



For Immediate Release

Contact Tim Brown at 334-615-3416 with any questions.

Each year the American Planning Association (APA), County Planning Division (CPD) and its sister organization, the National Association of County Planners (NACP) gives out County Planning Project Awards. There are two types of awards, Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit. In addition, there are four categories of awards; Planning Project, Best Practices, Grass Roots Initiative and Small Area/Special Area Planning. Only one Award of Excellence and one Award of Merit may be granted per category each year. If the Awards Jury finds that none of the nominations in a particular category meets the desirable standards, they may grant no award in that category for that year. This year's awards were presented on April 10, 2011 at the County Planning Division's Business Meeting conducted at the APA National Conference in Boston, MA.

This year, Charlotte - Mecklenburg County, North Carolina is the recipient of an Award of Excellence for their *Area Plan Implementation Program*. The *Area Plan Implementation Program* is a system created to inventory, analyze, track, and implement capital projects as well as other recommendations originating from adopted Area Plans. It began from the need to follow-through on the community's planning vision that was developed during a lengthy and in-depth planning process. The program established annual bond funding for area plan capital project implementation, enhanced information sharing amongst public service providers, and has resulted in the construction of a number of projects.