

Planning Leadership Awards Applications

2016

The Planning Leadership Awards Program is intended to raise awareness of community planning and design while encouraging the support of activities and projects that foster Smart Growth. By recognizing the actions of municipalities, developers, consultants, and others who embrace Smart Growth concepts, this program highlights the advantages and benefits of good planning.

Award Categories

Citizen Planner Award

New for 2016, the Citizen Planner award is designed to recognize an individual who has demonstrated a significant and sustained leadership role in promoting excellence in planning and has contributed to community improvement in Lancaster County.

Planning Project Awards

These awards will recognize three types of planning projects which exemplify Smart Growth – built projects; plans, policies, and regulations; and public participation – and have been developed or implemented in Lancaster County. Three award types may be given to planning projects: Leadership, Achievement, and Certificate of Merit.

Citizen Planner Award Application

Eligibility

Any individual that has demonstrated a significant and sustained leadership role in promoting excellence in planning and has contributed to community improvement in Lancaster County is eligible. This award is specifically designed to recognize exceptional leadership and effectiveness of volunteers, public officials, and members of nonprofit groups and organizations in bringing major community projects or projects of regional importance to fruition during the last three years (2013 – 2015). Nominees must meet a significant number of the award criteria which include leadership, advocacy, collaboration, civic engagement, consensus building, mobilization of resources, public education, effectiveness, innovation, and organizational development.

Nominees could include members of planning commissions, planning committees, nonprofit organizations, economic development organizations, historic preservation groups, environmental groups, and community groups as well as citizen activists, neighborhood leaders, elected or appointed officials, and community volunteers. Nominees must be a living resident of Lancaster County. Anyone may submit a nomination; however, self-nominations will not be considered. No more than one individual will be recognized each year.

Award Criteria

Applications will be scored on how they meet the following criteria:

- **Leadership:** Outstanding municipal, non-profit, private sector, or community leadership which demonstrates a significant role in promoting excellence in planning. A sustained commitment to activities that provide significant contributions to community improvement.
- **Advocacy:** Championing or promotion of a project, plan, program, or process.
- **Collaboration:** A cooperative, coordinated, and/or regional approach to planning. Use of partnerships to develop and/or implement a project and achieve its goals.
- **Civic Engagement:** Community involvement, awareness, and support. Development and/or use of a comprehensive and inclusive public participation plan or process which ensures that many perspectives are reflected in the planning process.
- **Consensus Building:** Bringing stakeholders with diverse interests together to express their ideas, build trust, bridge differences, and find mutually acceptable solutions based on a common vision and goals for planning and implementation.
- **Mobilization of Resources:** Identifying, organizing, and rallying resources such as nonprofit organizations, community groups, volunteers, and public officials, etc. to achieve a planning-related goal, implement a program, or complete a specific project.
- **Public Education:** Increasing the public's understanding of planning principles and the planning process as well as the goals of his/her organization.
- **Effectiveness:** Formulating and implementing ideas and planning efforts that further the cause of planning, advance Smart Growth principles, and make a positive impact on the community.
- **Innovation:** Use of innovative technology, processes, procedures, programs, and/or approaches. Breaking new ground or old barriers.
- **Organizational Development:** Developing an organizational structure, ensuring adequate resources, and promoting a more effective community organization, institution, coalition, interest group, or municipal government, etc.

Application Package

A neat, well organized, and professional-looking application package must include:

1. **Awards Entry Form:** The 2016 LCPC Leadership Awards entry form. (See page 8)
2. **Narrative:** A clear, concise narrative effectively describing how the nominee meets the award criteria.
3. **Supporting Materials:** High-resolution print-quality photographs, plans, and documents; project descriptions; recognitions; news articles; etc. which support the nomination.
4. **References:** Up to three letters of reference from persons familiar with the nominee's work.
5. **Presentation Quality:** A neat, well organized, and professional-looking application package.

Application Submittal

Applications will be submitted via Dropbox. Please contact Mary L. Frey at 717-299-8333 or frey@co.lancaster.pa.us for instructions on how to submit your application.

Application Deadline

Applications must be submitted **no later than 5:00 P.M. Friday, February 19, 2016.**

Questions

Contact Mary L. Frey at 717-299-8333 or frey@co.lancaster.pa.us with any questions.

Planning Project Award Application

Eligibility

Individuals, organizations, municipal boards or commissions, public authorities, developers, and consultants as well as public/private partnerships that were principally involved in the design, development, or implementation of projects in Lancaster County may submit an application for an award. Projects completed in the last three years (2013 – 2015) are eligible.

Project Categories

Submissions can be made in one of five categories: Heritage Resources, Sustainable Growth, Infrastructure, Community Capacity, or Community Design and Placemaking. Within these categories, entries will be accepted in three project types: built projects; plans, policies, and regulations; and public participation. Entries will be further divided into large and small projects based on dollar value: Small Projects – under \$500,000 and Large Projects – above \$500,000.

Heritage Resources – What do we want to protect?

Historic, cultural, natural, or agricultural resources and heritage; environmentally sensitive areas; rural open spaces; buildings; and character-defining features.

Sustainable Growth – Where and how do we grow?

Compact development and building design to foster livable communities, traditional neighborhood design, new urbanism, or mixed-use; redevelopment, reinvestment, and reuse of existing or underutilized buildings and sites; sustainable economic development supported by housing and services.

Infrastructure – How do we support growth?

Unique, innovative, low impact and/or green technology, facilities, or services; innovative approaches to management and provision of services; context-sensitive design of facilities; provision of public amenities, wildlife habitat, or environmental protection or restoration.

Community Capacity – How do we make it happen?

Up-to-date plans, ordinances, and implementation strategies; regional cooperation and communication; leadership, civic responsibility, public awareness, and public participation.

Community Design and Placemaking – How does design create great places and neighborhoods?

Interconnected streets and sidewalk/trail networks; compatible architectural styles, building materials, mass and scale; mix of uses and incorporation of gathering spaces.

Award Criteria

All applications will be scored on how they meet the following criteria:

Planning Leadership Principles

Does the submission demonstrate . . .

Effectiveness: Advances Smart Growth principles.

Innovation: Use of innovative technology, processes, procedures, programs, and/or approaches.

Use of Best Practices: Use of policies, methodologies, technologies, techniques, or products, etc. that, through experience and research, have been proven to be reliable and consistently lead to desired results.

Replicability: Can be replicated in Lancaster County.

Collaboration: A cooperative, coordinated, and/or regional approach.

Effective Communication: Use of a variety of interpersonal as well as public communication techniques, formats, forums, and media to engage community leaders, stakeholders, and NIMBYs in order to build a levels of trust and connectedness. Establishes a clear message focused on the common goal for the organization, citizens' groups, or coalition, etc. to convey to its members and to the community.

Partnerships: The use of partnerships to develop and/or implement the project and achieve its goals.

Civic Engagement: Community involvement, awareness, and support.

Advocacy: Championing or promotion of a project, plan, program, or process.

Consistency with Planning: Support for, consistency with, or implementation of county and local plans.

Projects will then be judged on the criteria for the specific project category in which they were submitted.

Heritage Resources

Does the submission reflect, demonstrate, or include . . .

Identification of Resources: Identification or inventorying of heritage resources.

Interpretation: Presenting or explaining the county's heritage through signage, written materials, displays, events or activities, etc.

Mobilization of Resources: Identifying, organizing, and rallying resources such as heritage organizations, community groups, professionals in the field, etc., to achieve a heritage-related goal or implement a program.

Education: Actions or programs which promote or raise awareness about the county's rich and diverse history and encourage residents to become better stewards of heritage resources.

Resource Protection: Conservation, preservation, or protection of historic, cultural, natural, or agricultural heritage; environmentally sensitive areas; or rural open space.

Adaptive Reuse: Appropriate reuse of existing buildings, structures, or landscapes.

Sense of Place: Use of heritage resources as a basis for retaining and enhancing strong community character and sense of place.

Compatible Development: New development which respects and complements the pattern, character, and scale of traditional communities and rural landscape.

Retention of Features: Retention of character-defining heritage features within a project.

Community Revitalization: Integration of heritage resources into revitalization plans and projects for towns, villages, or rural landscapes.

Sustainable Growth

Does the submission reflect, demonstrate, or include . . .

Urban Revitalization: Reinvestment in or redevelopment, reuse, or retrofit of obsolete or under-utilized sites and buildings or infill of undeveloped parcels.

Compact Development: Community and building design that fosters the concepts of livable communities and includes a mix of uses, mix of housing types; public gathering spaces; motorized and non-motorized transportation networks, connections, and options; and recreation and open spaces.

Housing Options: Integration of housing opportunities for a wide range of household types, tenure, and income. Coordination of the provision of housing with the location of jobs, public transit, services, schools, and other existing infrastructure.

Use of Public Infrastructure: Provision of an appropriate level of public infrastructure and services. Development maximizes the use of existing infrastructure and minimizes the need for new infrastructure.

Green / Sustainable Practices: Incorporates green and sustainable practices, approaches, and technology in planning, design, construction, renovation, and maintenance of public facilities and infrastructure -- Green building technology, energy efficient design, sustainable and healthful building materials, alternative energy systems or management practices that reduce environmental impacts.

Sustainable Water Management: Use of green infrastructure, Best Management Practices, or Low Impact Development to manage stormwater. Use of native plants and landscaping for water efficiency? Use of water conservation measures.

Resource Protection: Retention and conservation of ecosystems and natural resources.

Sense of Place: Establish or maintain a unique sense of place by respecting local cultural, special places, and natural features.

A Healthy Community: Promotion of a healthy active lifestyle for residents of all ages and abilities.

Economic Sustainability: Focus on, expansion, and promotion of the local economy -- local and small businesses and industries, agriculture, local food production, tourism, etc.

Infrastructure

Does the submission reflect, demonstrate, or include . . .

Adequate Resources: Ensures that adequate technical and financial resources are made available for provision of service, system management, and/or operation and maintenance. Maximizes the efficiency and effectiveness of available resources.

Efficient Use of Infrastructure: Use and Improve existing facilities and infrastructure first before constructing new facilities and infrastructure. Provide or plan for connections, service, or access to adjacent developments or municipalities within Designated Growth Areas.

Sufficient Capacity: Provision of or plans to provide sufficient infrastructure or facility capacity to support anticipated population growth and land development.

Context Sensitive Design: Infrastructure facilities that fit in with or enhance their surroundings.

Prioritization of Projects: Prioritize and coordinate the timing of infrastructure and facility projects with new development, and municipal or organization plans, budgets, or Capital Improvement Programs to ensure completion of top priority projects.

Flexibility: Promotes flexibility in the design and programming of public facilities to cost effectively serve multiple functions and accommodate the community's changing needs.

Economic Benefits: Economic development, increased revenue, fiscal benefits, or cost savings.

Planning / Implementation: Development or implementation of infrastructure or facility plans, ordinances, or programs.

Green / Sustainable Practices: Incorporates green and sustainable practices, approaches, and technology in planning, design, construction, renovation, and maintenance of public facilities and infrastructure -- Green building technology, energy efficient design, sustainable and healthful building materials, alternative energy systems or management practices that reduce environmental impacts.

Natural Resource Protection: Protection or restoration of natural features, ecosystems, wildlife habitat, or other natural resources affected by the project or in the project area.

Community Capacity

Does the submission reflect, demonstrate, or include . . .

Citizen Leadership: Strong municipal, non-profit, private sector, or citizen leadership.

Leadership Development: Increases citizens' awareness of the workings of local government, builds leadership capacity, and expands the community's leadership base through education, training, and mentoring programs. Gives priority to increasing diversity of community leaders.

Public Education: Provision of educational programs on civic involvement and participation in community initiatives, planning processes, program development.

Civic Responsibility: Encourages or demonstrates civic responsibility on the part of the community through a coordinated and sustained effort to address problems and recognize and act on opportunities in order to achieve community goals. Encourages and enables citizens to actively participate in the public life of the community in an informed, committed, and constructive manner with a focus on the common good.

Public Participation: Development and/or use of a comprehensive and inclusive public participation plan or process which ensures that many perspectives are reflected in the planning process.

Action Plans / Strategies: Development and/or implementation of action plans and/or strategies that are realistic and usable and serve as a framework for change and a catalyst for improving the community.

Consensus Building: Bringing stakeholders with diverse interests together to express their ideas, build trust, bridge differences, and find mutually acceptable solutions based on a common vision and goals for planning and implementation.

Community Pride: Build a sense of pride and strengthen citizens' sense of identity, shaped by their attachment to their local area by engaging and assisting those members of the community who wish to make their towns, villages, streets, and homes – a more livable community. Pride is the "glue" that makes a community stick together resulting in healthy and prosperous town.

Development / Use of Community Facilities: Use of community facilities: schools, libraries, parks, rec centers and other public amenities, etc. to expand the community's capacity to address and solve issues of common concern.

Adequate Organizational Resources: Develops the organizational structure, ensures adequate organizational resources, and promotes more effective community organizations, institutions, coalitions, interest

groups, municipal councils of governments, etc. at the local or regional level. Effective mobilization and use of resources both from within and outside the coalition or organization.

Community Design and Placemaking

Does the submission reflect, demonstrate, or include . . .

A Street Network: A grid street network which is interconnected to surrounding development.

Complete Streets: Serves multiple modes including vehicles, transit, pedestrians, bicycles, or other non-motorized uses and provides pedestrian, bicycle, and/or transit facilities and amenities.

An Active Transportation Network: An interconnected network or sidewalks, paths, and/or trails which provides opportunities walking and biking as well as other non-motorized transportation options within the development as well as connections to the surrounding community.

Community Character: Incorporates, enhances, and reflects the character of the community.

Traditional Styles and Materials: Use of locally compatible architectural styles, mass, scale, building setbacks, materials and construction techniques.

A Focal Point: An iconic building, square, park, historic or natural feature, or vista, etc...

Mixed Use: A mix of housing types and other uses that are within a walkable distance (1/4-1/2 mile).

Gathering Spaces: Incorporates public or private gathering spaces or “third places” - coffee shops, book stores, cafes, music or art venues, night spots, fitness centers, etc.

Recreation Facilities: Parks or natural areas as well as outdoor or indoor recreation facilities.

Appropriate Infrastructure: Provision of an appropriate and sufficient level of Infrastructure, community facilities, and public services to support the anticipated population within growth areas.

Project Application Package

A neat, well organized, and professional-looking application package must include:

1. **Awards Entry Form:** The 2016 LCPC Leadership Awards entry form. (See page 8)
2. **Narrative:** A clear, concise narrative effectively describing how the entry meets the criteria for the category it was submitted in as well as any other Smart Growth attributes it exemplifies.
3. **Supporting Materials:** High-resolution print-quality photographs, plans, and documents; project descriptions; recognitions; news articles; etc. which support the nomination.
4. **References:** Up to three letters of reference from persons familiar with but not directly involved in the project.
5. **Presentation Quality:** A neat, well organized, and professional-looking application package.

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Questions

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Entry Form

<i>Name of Project or Nominee</i>			
<i>Contact Name</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Company</i>	
<i>Street Address</i>			
<i>City</i>		<i>State</i>	<i>Zip</i>
<i>Telephone</i>		<i>E-mail</i>	
<i>Authorization to use application materials in future awards and planning promotions</i>		<i>Project Municipality</i>	
<i>Project Partner Names</i>			

AWARD CATEGORY:

- Planning Project Citizen Planner

FOR PLANNING PROJECTS:

- Dollar Value of Project: Under \$500,000 Above \$500,000

Category (check one):

- Heritage Resources Sustainable Growth Infrastructure
 Community Capacity Community Design/Placemaking

Project Type (check one):

- Built Plans, Policies, Programs, Regulations Public Participation