Best Article / Best Feature Awards

Journal of the American Planning Association Awards

Each year, APA and the Journal of the American Planning Association (JAPA) honor authors of excellent JAPA articles with the Best Article Award. Members of the JAPA Editorial Advisory Board serve as judges, and selections are made based on several criteria, which include making a significant contribution to the literature of the planning profession, having the potential to change the nature of discourse on the given topic, and providing useful insights or implications for planning practice or public policy. The award is presented at the APA National Planning Conference, and winners are announced in the following year’s spring issue.

According to the selection criteria, the award goes to an article that:

• Makes a significant original contribution on a topic of interest to the planning profession in general or a substantial portion thereof;

• Has the potential to challenge and change the nature of discourse — that is, the way that members of the profession conceive a problem and the scope of possible solutions;

• Has useful insights or implications for planning practice or public policy;

• Shows promise of having permanent value — that is, it is likely to be regarded as a "landmark" in future years;

• Serves as a suitable model for young scholars in the field to emulate;

• Communicates its content in a clear, logical, and comprehensible manner that appeals to a wide audience of different JAPA readers; and

• Places new ideas and findings in the context of previous thinking and research on the subject.

JAPA Best Article/Best Feature Awards 1989-2009

Volume 75, 2009

Best Article
Eric Dumbaugh and Robert Rae
Safe Urban Form: Revisiting the Relationship Between Community Design and Traffic Safety
Volume 75, No. 3

Volume 74, 2008

Best Article
Dowell Myers and SungHo Ryu
Aging Baby Boomers and the Generational Housing Bubble: Foresight and Mitigation of an Epic Transition
Volume 74, No. 1
Volume 73, 2007

Best Article
Samuel D. Brody, Sammy Zahran, Praveen Maghelal, Himanshu Grover, and Wesley E. Highfield
*The Rising Costs of Floods: Examining the Impact of Planning and Development Decisions on Property Damage in Florida*
Volume 73, No. 3

Volume 72, 2006

Best Article
George Galster, Peter Tatian, and John Accordino
*Targeting Investments for Neighborhood Revitalization*
Volume 72, No. 4

Volume 71, 2005

Best Article
Judith E. Innes and Judith Gruber
*Planning Styles in Conflict: The Metropolitan Transportation Commission*
Volume 71, No. 2

Volume 70, 2004

Best Article
Alan Peters and Peter Fisher
*The Failures of Economic Development Incentives*
Volume 70, No. 1

Volume 69, 2003

Best Article
Robert Cervero
*Road Expansion, Urban Growth, and Induced Travel: A Path Analysis*
Volume 69, No. 2

Volume 68, 2002

Best Article
Scott A. Bollens
*Urban Planning and Intergroup Conflict: Confronting a Fractured Public Interest*
Volume 68, No. 1

Volume 67, 2001

Best Article
Dowell Myers; Martin Wachs, AICP; Sam Cole; commentary by Linda Dalton, AICP
*Symposium: Putting the Future in Planning*
Volume 67, No. 4
Volume 66, 2000

Best Article
Phillip Berke and Maria Manta Conroy
Are We Planning for Sustainable Development? An Evaluation of 30 Comprehensive Plans
Volume 66, Number 1

Honorable Mention
Anne Vernez Moudon and Paul Mitchell Hess
Suburban Clusters: The Nucleation of Multifamily Housing in Suburban Areas of the Central Puget Sound
Volume 66, Number 3

Volume 65, 1999

Co-Winners
Xavier de Souza Briggs, Joe T. Darden, and Angela Aidala
In the Wake of Desegregation: Early Impacts of Scattered-Site Public Housing on Neighborhoods in Yonkers, New York
Volume 65, Number 1

Thomas W. Sanchez
The Connection Between Public Transit and Employment: The Cases of Portland and Atlanta
Volume 65, Number 3

Honorable Mentions
Harvey M. Jacobs
Fighting Over Land: America’s Legacy . . . America’s Future?
Volume 65, Number 2

Unleashing the Power of Planning to Create Disaster-Resistant Communities
Volume 65, Number 3

Volume 64, 1998

Best Article
Judith E. Innes
Information in Communicative Planning
Volume 64, Number 1

Honorable Mention
Raphael Fischler
The Metropolitan Dimension of Early Zoning: Revisiting the 1916 New York City Ordinance
Volume 64, Number 2

Best Feature
Michael Neuman
Does Planning Need the Plan?
Volume 64, Number 2

Honorable Mentions
Gary T. Johnson and Christopher Silver (Editors), and Jennifer R. Wolch, John Accordino, Martin
Wachs, Brian D. Taylor, and J. Eugene Grigsby III (Contributors)
_Welfare Reform, Cities, and Planners: A One-Year Post-Reform Appraisal_
Volume 64, Number 1

Evan D. Richert and Mark B. Lapping (Editors), and Robert Fishman, Stephen V. Ward, Kermit C. Parsons, Daniel Schaffer, and Ruth Eckdish Knack (Contributors)
_Ebenezer Howard and the Garden City_
Volume 64, Number 1

**Volume 63, 1997**

Best Article
Rachelle Alterman
_The Challenge of Farmland Preservation: Lessons from a Six-Nation Comparison_
Volume 63, Number 2

Honorable Mention
Mohammad A. Qadeer
_Pluralistic Planning for Multicultural Cities: The Canadian Practice_
Volume 63, Number 4

Best Feature
Reid Ewing
_Is Los Angeles-Style Sprawl Desirable?_
Volume 63, Number 1 (Winter 1997)

Honorable Mention
Peter Gordon and Harry W. Richardson
_Are Compact Cities a Desirable Planning Goal?_
Volume 63, Number 1

**Volume 62, 1996**

Best Article
Scott Campbell
_Green Cities, Growing Cities, Just Cities? Urban Planning and the Contradictions of Sustainable Development_
Volume 62, Number 3

Honorable Mention
Jose A. Gomez-Ibanez
_Big-City Transit Ridership, Deficits, and Politics: Avoiding Reality in Boston_
Volume 62, Number 1

Best Feature
Stephen E. Barton
_Social Housing Versus Housing Allowances: Choosing Between Two Forms of Housing Subsidy at the Local Level_
Volume 62, Number 1

Honorable Mention
Donald C. Shoup
_Regulating Land Use at Sale: Public Improvement from Private Investment_
Volume 62, Number 3
Volume 61, 1995

Best Article
John Landis
*Imagining Land Use Futures: Applying the California Urban Futures Model*
Volume 61, Number 4

Honorable Mentions
Edward J. Kaiser and David R. Godschalk
*Twentieth Century Land Use Planning: A Stalwart Family Tree*
Volume 61, Number 3

Andrew Isserman and Terance Rephann
*The Economic Effects of the Appalachian Regional Commission: An Empirical Assessment of 26 Years of Regional Development*
Volume 61, Number 3

Best Feature
Donald A. Krueckeberg
*The Difficult Character of Property: To Whom Do Things Belong?*
Volume 61, Number 3

Volume 60, 1994

Best Article
Linda C. Dalton and Raymond J. Burby
*Mandates, Plans, and Planners: Building Local Commitment to Development Management*
Volume 60, Number 4

Honorable Mentions
William M. Rohe and Michael A. Stegman
*The Effects of Homeownership on the Self-Esteem, Perceived Control and Life Satisfaction of Low-Income People*
Volume 60, Number 2

Nico Calavita and Roger Caves
*Planners’ Attitudes Toward Growth: A Comparative Case Study*
Volume 60, Number 4

Best Feature
Barry Checkoway; contributions by Peter Marris, Pierre Clavel, Norman Krumholz, Lisa R. Peattie, John Forester, Chester Hartman, and Dolores Hayden
*Paul Davidoff and Advocacy Planning in Retrospect*
Volume 60, Number 2

Honorable Mention
Robert E. Mier; responses by J. Eugene Grigsby III; and Teresa Crdova
*Some Observations on Race and Planning*
Volume 60, Number 2
Volume 59, 1993

Best Article
Michael Southworth and Peter M. Owens
The Evolving Metropolis: Studies of Community, Neighborhood, and Street Form at the Urban Edge
Volume 59, Number 3

Honorable Mention
Andrew M. Isserman
The Right People, The Right Rates: Making Population Estimates and Forecasts with an Interregional Cohort-Component Model
Volume 59, Number 1

Best Feature
John Friedmann
Toward a Non-Euclidian Mode of Planning
Volume 59, Number 4

Honorable Mention
Robert W. Lake
Rethinking NIMBY
Volume 59, Number 1

Volume 58, 1992

Best Article
Martin Kenney and Richard Florida
The Japanese Transplants: Production Organization and Regional Development
Volume 58, Number 1

Runner-Up
Don H. Pickrell
A Desire Named Streetcar: Fantasy and Fact in Rail Transit Planning
Volume 58, Number 2

Special Mention
Leonie Sandercock and Ann Forsyth
A Gender Agenda: New Directions for Planning Theory
Volume 58, Number 1

Best Feature
L.S. Bourne
Self-Fulfilling Prophecies? Decentralization, Inner City Decline, and the Quality of Urban Life
Volume 58, Number 4

Volume 57, 1991

Best Article
Mark Alan Hughes
Employment Decentralization and Accessibility: A Strategy for Stimulating Regional Mobility
Volume 57, Number 3

Honorable Mention
William M. Rohe and Scott Mouw