

Due: April 15, 2025

Do you know of an exceptional project, built here in the Granite State, that has had a positive impact on the community? We invite you to nominate it for this year's Merit Awards of Excellence. Awards go to outstanding projects that reflect [Plan NH](#)'s mission (see below). There is no set number of awards, nor are there set categories.

About the Organization

Plan NH has a vision of healthy and vibrant communities across the state. Because we believe that what, how and where we build influences that health and vibrancy, our mission is to "foster excellence in planning, design and development of New Hampshire's built environment."

We do so by being champions of Smart Growth and Livability Principles, of the Triple Bottom Line (social, environmental and economic) as well as creative approaches to collaboration and cooperation.

One way we do this is through our annual Merit Awards program, in which we recognize and showcase outstanding projects that reflect the mission and values of Plan NH, and that demonstrate how the built environment can make a positive contribution to people and places.



Award Qualifications

Project Completion Date 2020 — Present

Project Location: New Hampshire

Did it Positively Impact the Fabric of a Community:

- Socially
- Economically
- Environmentally (including Health)
- Inclusivity

Does it Demonstrate:

- Smart Growth & Livability Principles
- Creative Approaches to Cooperation & Coordination

Award Timeline

Due: April 15, 2025 via Dropbox or Google Drive
(1 PDF document & separate associated photos)

Review Period: April 15 — May 16, 2025

Award Notifications: Week of May 19, 2025

Award Showcase: June 12, 2025 at the Hotel Concord

Nominations are due April 15, 2025

Any Questions, reach out to Plan NH –

Tiffany Tononi McNamara, Executive Director • (603) 452-7526 • tiffany@plannh.org



Nomination Form

Please complete the following form and **include it as the first page(s) of your nomination**. If your project is chosen to receive a Merit Award, this information will be used for awards and press releases. Please include the following in your submission package:

1. 5 page (maximum) narrative describing the purpose, challenges, innovations and what makes this project stand out addressing the criteria listed on the next page. You may include any graphics that help illustrate the project to the judges. Please respond to as many sub-criteria items below that apply to your project; nominations will not be required to address all of the sub-criteria. Nomination packages should be submitted as a single PDF file.
2. 3-6 photos (300 dpi or higher jpgs not PDFs) - *uploaded separately from the nomination package to maintain quality. If possible, it is recommended that you include a before photo of the project.*

Applicant's

Company Name: _____

Contact Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Project Role: _____

Official Project Name: _____

Project Location: _____

Completion Date: _____

Owner #1

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Owner #2

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Key Team Members

Name	Company	Project Role
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Application Fee: \$150 for members & \$250 for non-members per submission

Checks made payable to Plan NH, PO Box 1105, Portsmouth, NH 03802-1105. Payment must be received by April 15, 2025.



Judging Criteria

Packages will be judged based on the following criteria and sub-criteria:

Criteria	Points (Max)
<p><u>Positive Community Impact</u></p> <p>Social <i>Bringing people together or creating space that fosters this.</i></p> <p>Economic <i>Taxes, supporting local businesses, fostering entrepreneurship, attracting new businesses.</i></p> <p>Environmental <i>Honoring water features, cleaner air, energy efficiency or health impacts.</i></p> <p>Inclusivity <i>Taking into account a broad range of people (age, abilities, race, religion or more).</i></p>	10
<p><u>Demonstrates Smart Growth & Livability Principles</u></p> <p>Support & Value Existing Communities & Neighborhoods <i>Enhance their unique identity through investments in revitalization of existing buildings; foster thoughtful growth and change through mixed-use development, improving walkability, preservation of open space/creation of green spaces, managed infrastructure expansion. Maintain a human scale of development in line with the community's traditional growth patterns.</i></p> <p>Provide Choices in How to Get About <i>Provide infrastructure for safe, reliable and economical means of travel for everyone to access jobs, education, food, medical services and social connections. Provide means to equitably decrease household transportation costs, reduce dependence on fossil fuels, improve our air quality by reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and improve public health and well-being. (Create livable, walkable communities that increase accessibility for people of all ages, whether on foot, bicycle, wheelchair, or in motor vehicles.)</i></p> <p>Provide Choices in Places to Live (Location, Design, Price Point) <i>Expand design and price-point choices of where to live for people of all ages, incomes and levels of mobility. Location choices aim to lower the combined costs (financial, time) of where one lives with how one travels - to jobs, education, healthy food, medical services and more.</i></p>	10
<p><u>Collaboration & Cooperation</u> <i>Creative collaboration/cooperation with stakeholders, general public and/or regulatory agencies; <u>and/or</u> Involve the community in planning and implementation to ensure that development retains and enhances the sense of place, traditions, goals, and values of the local community; <u>and/or</u> Manage growth locally in the New Hampshire tradition, but work with neighboring towns to achieve common goals and address common problems more effectively.</i></p>	10

To see previous award winners visit: <https://plannh.org/programs/merit-awards>

Please also note you are providing consent for any content provided through this nomination to be published by Plan NH in press releases, website content, and other communications. Provide any credits necessary with your nomination.

