



American Planning Association
Texas Chapter

Making Great Communities Happen

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NEWS RELEASE

American Planning Association – Texas Chapter Announces State Planning Awards

Austin, Texas – The American Planning Association (APA) Texas Chapter today announced the state’s best planning projects, advocates, and communities for 2019. The Texas Planning Awards Program recognizes outstanding efforts in planning achievements and planning leadership in Texas. These awards represent the state’s highest planning honors. The Awards Selection Committee evaluated nominees based on originality and innovation, engagement, implementation and effectiveness, quality, and promotion of planning.

“These awards are a testament to a community’s commitment to good planning practices,” said Doug McDonald, AICP, President of APA-Texas. “Our awards recipients exemplify many facets that make up effective planning – including community engagement, housing, transportation, and economic development. It is an honor to recognize the efforts of elected and appointed officials, residents and businesses, and city planners who all played an important role with the development of these plans and projects.”

The Texas Planning Awards Program also recognizes an elected and appointed official who have made an outstanding contribution to planning; student project award; and a Community of the Year.

The announcement of the Texas Planning Awards is one of the ways APA kicks off [National Community Planning Month](#) each October, a month-long event celebrating the accomplishments of the many residents, leaders, officials, and professionals who contribute to making great communities through the planning process.

The 2019 Texas Planning Award Recipients are listed on the following pages by award category. To read more about each award category and award recipient, visit www.txplanning.org/2019planningawardwinners/

Planning Excellence Awards

Advancing Diversity & Social Change

- Connect Community: A Revitalization for Gulfton-Sharpstown, Houston

Comprehensive Plan

- City of McKinney – ONE McKinney 2040
- City of Boerne – Uniquely Boerne!

Planning Advocate

- Elected Official: City of Bastrop – Mayor Connie Schroeder
- Appointed Official: City of Brownsville – Dr. Rose Gowen

Student Project

- University of Texas at Austin – School of Architecture - Mexico Studio: Engaging Urban Informality in Metropolitan Monterrey

Community of the Year

- City of Mont Belvieu, Texas

Planning Achievement Awards

Best Practice Award

- City of Plano Backyard Cottage Regulations - Gold
- City of Austin Strategic Housing Blueprint Implementation Atlas - Silver
- City of Denton 2019 Denton Development Code - Silver

Economic Development Planning Award

- Souly Austin, Austin's Economic Development Planning Initiative - Gold
- City of Plano Envision Oak Point Plan - Silver
- City of Richardson Collins/Arapaho TOD and Innovation District Study - Silver

Grassroots Initiative Award

- Little Walnut Creek Sunbelt Master Plan, Austin - Gold

Implementation Award

- City of Lewisville 2025 Vision Plan - Gold
- City of Arlington – City Center Project – Silver

Public Outreach Award

- City of Duncanville “Get in the Zone” Outreach Project - Gold
- City of Celina Downtown Master Plan - Silver

Resilience Award

- City of Mont Belvieu – Hackberry Gully Regional Park – Reimagining Stormwater as a Multi-functional Amenity - Gold
- City of Rockport Hurricane Harvey Recovery - Silver

Transportation Planning Award

- City of Austin – Austin Strategic Mobility Plan - Gold
- City of Fort Worth – Fort Worth Active Transportation Plan - Gold

Historic Preservation Award

- City of Plano – Preservation Plano 150 - Gold

Urban Design Award

- City of Mont Belvieu Main – Downtown Living, Hometown Life - Gold
- Westchase District Liveable Centers Study, Houston - Silver
- City of Austin - Brush Square Master Plan - Silver

An Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday, November 8, 2019 at the Waco Convention Center in Waco, Texas. For more information about the Texas Planning Awards Program, as well as a list of the planning award recipients from previous years, visit www.txplanning.org/planning-awards/

The American Planning Association and its professional institute, the American Institute of Certified Planners, are dedicated to advancing the art, science and profession of good planning -- physical, economic, and social -- so as to create communities that offer better choices for where and how people work and live. Members of APA help create communities of lasting value and encourage civic leaders, business interests, and citizens to play a meaningful role in creating communities that enrich people's lives. APA has offices in Washington, D.C., Chicago, Ill, and Shanghai, China. For more information, visit its website at www.planning.org.

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