



# GREAT PLACES IN TEXAS

The Texas Chapter of the  
American Planning Association  
celebrates excellence in planning.

## Chapter Officers

Kim Mickelson, JD, AICP  
President  
713.533.3956  
kmickelson@olsonllp.com

Doug McDonald, AICP  
President-Elect  
214.801.7792  
doug@plano.gov

Angela Martinez, AICP  
Treasurer  
713.825.9451  
amartinez@knudsonlp.com

Heather Nick, AICP  
Secretary  
903.245.4459  
hnick@tylertexas.com

Chance Sparks, AICP  
TML Affiliate  
512.312.0084  
csparks@ci.buda.tx.us

Wendy Shabay, AICP  
Past President  
817.735.7259  
wds@freese.com

## Executive Administrator

Mike McAnelly, FAICP  
9629 Fallbrook Drive  
Dallas, Texas 75243  
214.850.9046  
administrator@apatexas.gov

March 14, 2017

Samantha Pickett  
City of McKinney

RE: Great Places in Texas

Dear Ms. Pickett:

On behalf of the Texas Chapter of the American Planning Association, I'm honored to inform you that Downtown McKinney has been selected as a Great Neighborhood for the 2017 *Great Places in Texas* program. We are proud to recognize your Great Neighborhood as an example of planning excellence. Such places cannot be created without leaders like yourself, and I commend you and your community for the dedication to making great communities happen. This year the selection process was competitive, and many places were nominated for this distinct designation. While many of the nominated places were good examples of planning, those selected for designation illustrate most effectively what it means to be a "great" place, including design, functionality, sustainability, character, quality, and community participation.

Texas APA will formally announce the 2017 *Great Places in Texas* on Monday, April 3, including a media announcement and posting on our website:

[www.txplanning.org/great-places-in-texas/](http://www.txplanning.org/great-places-in-texas/). This is not public until April 3, so we ask that you not share your selection as a Great Place in Texas until after April 3, 2017.

We would like to work with you to help plan your own announcements to honor this designation. The forms included in this package will provide us with the information we need from you in order to enhance your local announcement and will also assist with TXAPA's Great Places media announcement. The forms are to be completed and returned to Doug McDonald at [doug@plano.gov](mailto:doug@plano.gov) ASAP. Please reach out to Doug with any questions regarding these forms or this designation.

On behalf of the Texas Chapter Board of Directors, I offer sincere congratulations to you and your community. We are very proud to know that places like yours are helping to create communities of lasting value.

Respectfully,

Kim Mickelson, JD, AICP  
APA Texas Chapter President