

## **AWARD CATEGORIES:**

**CURRENT TOPIC** – Each year, this award recognizes excellence in planning for a particular topic of interest to planners and the planning profession. This year's topic is: **Planning For Sustainability & Resilience**

**PLANNING FOR SUSTANABILITY & RESILENCE:** This award celebrates a plan, policy, project, program, tool, or initiative that demonstrates a move toward sustainability and resilience in the face of climate-related stressors. Examples can be focused on greenhouse gas reduction, energy efficiency, renewable energy, multi-modal or alternative transportation infrastructure, waste reduction, food systems, or on reducing risks from the impacts of natural hazards.

**EQUITY IN PLANNING:** This award celebrates a plan, policy, project, program, tool, or initiative that demonstrates innovative methods for more inclusive planning, accelerates social and economic equity, expands civic representation, breaks down barriers to diversity, and disrupts institutional biases.

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENT PLAN**– This award is given for a plan that advances the science and art of planning at any scale! Examples of eligible plans include: Comprehensive Plans, Neighborhood Plans, Housing Plans, Parks and Recreation Plans, Transportation Plans, Redevelopment Plans, Economic Development Plans, Strategic Plans, and more.

**AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PLAN IMPLEMENTATION** – This award recognizes an effort that demonstrates significant achievement in accomplishing positive changes as a result of planning. This effort should be complete (or largely completed) by the time of the nomination.

**PAUL DAVIDOFF AWARD** – This award emphasizes the success of planning in a new or different setting that helped to transform distressed neighborhoods. This could include such efforts as provision of affordable housing, neighborhood outreach initiatives, programs designed for special populations, public art or cultural efforts, educational community festivals, environmental or conservation initiatives, innovative summer recreation initiatives for children, and focused tourism ventures.

**DAN VARIN MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD** – This award is given to a professional planner, elected official, citizen planner, or organization for sustained contributions to the profession through distinguished practice, teaching or writing, or whose efforts have contributed to elevating planning principles, creating greater awareness of the value of planning, and improving quality of life in one or more communities.

**STUDENT AWARD** – This award is granted to an individual student or team of students for academic or applied research, studio projects, community service or other works related to community development or planning *in* Rhode Island. Student work from any high school, college or university is eligible for the Student Project Award, including submissions from out of state institutions.

Nominations are evaluated on their own merit, and the Awards Committee may award a nomination to any category above or another category that better fits the nomination. One or more awards categories may have no recipient in any given year if no nominations are received or if the Awards Committee finds that none of the nominations in a particular category meet the desirable standards.