



2014 Smart Growth Awards Guidelines and Nomination Instructions

All submissions must be postmarked by Friday, January 17, 2014.

New Jersey Future's Smart Growth Awards honor projects, plans and initiatives in all parts of the state that demonstrate smart growth principles in action. The awards help to shine a spotlight on individuals, businesses or organizations with the vision to encourage smart-growth values and designs. In past years, winners have included government officials, developers, contractors, architects, planners, corporations, lenders and community groups.

Honorees will be recognized at our 13th Smart Growth Awards Celebration on June 5, 2014.

Guidelines and Eligibility

General. Winning projects adhere closely to most if not all of the smart-growth principles outlined below:

- They are near existing development and infrastructure
- They create or enhance connections to existing developments or plans
- They create or enhance a vibrant mix of uses (residential, retail, office)
- They protect or enhance open space, farmland, parks and critical environmental areas
- They increase the range of housing options available
- They create or enhance transportation choices
- Their designs foster walkability and activities at the street level that encourage personal interaction
- They improve resiliency to natural hazards
- They respect community character, design and historic features
- They utilize green or regenerative design techniques and materials

Location. All projects must be located in New Jersey. The Smart Growth Awards highlight the impressive array of activities going on statewide—from urban and suburban to rural development and redevelopment projects.

Project types. Approved and built projects as well as adopted plans of all sizes and scales are eligible for consideration. We encourage the submission of both large- and small-scale projects. On occasion, a special initiative that is not technically approved, built or adopted will be recognized; however, the nominator must make a strong case for how such an initiative been implemented and/or institutionalized.

- Approved projects have successfully completed the local approval process and have an anticipated completion date of five years or less. Larger, multi-phase projects must be expected to be over 50 percent complete within the five-year time frame.
- Built projects must have been completed within the past five years.
- Adopted plans must have been approved by resolution by the governing body and, where necessary, any regional planning authority, within the past three years. If a master plan is submitted, the nominator must explain what steps have been taken by the municipality to implement the plan.

Selection Process

The 2014 Smart Growth Awards will be selected by the Awards Selection Committee, an independent jury that includes representatives of New Jersey Future's Board of Trustees as well as other respected professionals in development and planning. All nominations will receive careful consideration by the Awards Selection Committee. All finalists will be visited by at least one member of the committee prior to the final vote.

Submission Requirements

Each member of the Awards Selection Committee will receive a copy of each nomination package, so we ask you please to organize and collate your copies carefully. To reduce the size of the packages they receive, please do not use binders, covers or folders, and avoid submission of laminated materials. We ask you to provide:

- Ten hard copies of the completed entry form, the project narrative, contextual map and select images, as explained below.
- In the case of a plan available digitally, 10 CDs that contain the digital version.
- One CD with all of the nominations materials: entry form, narrative, map, and images.

Submissions Deadline

Submission packages must be received or postmarked by Friday, January 17, 2014.

Submissions Checklist

- Entry Form. Please provide 10 copies of the completed entry form. A Microsoft Word version of the form is available as an editable download online.
- Project Narrative. Please provide 10 copies of a two- to three-page description of the nominated project. Be sure to address the following:
 - How does the project advance the smart-growth principles listed under Guidelines and Eligibility?
 - How does the project fit into existing development and/or community/regional plans?
 - How has the community been involved in the development of the project/plan? What has been the community response to the project/plan?
 - If nominating a plan, what steps toward implementation have been made?
 - What challenges had to be overcome? What types of innovations stemmed from the project? Are there ideas that could be replicated in communities elsewhere?
- Plans. If the project being nominated is a plan, please enclose two hard copies of the plan as adopted. If it is available in a digital format, please also include 10 copies of the CD version.
- Images. Please provide 10 hard copies of a minimum of one contextual map that shows the project and its relationship to the surrounding area, as well as 10 hard copies of a minimum of four graphics (photographs or renderings) that illustrate the project and the project area ("before" and "after" shots are highly encouraged).
- CD-ROM. Please provide a CD that contains the completed entry form, the two-page project narrative and the relevant digital images and/or plans.

Mail to:

New Jersey Future
2013 Smart Growth Awards
137 W. Hanover St.
Trenton, NJ 08618

Questions:

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Project Overview

Project name: _____

City, County: _____

Project type: built project approved project adopted plan

Date built/approved/adopted: _____

If other, describe: _____

As applicable:

Land area (acres) _____

Residential units (# and type) _____

Retail, office, other (sq. ft.) _____

Civic / public uses _____

Project Outcomes

This plan or project will (please check all that apply):

- Enhance arts, culture, knowledge or community
- Create or enhance meaningful public space
- Create or enhance municipal partnerships (with a local institution, another municipality, etc.)
- Increase housing diversity and/or a mix of uses
- Adapt a historic structure or structures for re-use
- Enhance neighborhood design, walkability and/or street-level activity
- Provide or foster neighborhood-level infill development
- Conserve or preserve open land
- Revitalize a Main Street, downtown or town center
- Revitalize a waterfront area
- Provide increased access to amenities such as services, retail, recreation or transportation
- Improve resiliency to natural hazards
- Provide meaningful community engagement in the planning process
- Other: _____

Brief Project Description

In one paragraph, please summarize the project.

