1. **Professional Achievement in Planning**

This award recognizes a project or program that has made a significant contribution to the field of planning. The project or program must be located in or deal with a place in Oregon and have been adopted within the past three years.

**Criteria**

- **Comprehensiveness.** Describe how planning principles have been observed, especially in consideration to the nomination’s effects on other public objectives. Identify to what extent the nomination includes elements important to the local community and affecting not only the built environment, but also the community’s natural resources, conservation areas, and wildlife species, and planning elements addressing economic or social arenas or both.
- **Contribution.** Describe how the nomination makes a significant contribution to its community, region, the State, or the field of planning. Demonstrate the connection between the success of this effort and increased awareness of the planning process.
- **Originality.** Describe how the nomination presents a visionary approach or innovative concept. Explain how the use of the planning process broadened accepted planning principles within the context of the situation.
- **Effectiveness and results.** Describe how the nomination has been effective in formulating and implementing plans and ideas in support of good planning and in response to its context. Identify the level of influence and effectiveness achieved by the nomination within different segments of the community. Describe specific measures taken to ensure the successful implementation of the project or program.
- **Transferability.** Describe how the nomination has potential application for others and how application of the nomination’s components and methodology would further the cause of good planning.
- **Public Participation.** Describe the level of public participation in this effort, with consideration given to effort to solicit input from those who historically have not been part of the planning process. Show how your entry obtained public and private support.

2. **Public Involvement and Participation**

While every planning effort entails thoughtful public involvement, this award seeks to honor those projects, programs, practices, or tools that go the extra distance to innovate and cultivate meaningful discourse and positively impact community quality of life, with a focus on reaching communities that have traditionally been under-represented. Nominated projects may include efforts that resulted in: significant advancement of a community’s comprehension of planning issues or outcomes; greater awareness and understanding among residents or specific segments of the public; and raised awareness on the value of planning and/or how it works.
Criteria
- Support of Planning. Describe how the nomination positively supports the public engagement aspects of planning and the greater understanding of the planning process.
- Effectiveness and results. Describe how the nomination has been effective in formulating and implementing plans and ideas in support of good planning and in response to its context. Identify the level of influence and effectiveness achieved by the nomination within different segments of the community.
- Transferability. Describe how the nomination has application for others and how the nomination’s components and methodology would further the cause of good planning.

3. **Student Achievement in Planning**
This category recognizes an exceptional project, study, or plan produced by individuals or teams of students enrolled in college or graduate school. This award recognizes the value in connecting students and their work with the broader professional community, and provides a chance for professionals to gain access to the fresh ideas and enthusiasm embedded in the best academic work. Submittals do not need to be the product of coursework.

Criteria
- Originality. Describe how the nomination presents a visionary approach or innovative concept. Explain how the use of the planning process broadened accepted planning principles within the context of the situation.
- Contribution. Describe how the nomination makes a significant contribution to its community, region, the State, or the field of planning. Demonstrate the connection between the success of this effort and increased awareness of the planning process.
- Comprehensiveness. Describe how planning principles have been observed, especially in consideration to the nomination’s effects on other public objectives. Identify how the nomination addresses issues important to the local community. Issues may include the built environment, natural resources, conservation areas, wildlife, and planning elements such as those addressing economic or social arenas.

4. **Distinguished Leadership - Lifetime Achievement**
This award, given at the discretion of the OAPA Board, recognizes a person for their lifetime commitment and contribution to the planning profession and/or to the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association. Contributions to the planning profession by the nominee should date back at least 25 years from the nomination deadline. Nominees must be members of the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association.

Criteria
- No criteria. This award is given at the sole discretion of the OAPA Board.

5. **Distinguished Leadership – Professional Planner**
The Distinguished Leadership – Professional Planner Award recognizes a professional planner or member of a related profession in Oregon who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of planning and to his or her community. Individuals nominated for this award must be members of the American Planning Association and the Oregon Chapter. Self-nominations are not accepted.

Criteria
• **Exceptional Practice.** Specify how the nominee’s work stands out and demonstrates exceptional practice.

• **Contribution.** Describe how the nomination makes a significant contribution to its community, region, the State, or the practice and profession of planning.

• **Effectiveness and results.** Describe how the nomination has been effective in formulating and implementing plans and ideas in support of good planning and in response to its context. Identify the level of influence and effectiveness achieved by the nomination within different segments of the community.

6. **Distinguished Leadership by an Elected or Appointed Official**
This award recognizes an elected or appointed official (i.e. Commissioner, Councilor, or other similar position) in Oregon who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of planning, to his or her community, or to a specific planning program or activity.

**Criteria**

• **Support of Planning.** Describe how the nomination positively supports planning and the greater understanding of the planning process.

• **Effectiveness and results.** Describe how the nomination has been effective in formulating and implementing plans and ideas in support of good planning. Identify the level of influence and effectiveness achieved by the nomination within different segments of the community.

7. **Emerging Professional**
This award recognizes a person who is at the beginning of their planning career and has demonstrated significant contributions to the practice of planning through projects and/or programs. The nominee should also demonstrate exemplary promise for future contributions to the planning profession and/or to the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association. Nominees should be practicing planning for at least two years and no more than ten (10) years from the nomination deadline. Nominees must be members of the Oregon Chapter of the American Planning Association.

**Criteria**

• **Contribution.** Describe how the nomination makes a significant contribution to its community, region, the State, or the field of planning. This may include a demonstration of high levels of engagement, volunteering, and commitment to moving the Chapter’s goals forward.

• **Exemplary promise.** Describe the nominee’s likely future contributions to the practice of planning and to the OAPA Chapter.

8. **Betty Niven Award for Distinguished Leadership in Affordable Housing Advocacy**
Named for Betty Niven, a former City of Eugene Planning Commissioner and advocate for housing, this award recognizes an individual or organization that has made an outstanding contribution to the planning field’s ability to help communities more effectively meet the housing needs of Oregonians with limited means. Nominations include any public or private resident or group working on some aspect of affordable housing.

**Criteria**

• **Effectiveness and results.** Describe how the nomination has been effective in formulating and implementing plans and ideas in support of good. Identify the level of influence and effectiveness
achieved by the nomination within different segments of the community. If the nomination is a project, describe how a completed project responds to specific community attributes.

- Support of planning and planners. Illustrate how the nominee's work has improved the ability of planners to help communities more effectively meet the housing needs of Oregonians with limited means. Examples include:
  - Strongly influencing support of enacted policies or legislation that provides planners with improved tools and options for addressing affordable housing issues.
  - Development of innovative, replicable partnerships or outreach efforts that more effectively move affordable housing projects forward.
  - Outstanding effort in bringing planners and other affordable housing actors together to significantly improve housing conditions and options for a particular community.
  - Completion of an exemplary affordable housing project that may have elements that could be transferrable to other communities.

9. **Rotating Award**
At its discretion, the OAPA Board may award a submittal that does not fit other categories. For example, it could be a project that focuses on a special place, successful project implementation, or have a focus on an atypical issue. Recommendations for awards in this category are at the discretion of the Awards Committee, based upon the submittals received.