



## APA CA LOS ANGELES SECTION 2013 AWARDS APPLICATION FORM

*Nominations for the APA CA Los Angeles Section Planning Awards are due by:*

*5:00 P.M., Wednesday, March 6, 2013.*

*Materials received after this date will not be accepted and will not be returned.*

***I nominate:***

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(Name of project, plan, effort, tool, document, initiative, individual, firm, agency, organization, or publication, etc.)

***For an APA CA Los Angeles Section 2013 Award in the following category:***

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(Indicate the nomination category number and title.)

# APA LOS ANGELES SECTION 2013 AWARDS APPLICATION FORM

This form is also available at [www.la-apa.org](http://www.la-apa.org)  
All nominations must be received by March 6, 2013.

## Nominator

The Nominator will be considered the primary contact to the APA CA Los Angeles Section for all decisions made on this nomination and will work with APA CA Los Angeles Section staff to obtain additional information and materials.

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

Affiliation/Organization/Firm \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Primary Award Recipient

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

Date published, implemented, or completed (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Recognition

Primary Individual(s) and/or Organization(s) to be listed on trophy/plaque if chosen as winner(s). (Limit to maximum five individuals/organizations. Place in order to be listed. Please make sure that spelling and content is accurate.)

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Organization \_\_\_\_\_

## Acknowledgement of Nominator

I acknowledge that the submitted work was done by the parties credited in this Awards Application Form, and that the work meets the appropriate nomination submittal requirements. I understand that any entry which fails to meet submissions requirements may be disqualified.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Nominator's Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Nominator

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS ALSO REQUIRED. PLEASE SEE SUBMISSION PROCESS BELOW**

## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Los Angeles Section of the American Planning Association announces the 2013 Planning Awards, open to planners, designers, planning firms and agencies, educators, leaders, and journalists throughout Los Angeles County. The Los Angeles Section annually recognizes and rewards individuals and organizations for work that typifies excellence in planning and which generally advances the planning profession. The purpose of the LA Section Awards program is to recognize quality planning efforts and enhance public awareness of achievements in the planning field.

To nominate a project, plan, program or individual for a 2013 APA LA Award, please fill out the following information. Please be sure that entry submittals are complete and accurate. Incomplete nominations will not be considered for awards. If you have any questions, or if we may assist you with the nomination process, please contact APA LA Vice-Directors of Awards, Francisco Contreras ([fcontreras@weho.org](mailto:fcontreras@weho.org)) or Bryan Eck ([bryan.d.eck@gmail.com](mailto:bryan.d.eck@gmail.com)).

## SELECTION/AWARD RECIPIENTS

Judges reserve the right to re-categorize entries where appropriate. Judges may decline an award in any category where nominations do not meet stated standards of excellence.

Winners of the APA CA Los Angeles Section Awards will be notified prior to the Section Awards Program. Section Award winners will be invited to submit a nomination for the corresponding California Chapter APA Awards, which will be presented at the annual State Conference in the Fall of 2013. Subsequently, California Chapter winners will be nominated for the National APA Awards Program.

One award plaque per category will be provided at the cost of the APA CA LA Section Awards Program. Upon request, additional plaques will be provided but must be paid for by the recipient three weeks prior to the awards reception.

Nomination materials will not be returned. Complete submittals are the responsibility of the nominator.

## ELIGIBILITY

- Submissions may be entered in only one category.
- Any project or program must have been published, implemented, or completed in the **3 years** prior to the date of submission.
- Prior award winners may not be nominated.
- Members of the Cal Chapter APA Board may not receive a leadership or service award during his or her term.

## NOMINATION SUBMITTAL REQUIREMENTS

1. **Seven paper copies** of the "APA CA Los Angeles Section 2013 Awards Application Form" must be submitted with each nomination. Please do not submit any paper copies of your materials other than the seven awards application forms. Additional materials will not be kept or reviewed by the Awards Jury.
2. **All nominations and supporting documents must be submitted in electronic format on CDs. Seven (7) CDs of the following items must be submitted.** One CD must be labeled Master Copy. Please place each of the following electronic files in separate folders on the CD. Each award submittal CD must be labeled with the name of the project and the appropriate award category. The following items must be submitted:
  - Nomination Form:** This completed form, which is also available online at [www.la-apa.org](http://www.la-apa.org).
  - Summary Description:** One page summary description of the submission or in the case of an individual, a one page resume. If chosen as the award winner, portions or all of the summary description may be used for the video presentation at the Awards ceremony.
  - Award Criteria:** One- or two-page explanation demonstrating how the submission specifically meets each criterion in the order listed under each award category.

- Letter of Support:** A statement of support by someone not directly associated with the project and other than the nominator (no more than 1 page).
  - Project or Plan:** A digital copy in PDF format of the project or plan document for which the nomination is submitted.
  - Images:** Ten (10) high-resolution (1024x768 or larger) digital images in JPEG format. **No PowerPoint Presentations.** The images should be representative of the nomination, as they will be used during the Awards Ceremony. Please include the cover page of a document and/or a representative graphic(s). Please also include a brief sentence identifying or describing each slide. Leadership Award nominations need only to supply two to three images of the individual nominated.
  - OPTIONAL:** Resumes of individuals, published reports or articles, audio or video materials, and other materials appropriate to the submission. These materials should be succinct, given the limited time available for Jury deliberations.
3. All submissions must be received by the **March 6, 2013 deadline** and strictly follow the requirements outlined in this application form.

## MANDATORY SHIPPING REQUIREMENTS

1. **You must ship nominations** through any vendor that documents and guarantees receipt, such as UPS, Federal Express, personal delivery, etc.
2. **Submit Nomination Package** (6 CD Jury copies; 1 CD Master copy) to:  
  

**Francisco J. Contreras, AICP  
City of West Hollywood  
8300 Santa Monica Boulevard  
West Hollywood, CA 90069**
3. **Submittal Deadline: 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 6, 2013.**
4. **APA CA Los Angeles Section will confirm** receipt of your submittal, through e-mail, by 5pm on March 7, 2013. If you have not heard from APA CA LA Section by that time, and your shipper has indicated receipt of your package, feel free to contact Francisco Contreras by email at [fcontreras@weho.org](mailto:fcontreras@weho.org). In your e-mail message, please state who signed and received your package, according to your shipper.
5. Due to time and cost factors, nomination materials, including digital images, will not be returned. You are strongly advised to retain a copy of all information submitted.

## QUESTIONS?

For more information regarding nominations, digital submissions, project eligibility or appropriate nomination categories, please contact:

Francisco Contreras, AICP  
APA LA Awards Co-Chair  
[fcontreras@weho.org](mailto:fcontreras@weho.org)

OR

Bryan Eck  
APA LA Awards Co-Chair  
[bryan.d.eck@gmail.com](mailto:bryan.d.eck@gmail.com)

## APA LA AWARD CATEGORIES

Nominations may be made and awards given in any of the following categories:

### OUTSTANDING PLANNING

- 1a **Comprehensive Plan Award, Large Jurisdiction:** To a comprehensive plan of unusually high merit completed within the past 3 years that advances the science and art of planning with a 2000 census population of 100,000 or more. *(Corresponds to the National APA Daniel Burnham Comprehensive Plan Award).*
- 1b **Comprehensive Plan Award, Small Jurisdiction:** 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 2000 census population of less than 100,000. *(Corresponds to the National APA Daniel Burnham Comprehensive Plan Award).*

### PLANNING EXCELLENCE AWARD

- 2a. **Planning Excellence Award for Best Practice:** For 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.
- 2b. **Planning Excellence in Implementation Award, Large Jurisdiction:** For 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 2000 census population of 100,000 or more.
- 2c. **Planning Excellence in Implementation Award, Small Jurisdiction:** For 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 2000 census population of less than 100,000.
- 2d. **Planning Excellence Award for Grassroots Initiative:** For 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.

- 2e. **Public Outreach Award:** For 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.
- 2f. **Planning Landmark Award:** The Planning Landmark Award is for 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 American planning, cities, or regions over a broad range of time.
- 2g. **Innovative Use of Technology Award:** To a program or process which features an innovative use of technology to further the goals for the planning process. *(Awarded locally only)*
- 2h. **Focused Issue Planning Award:** For a planning document of unusually high merit completed or published in the past 3 years, dealing with a specific aspect of the planning process.
- 2i. **Neighborhood Planning Award:** This award will go to a neighborhood plan, program, design, or related effort that demonstrates innovative planning principles and measures that create sustainable neighborhoods of lasting value.

### PLANNING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

- 3a. **Social Change and Diversity Award:** This award honors a project, group, or individual demonstrating a sustained social commitment to advocacy involving planning for the needs of society's less fortunate members. *(Corresponds to the National Paul Davidoff Award)*
- 3b. **Contribution to Women and the Family Award:** For a significant contribution to planning issues related to women and the family. *(Corresponds to the National APA Diana Donald Award.)*
- 3c. **Hard-Won Victory:** For 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.

### LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARDS

4a. **Academic Award:** To faculty or students for outstanding work done in planning schools on an individual or collective basis.

4b. **Distinguished Leadership Award - Professional Planner:** To a professional planner, currently employed in the planning profession, for sustained contribution to the profession through distinguished practice, teaching or writing.

4c. **Distinguished Leadership Award - Elected Official:** To an individual elected to public office for a significant contribution to excellence in public planning.

4d. **Distinguished Leadership Award - Firm or Agency:** To a planning firm or planning agency for outstanding achievement in public or private planning.

4e. **Distinguished Leadership Award—Organization**  
To a planning organization for outstanding achievement in public or private planning.

4f. **Distinguished Leadership Award – Citizen Planner:** To an individual who is neither a professional planner nor an elected official for a significant contribution to excellence in the planning field. Eligible recipients include planning commissioners, board members, citizen activists, or neighborhood leaders.

4g. **Distinguished Leadership Award- Student Planner** To a student in his/her final year of a Planning Accreditation Planning Board approved planning program at the undergraduate level or to a student at the graduate level in an approved program for outstanding achievement during the respective nominee's academic career in planning.

4h. **John Chase Visionary Award -** 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*)

## JOURNALISM/MEDIA

5a. **Journalism Award - Circulation Over 100,000:** To a publication for outstanding coverage of planning or environmental issues.

5b. **Journalism Award - Circulation 35,000 to 100,000:** To a publication for outstanding coverage of planning or environmental issues.

5c. **Journalism Award - Circulation under 35,000:** To a publication for outstanding coverage of planning or environmental issues.

5d. **Individual Journalist Award:** To an individual writer or editor for an article, or series of articles, of exceptional merit on planning or environmental issues.

5e. **Media Award:** For outstanding coverage of a planning topic through non-print medium (television, radio, video, etc.)

## ENVIRONMENTAL

6a. **Environmental Award:** To an environmental assessment document of unusually high merit that has been certified within the past 3 years. (*Awarded locally only*)

6b. **Innovation in Green Community Planning:** To an innovative plan, program, tool, or related effort that demonstrates advancement in planner's efforts to address the serious consequences of development and every day living on the environment.

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

Awards will be given only to projects that meet the full intent of the selection criteria.

### *Outstanding Planning Award Criteria*

- **Originality and Innovation:** Is there a visionary approach or innovative concept that results in a meaningful advance in the planning process?
- **Transferability:** To what extent is there a potential application in other areas or to other projects?
- **Quality:** Competitive entries will represent excellence of thought, analysis, writing, and graphics throughout the plan, regardless of budgetary limitations. Indicate how available resources were used in a thoughtful and ethical process
- **Implementation:** What is the level of effectiveness as evidenced by the project's degree of post-completion or post-adoption activity?
- **Comprehensiveness:** To what extent have planning principles been observed, especially consideration of the projects' effects in other public objectives?
- **Content and plan elements.** How complete is the plan? In what ways does the plan support or connect to other plans or planning mandates? Specify how planning principles have been observed, especially in consideration of your entry's effects on other public objectives.
- **Public participation.** Explain how various public interests were involved and the extent of that involvement. Show how the nominated plan obtained public and private support.
- **Role of planners.** Clarify the role, significance, and participation of planners; for instance, how in-house staff and consultants worked together. Demonstrate the connection between the success of this effort and increased awareness in the community of planners and the planning process.

### *Planning Excellence Awards Criteria (for Best Practice, Grassroots Initiative, and Implementation categories)*

- **Originality and innovation.** Document how your entry presents a visionary approach or innovative concept to address needs. Explain how the use of the planning process in this context broadened accepted planning principles within the context of the situation.
- **Transferability.** Illustrate how the entry has potential application for others and how application of your entry's components and methodology would further the cause of good planning.
- **Quality.** Winning entries will represent excellence of thought, analysis, writing, and graphics throughout the nomination, regardless of budgetary limitations. Indicate how available resources were used.
- **Comprehensiveness.** Specify how planning principles have been observed, especially in consideration of your entry's effects on other public objectives. Identify to what extent your entry includes elements important to the local community and affecting not only the built environment, but also the community's natural resources, conservation areas, and planning elements addressing economic or social arenas or both.
- **Public participation.** Explain the level of public participation in this effort. Show how the entries obtained public and private support.
- **Role of planners.** Clarify the role, significance, and participation of the planner; for instance, how in-house

staff and consultants worked together. Demonstrate the connection between the success of this effort and increased awareness of planners and the planning process.

- **Effectiveness and results.** State how your entry addressed the need or problem that prompted its initiation.

### ***Public Outreach Award Criteria***

- **Originality.** Document how the program uses new ideas or combines tools to address a demonstrated need for planning information or education within the community.
- **Quality.** Entries need to demonstrate excellence of thought, analysis, writing, and graphics throughout the nomination, regardless of budgetary limitations.
- **Education.** Show how the program has increased the understanding of planning principles and the planning process. Explain how the results have been measured and internalized.
- **Transferability.** Illustrate how the entry has potential application for others.
- **Effectiveness and results.** Specify the extent that the program, if directed to adults or designed as a general education effort, has been effective in implementing plans and ideas.

### ***Planning Landmark Award Criteria***

- **Historical significance.** What is the nomination's historical significance in terms of at least one of the following: being a pioneering work or a documented first; or being historically significant, unique, and outstanding. Nominated landmarks must be at least 25 years old.
- **Persons involved:** Who were the significant planners or others who were involved and responsible for the accomplishments of the nominated landmark? Indicate how the nominee has shown a clear understanding of, and support for, the role of planners in public life.

### ***Neighborhood Planning Award***

- **Planning and Innovation:** What critical planning elements are addressed by the nominated effort in terms of creating new neighborhoods and redesigning older neighborhoods? As an example, but not limited to, how does the nomination contribute to residents doing more walking, biking, or taking part in other physical activities? Does the plan call for placing schools closer to the homes where students and their families live? How are smart growth principles used to guide design of new neighborhoods as well as reinvestment decisions affecting older areas? How does the plan help create more diverse housing opportunities and address affordable housing needs?
- **Plan Compatibility:** How is the neighborhood plan, project, initiative, or other nominated effort compatible with the corresponding city comprehensive or master plan, district or special-use plans, city recreational plans, economic development plans, conservation area plans, environmental planning, capital improvement programs, zoning ordinances, or other related planning initiatives? In what ways does the neighborhood plan or planning effort support the broader needs of the community and surrounding region or addresses citywide objectives?
- **Collaboration and Partnerships:** What formal and informal steps were taken for neighborhood leaders to meet among themselves and with local officials to discuss the plan and plan implementation? What strategic partnerships or alliances were developed to help meet the goals and objectives of the nominated effort?
- **Social Concerns:** How does the nominated effort address not only physical conditions of the neighborhood, but also issues involving the diversity and social make-up of the neighborhood? Does the plan or effort

facilitate the development of mixed-income neighborhoods?

## PLANNING ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

### *Social Change and Diversity Criteria*

- **Advocacy.** Describe to what extent the nominee addressed the needs of those that society typically overlooks during the planning process.
- **Effectiveness.** Specify how the nominee's effort has had an impact on the lives of those the nominee is working to help. Indicate how those efforts have touched a wider audience.
- **Diversity.** For nominations addressing diversity issues and concerns, what has the individual, organization, or undertaken effort done to promote diversity within the planning profession or to advance and sustain sound, ethical, and inclusionary planning in communities, regions, states, or the nation?

### *Issues of Importance to Women and Families Criteria*

- **Support of women and the family.** Describe how the nominee's efforts addressed the concerns of women through specific actions or contributions to planning initiatives in the community.
- **Effectiveness.** Specify how the nominee's effort has been effective in furthering the cause of women's issues through planning. Indicate how those efforts have touched a wider audience.

### *Hard-Won Victory*

- **Challenges or barriers:** What obstacles, whether physical, natural, social, or a combination thereof, was faced and addressed by the nominated effort? What is the extent of these challenges or other adversarial conditions, and what steps were undertaken to meet the difficult circumstances?
- **Available resources:** What resources were available and how were these resources (financial, personnel, consultants, etc.) managed, leveraged, and deployed?
- **Progress and positive effects:** What are the lasting effects the effort has had or is likely to have on planning in the community? Has the effort removed or mitigated the barriers and obstacles? How has or will the effort shape the future in the community or locale? What influence has the nominated effort had on community leaders and their views about the value and effectiveness of planning?

### *Outstanding Leadership and Service Awards Criteria*

**Sustained contribution to planning:** Indicate length of outstanding leadership. Illustrate how the nominee's work has increased the understanding of the planning process.

**Evaluation of outstanding contributions to the furtherance of the planning profession:** Indicate how the nominee has shown a clear understanding of, and support for, the role of planners in public life

### *Journalism/Media Awards Criteria*

- **Originality:** Innovation in theme, topic, or treatment; establishment of a point of view; development of a new angle on an existing problem.
- **Topicality:** Relation to issues that are current, noteworthy and significant; relationship to the issues, topic areas or interest of citizens, community leaders, or the planning profession at large.

- **Craft:** Writing style; application of journalistic skills and standards to develop the topic; adherence to principles of objectivity, if applicable, research techniques and methods; level of documentation.
- **Presentation:** Use of photography, typography, layout, graphics and other design tools to communicate with the audience.
- **Interpretation:** Manner in which planning concepts are interpreted or expressed to aid reader understanding and ability to draw important conclusions.

### ***Environmental Award***

- **Originality:** Innovative concepts or appreciable refinement of existing techniques or procedures.
- **Transferability:** Potential applicability in other areas or to other projects.
- **Quality:** Excellence of thought, analysis, writing, graphics, and character of presentation.
- **Implementation:** Effectiveness of the work; proposals have been carried out or show promise of being carried out.
- **Comprehensiveness** Planning, environmental, and CEQA principals have been observed, especially in considering a project's effects on public objectives.