



ERASTUS CORNING 2nd AWARDS FOR INTERMUNICIPAL COOPERATION 2021

Awards Program Guidelines

The deadline to submit an application for award is **4pm, Thursday August 12, 2021**. The Capital District Regional Planning Commission (CDRPC) promotes intermunicipal cooperation by fostering collaboration and coordination to find solutions to regional challenges and maximize opportunities. CDRPC uses this approach to advance economic development, water quality, human services and sustainable communities. Through this awards program, CDRPC will recognize individuals, organizations, or projects that exemplify an intermunicipal/ interagency cooperation. In addition, the program will specifically recognize projects related to government efficiency, economic development, water quality, and sustainable communities. The awards are named in honor of the Commission's first Chairman, Erastus Corning 2nd, Mayor of the City of Albany from 1942-1983.

AWARDS CATEGORIES:

The program will recognize individuals, organizations or projects that have contributed to or demonstrate excellence in intermunicipal collaboration related to the following categories:

1. Planning and Economic Development
2. Water Quality
3. Equity or Environmental Justice
4. Community and Regional Sustainability
5. Innovation and Technology

The program will also recognize individuals, organizations or projects that have contributed to or demonstrate excellence in Adaptation and Response to the Impacts of COVID-19.

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS:

- ✦ Individual(s)
- ✦ Volunteers
- ✦ Non-profit organizations
- ✦ Educational Institutions and School Districts
- ✦ Local, State, Federal or Agencies
- ✦ Located in The Capital District counties of Albany, Schenectady, Saratoga, or Rensselaer

APPLICATION FORMAT REQUIREMENTS:

- ✦ **Complete the [application here](#)** or follow this link <http://bit.ly/CDRPC2020Awards> and be sure to submit all necessary documents to the Dropbox link provided at the bottom of the Google Form.
- ✦ Call CDRPC at (518) 453-0850 after completing your submission to ensure it was received.
- ✦ If an applicant would like to submit multiple projects for consideration, a separate application must be submitted for each project.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES:

- ✦ The nominated effort must have taken place within the past five (5) years;
- ✦ The nominated effort or individual must have dealt with planning, implementation or public services
- ✦ The nominated effort or individual must have involved at least *two local jurisdictions* or entities (i.e. nonprofits, school districts, fire districts, committees, partnerships) within the four-county region. *For Adaptation and Response to the Impacts of COVID-19 category the multi-jurisdiction partnership requirement is waived.*

GENERAL EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Applications are subject to an eligibility review conducted by CDRPC staff. Applications are also evaluated by an awards committee whose members representing academia, government, citizen and professional organizations. The review process includes, but is not limited to, an assessment of the following criteria. However, due to the various types of projects/programs in applications, some criteria may not apply.

- ✦ The project has achieved significant and measurable benefits, efficiency or cost savings
- ✦ The project involves creative partnerships.
- ✦ The project demonstrates innovation or introduces new approaches to overcoming challenges or maximizing opportunities.
- ✦ The project demonstrates community involvement and support.
- ✦ The project builds and/or supports equity or environmental justice.
- ✦ *Nominations of individuals under any category except the Covid-19 Response must demonstrate their significant contribution to advancing intermunicipal partnerships*

CATEGORY EVALUATION GUIDELINES:

1. **Planning and Economic Development:** This category recognizes planning and economic development projects which include an intermunicipal or interagency partnership element. The intermunicipal element should include two or more municipalities. Projects may be related to but are not limited to community and intermunicipal planning, business retention and expansion, marketing and promotion, real estate development, tourism, and trade.
2. **Water Quality:** This category recognizes initiatives and creative partnerships that improve and protect local and regional water quality. Nominated projects or initiatives should result in measurable environmental or social benefits.
3. **Equity or Environmental Justice** – This category recognizes planning practices and programs which meet the needs of underserved communities which can include environmental protection and sustainability ideals. This would include projects which are innovative while prioritizing goals which foster healthy and vibrant communities for all individuals.
4. **Community and Regional Sustainability:** This category recognizes initiatives, projects, organizations that have used intermunicipal partnership to advance community and regional sustainability. Projects may include but are not limited to planning, policy, energy efficiency projects/initiatives, adaptation and mitigation to address climate change, community design and connectivity, food systems planning.
5. **Adaptation and Response to the Impacts of COVID-19** – This category recognizes planning response practices and tools which were implemented during the COVID-19 emergency. *The intermunicipal element can include multiple municipalities engaging in community meetings, pooling resources, and sharing new information regarding the pandemic.*

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Please submit the online form and along with a narrative explaining how the nominee meets the awards criteria and significantly contributed to the advancement of intermunicipal and interagency cooperation as it relates to the award category. Deadline for submission is **4pm, Thursday August 12, 2021**. Awardees will be notified by **August 26, 2021**.