to an individual, project, or program that uses information and education about the value of planning and how planning improves a community's quality of life. This may include broad community efforts, curricula designed to teach children about planning, neighborhood empowerment programs, or initiatives designed to include new individuals and groups in the planning process.

### **Communications Initiative**

Awarded to an effort that excelled at "telling a narrative" and increasing awareness and understanding about the planning profession.

### **Planning Pioneer**

Awarded to a pioneer of the profession who has made personal and direct innovations in California planning that have significantly and positively redirected planning practices, education or theory with long-term results.

### **Planning Landmark Award**

Awarded to a planning project, initiative, or endeavor that is at least 25 years old and historically significant, having initiated a new direction in planning or impacted California planning, cities, or regions over a broad range of time.

### **Innovative Use of Technology**

Awarded to a program or process which features an innovative use of technology to further the goals for the planning process. *(Awarded locally only)*

### **Social Change and Diversity Award**

Awarded to a project, group, or individual demonstrating a sustained social commitment to advocacy involving planning for the needs of society's less fortunate members.

### **Opportunity and Empowerment**

Awarded to a plan, program, or project that improved quality of life for low- and moderate-income community residents. Emphasis is placed on how creative housing, economic development, and private investments have been used in or with a comprehensive community development plan to empower a community. This award also emphasizes tangible results and recognizes the planning discipline and its contribution as a community strategy. The strategy should have been in effect for a minimum of three years.

### **Hard-Won Victory**

Awarded to a planning initiative or other planning effort undertaken by a community, neighborhood, citizens group, or jurisdiction in the face of difficult or trying circumstances. This award recognizes the positive effect of hard-won victories by professional planners, citizen planners, or both working together under difficult, challenging, or adverse conditions because of natural disasters, local circumstances, financial or organizational constraints, social factors, or other causes.

### **Academic Award**

Awarded to faculty or students for outstanding work done in planning schools on an individual or collective basis.

### **Distinguished Leadership Award | Planning Firm**

Awarded to a planning firm that has produced distinguished work that continues to influence the professional practice of planning.

### **Distinguished Leadership Award | Planning Agency**

Awarded to a public sector planning agency that has continually produced a program of exceptional work that elevated awareness about planning.

### **Distinguished Leadership Award | Emerging Planning and Design Firm**

Awarded to a young planning and design firm that has helped elevate the planning profession and build public support for planning, and through its current work demonstrates the potential of having a continual influence on the planning profession for years to come.

### **John Chase Visionary Award**

Awarded to an individual affiliated with the field of planning for a significant contribution in urban design, writing, architecture, planning or any other related area of practice where creativity, critical thinking, mentorship, or a combination thereof, demonstrate a passion for planning as a true visionary. This award is given in memory of John Chase for sharing his extraordinary vision and leaving his mark on the field of planning. *(Awarded locally only)*

### **Outstanding Young Planner Award**

Awarded to an individual affiliated with the field of planning, under the age of 35 at the time of nomination, who exhibits exemplary professional accomplishments and has made a valuable contribution advancement of the planning profession. Candidates should have examples of professional, educational, and community leadership within the planning field but can also have shown leadership and dedication to related areas. Formal planning education is not a requirement. *(Awarded locally only)*