Michigan Association of Planning
2017 LEADERSHIP AWARDS:
Descriptions, eligibility, and criteria

These awards honor outstanding efforts in planning and planning leadership, including cutting-edge achievements and planning under difficult or adverse circumstances. The Michigan Chapter of the American Planning Association (MAP) invites you to participate in celebrating the best of planning by nominating individuals you think deserve such recognition.

Nominations for 2017 Planning Awards are now open. The deadline for nominations is Friday, May 12, 2017. Nomination applications must be complete.

General Eligibility Requirements
Recipients of the Planning Leadership awards are ineligible to receive the same award for 10 years after accepting it.

Members of the MAP Conference Committee, MAP staff, and MAP Board of Directors are not eligible to enter or to receive individual awards.

How to Nominate an Entry
The following details the steps it takes to submit a nomination for an award.

1. Identify the appropriate award category. Read the eligibility requirements to ensure your nomination satisfies the criteria.
2. Read the application form to learn what you will need to complete your nomination.
3. Use one form for each nomination you wish to enter. There is no limit on the number of nominations you may submit.
LEADERSHIP AWARDS:
The following awards honor individuals for outstanding, significant, and sustained contributions to, and in support of, planning and the planning profession.

Planning Advocate

AWARD DESCRIPTION:
This award honors an individual or appointed or elected official who has advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena. Examples: Engaged citizens demonstrating outstanding leadership in a community, region, or state; members of planning commissions, board of appeals, economic development boards, environmental or historic preservation councils, or other appointed officials; elected officials holding office at the local, regional, or state level; citizen activists or neighborhood leaders.

ELIGIBILITY:
Individuals may not self-nominate and cannot earn their living as planners. MAP membership is not required.

CRITERIA:
Support of planning and planners. Illustrate how the nominee's work has increased the understanding of the planning process. Indicate how the nominee has shown a clear understanding of, and support for, the role of planners in public life.
Effectiveness and results. Describe the extent that the nominee 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 nominee within different segments of the community.

Leadership Award for a Professional Planner

AWARD DESCRIPTION:
Recognizes a sustained contribution to the profession through distinguished practice, teaching, or writing.

ELIGIBILITY:
Nominated individuals may not enter themselves and must be employed within the practice of planning, whether in the public, for-profit, or nonprofit sector. AICP membership is required.

CRITERIA:
Support of planning and planners. Illustrate how the nominee's work has increased the understanding of the planning process. Indicate how the nominee has shown a clear understanding of, and support for, the role of planners in public life.
Effectiveness and results. Describe the extent that the nominee 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 nominee within different segments of the community.
Outstanding Community Administrator’s Award

**AWARD DESCRIPTION:**
This award was posthumously established in 1982 in recognition of Edward Potthoff, former Michigan Society of Planning Officials Board of Director member who served as city manager of Saginaw and Cadillac. In honor of the recipient’s award, a letter of recognition will be presented to the community, acknowledging its contributions. The Outstanding Community Administrator’s Award honors a city, village, township, county or regional community administrator who has made significant, positive contributions to comprehensive community planning in Michigan. Nominations may be submitted for any community administrator such as a mayor, village president, city/township/village manager, county commission chairperson, county administrator/ controller/coordinator/executive, township supervisor/clerk, or regional council president/chair-person.

**CRITERIA:**
*Support of Planning.* To what extent has the nominee’s career increased the understanding of planning principles and the planning process? How has the nominee shown a clear understanding and support for planning?
*Effectiveness/results.* To what extent has the nominee been effective in furthering the cause of excellence in planning? Within what sphere of influence has this effectiveness been realized?

Helen S. Willis Outstanding Commissioner Award

**AWARD DESCRIPTION:**
This award was established in 1994. It was named to honor the vast contributions Helen S. Willis made to Michigan Society of Planning Officials during her 10 years as MSPO’s executive director. The Helen S. Willis Outstanding Commissioner Award honors an individual who advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena. This could include members of planning commissions, boards of zoning appeals, economic development board member, or other appointed board officials. (Persons earning their living as planners and elected officials are not eligible for this award.

**CRITERIA:**
*Support of Planning.* To what extent has the nominee’s time and dedication increased the understanding of planning principles as well as the goals of the organization of which he/she is a part? How has this advocacy role been pursued?
*Effectiveness.* To what extent has the nominee promoted the cause and advanced the merits of planning? Within what sphere of influence has this effectiveness been realized?