

CALL FOR ENTRIES
NEW ABAG REGIONAL AWARDS PROGRAM
GROWING SMARTER TOGETHER

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) annual awards program will showcase excellence in local government. The Awards will recognize both personal and program or project-oriented work that demonstrates a significant achievement moving the region's Bay Area Vision to implementation. Single jurisdictions or groups of jurisdictions working in partnership may submit nominations for the regional *Growing Smarter Together* awards.

The Awards Program is designed to showcase excellence in local government achievement by recognizing the positive work being undertaken by cities, towns and counties in the Bay Area as it relates to a Bay Area Vision and smart growth principles being advanced through the *Focusing our Vision* Initiative.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

Nominations will be evaluated on the core principles that evolved from the Smart Growth Livability Footprint Project and which remain central goals of the current *Focusing our Vision* Initiative.

- Strengthen existing communities
- Create compact, complete communities
- Increase housing supply and choice
- Improve housing affordability
- Increase transportation efficiency and choice
- Protect the natural environment, open space and agricultural land
- Improve social and economic equity
- Promote economic and fiscal health.

For more information about *Focusing our Vision*, visit the project website at www.bayareavision.com.

AWARD CATEGORIES

1) ***Distinguished Leadership Award – Elected Official***

For a significant contribution to the implementation of the regional Vision by an individual elected to public office or recognition of an elected official for individual achievement as it relates to ABAG goals and or committee leadership activities.

2) ***Start It Up Award***

For any policy, action, or regulation, which removes barriers to or provides incentives for regional Vision implementation.

Applicants should submit the text of the policy or regulation with their entry. The policy or regulation must currently be in effect to be eligible.

3) ***On the Ground – Getting It Done Award***

This category recognizes built projects that reflect the Vision. Projects may be single- or multi-family housing projects and/or retail, office, or mixed-use projects on former brownfield sites, infill, and/or transit-oriented sites.

Applicants are encouraged to send photos, brochures, and other materials describing the completed project. If submitting housing projects, the description must include the number of units, affordability levels and numbers of units, funding sources, etc.

4) ***Preserving and Protecting the Environment Award***

For any program, policy action/regulation or plan that works to preserve and protect natural habitat, water and air resources, or open space. This could include, but is not limited to, integrating environmental benefits into an overall development plan or project.

5) ***Public-Private Partnership Award***

Description: This category recognizes collaborative efforts between government and private or non-profit organizations that support Vision implementation in the Bay Area in terms of projects or plans.

The local jurisdiction must submit the nomination.

6) ***Sharing the Benefits Award***

Description: This category recognizes the innovations jurisdictions have used to avoid displacement or other adverse impacts, while promoting community revitalization. This award will showcase the good ideas/ best practices promoting social equity and environmental justice in the Bay Area.

DEADLINE

All entries must be received in ABAG's offices (P.O. Box 2050, Oakland, CA 94604-2050 for mail; 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, CA 94607 for hand or messenger delivery) no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, February 9, 2007, to be eligible for the 2006-2007 awards.

NOMINATION AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

All entries must include the following information.

1. Project or policy title or Nominee name
2. Summary description of nomination, not to exceed 150 words.
3. Contact information for nominator (Name, address, phone, email). This person will be asked to work with ABAG staff to possibly develop display materials for the awards luncheon.
4. Describe the project or policy or individual achievement. Include significance to the community and the region. This section should also address how the nomination

moves the regional Vision towards implementation. This section should not exceed 1500 words.

5. Include up to three letters of recommendation, each letter must identify the nominee, project, or policy.
6. Limited supplemental materials may include photographs, marketing materials, press releases, media coverage or any other information that may assist the jury in selecting award winners.
7. Each page of the nomination must be numbered and identified with the project or nominee name.
8. **Five copies of all materials and five copies of the responses to the questions listed above must be submitted by the deadline.**

SELECTION COMMITTEE

The awards will be judged by a committee of five jurors. Jurors will not be obligated to grant an award in any category and/or may select to move a nomination to another category.

AWARD PRESENTATION

The Awards will be presented as part of the Spring 2007 General Assembly on April 19th. Award winners will be notified prior to April 19th and may be asked to help develop display materials for the General Assembly.

Please contact the ABAG Communications Group at 510-464-7922, 510-464-7995, or 510-464-7986 with any questions.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Will the limited supplemental materials be returned?
These materials will not be returned. Please take into consideration that these materials will be reviewed during a brief timeframe.
2. How long do the policies, actions or regulations have to be in effect to qualify for the **Start it Up Award**?
The policies, actions or regulations must have been in effect for at least one year.
3. When and where are nominations due?
Entries must be received at ABAG's offices no later than 5 p.m. by Friday, February 9, 2007, to be eligible for the 2006-2007 awards. Entries can be mailed to P.O. Box 2050, Oakland, CA 94604-2050; or hand delivered/overnight delivery to 101 Eighth Street, Oakland, CA 94607.
4. Who is eligible to enter the Growing Smarter Together Awards?
All ABAG member cities and counties, and elected officials from ABAG member cities and counties are eligible to enter the Growing Smarter Together Awards.



Association of Bay Area Governments