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NPZA/NEAPA Awards Announcements

Press Release

The Nebraska Chapter of the American Planning Association (NEAPA) and the Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association (NPZA) presented 15 awards to individuals, communities and elected bodies at the annual Nebraska Planning Conference on March 31, 2011 in Grand Island Nebraska.

The Nebraska Planning and Zoning Association presented five Appointed Official Awards to:

Colleen Lawry, City Administrator, Gretna Nebraska

The following comments are from the award presentation:

- ✘ This individual is from the Metro District
- ✘ This individual has served as City Clerk, Treasurer, Deputy Clerk and now City Administrator
- ✘ This individual worked diligently to make sure a new highway widening project would not be delayed and funds reallocated
- ✘ This individual has been heavily involved in community projects that covered a strategic plan, development of new ball park land for ball fields, a new water tower, downtown streetscape project and many others
- ✘ She has provided key leadership and organization for the proposed Nebraska Crossing Outlet mall redevelopment project

For Immediate Release more

Mark Shaneyfelt, Planning Commissioner, Aurora Nebraska

The following comments are from the award presentation:

- ✘ This award winner is from the Central District
- ✘ This individual has served as a planning commissioner for 21 years
- ✘ They have served a great deal of this time as its Chairperson
- ✘ They have worked through the development of 3 different comprehensive plans during this time period (should be getting a Purple Heart or a Meritorious Conduct Medal)
- ✘ This person is considered a visionary by their peers
- ✘ In addition, he has been called a role model for his experience
- ✘ His nomination read "We are fortunate to have the vision and leadership skills Mark has provided including the willingness to volunteer and dedicate his time for countless meetings and to provide his opinion on so many topics we have come to rely on"

Bill Hayes, Planning Commissioner, Regional Planning Commission Hall County Nebraska

The following comments are from the award presentation:

- ✘ This award winner is from the Central District.
- ✘ This individual has served on their planning commission since 1993 and they are their 7th term
- ✘ This person was very involved and instrumental in the most recent rewrite of his jurisdictions Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Regulations
- ✘ This person is also very active on their local Economic Development Board
- ✘ It was said of him that " He is always willing to sit on a committee and offers good advice and insight regarding planning issues in Hall County"
- ✘ He is the Doniphan representative on the Regional Planning Commission for Hall County

Tom Nathan, Planning Commissioner, Pierce County Nebraska

The following comments are from the award presentation:

- ✘ This individual is from the Northeast District
- ✘ This individual is a planning commissioner
- ✘ Their term has spanned, at present, 12 years
- ✘ This individual's service is an example of how planning and zoning can work with farming professionals to protect livestock agriculture
- ✘ He was an important player in getting the county's comprehensive plan and zoning regulations updated in 1999 and 2000
- ✘ He was also very influential in getting the Interlocal agreement completed between Pierce County and Madison County for zoning administration

Paul Gifford, Planning Commissioner, City of Fremont Nebraska

The following comments are from the award presentation:

- ✘ This individual is from the Northeast District
- ✘ This individual served as a city Planning Commissioner for over 30 years
- ✘ In addition, he served as a member of the Dodge County Planning Commission
- ✘ He worked diligently to maintain Fremont's compact development pattern

A complete listing of the awards presented can be found at www.npza.org or www.planningnebraska.org or by contacting Chad Nability at cnability@grand-island.com