



# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## **Award Categories**

Outstanding Plan\*  
Outstanding Project/Program/Tool\*  
Outstanding Plan Implementation\*  
Outstanding Trailblazer Plan  
Outstanding DIY Plan  
Outstanding Student Project  
Planner of the Year  
Lifetime Achievement Award

\*Awards will be broken up into large and small jurisdictions. A small jurisdiction is a city/county under 50,000 population.

## **Award Submittal Requirements for Outstanding Plans**

The following items are required in order to be considered for an Outstanding Plan Award:

- Completed nomination form (5 copies)
- Summary of the project or plan (limited to one page/ total of 5 copies)
- Copy of planning report or product that presents the project (5 copies)
- Document in digital format (5 copies)

## **Award Submittal Requirements for Planner of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards**

The following items are required in order to be considered for Planner of the Year and Lifetime Achievement Awards:

- Completed nomination form
- Narrative
- Resume of nominated individual
- Digital image of the individual



# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## Award Criteria

### Outstanding Plan

This award will be given to a plan of exceptional merit. Examples include, but are not limited to neighborhood, economic development, conservation, transportation and other comprehensive plans. Technical reports and site plans are not eligible for this award.

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Effectiveness and results.** State how your entry addressed the need or problem that prompted its initiation. Be explicit about how the results have made a difference in the lives of the people affected. Convey the level of effectiveness your entry can have over time.
5. **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 wildlife species, and planning elements addressing economic or social arenas or both.
6. **Public participation.** Explain the level of public participation in this effort. The winning entries will demonstrate a strong effort to solicit input from those who historically have been left out of the planning process. Show how your entry obtained public and private support.
7. **Roles and Responsibilities.** In order to minimize the potential for a nominee to receive recognition for the work of others, if a nominated project, person, or organization is part of a larger planning effort involving other planning professionals or project components not included in the nomination, the nominator must clarify the respective roles and responsibilities of the individuals or organizations involved, and detail which portion of the larger effort can be attributed to the nominated person or organization. This criterion may not be applicable to all projects



# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## Outstanding Project/Program/Tool

For a project, program or tool that is a significant advantage to the cause of planning. This category emphasizes results and demonstrates how a project, program, or tool implemented a plan. The submissions could be regulation, ordinances or codes, growth management guidelines or ordinances, transferable development rights programs; land acquisition efforts; tax abatement initiatives; projects that encourage participation by those who do not typically participate in setting community/public agendas; or similar projects, programs or tools which meet the following criteria.

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
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# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## Outstanding Plan Implementation

To a specific planning project or initiative of exceptional merit for which there are demonstrated “on-the-ground” results that are supported by documented physical or social change.

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
4. **Effectiveness and results.** State how your entry addressed the need or problem that prompted its initiation. Be explicit about how the results have made a difference in the lives of the people affected. Convey the level of effectiveness your entry can have over time.
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# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## Outstanding Trailblazer Plan

New for 2018, the Outstanding Trailblazer Plan must demonstrate innovation and a pioneering spirit. This category will be judged primarily based on its unique way of addressing an issue most unlike any plan in the past, with emphasis on new ideas and methods.

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
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# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## Outstanding DIY Plan

Also new for 2018, the Outstanding DIY Plan is a plan developed solely by a local government planning group(s). The plan must be completely developed without professional assistance from anyone or any agency outside a local government planning group(s).

1. **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.
2. **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.
3. **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.
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# 2018 TAPA Awards Criteria

## **Outstanding Student Project**

This recognizes a project of exceptional merit in the field of planning and executed by a student, group of students, or class. The project must be deal with a place or issue in Tennessee and should demonstrate innovation and a keen understanding of planning principles and practice. This category will be judged based on originality, transferability from the academic setting to the planning profession, quality, use of collaboration, and effectiveness. The submission should be primarily the work of the students from any secondary education institution in Tennessee.

## **Individual Award Criteria**

### **Planner of the Year**

A professional planner who has contributed to the planning profession through distinguished practice, teaching, or writing. This person must make (or have made) his/her living in the practice of planning, whether in the public, for-profit or not-for-profit sector.

### **Lifetime Achievement Award**

A Lifetime Achievement Award may be given for sustained and significant contributions to the planning profession in Tennessee, as defined by their peers. Candidates cannot be self nominated. This person must make (or have made) his/her living in the practice of planning, whether in the public, for-profit or not-for-profit sector.