

2026 Best Practices Award Nomination

Thank you for your interest in NAPC's 2026 Commission Excellence Awards! Please complete this form and submit supplemental material following the instructions below.

*** Indicates required question**

CONTACT INFORMATION

1. Commission's Name *

2. What town, city, county, or village does the commission represent? *

3. State *

4. Nominator's Name *

5. Nominator's Email Address *

6. Nominator's Phone Number *

7. Name of Primary Staff Person Assigned to the Commission. If no staff, please write * "no staff".

8. Email Address of Primary Staff Person. If no staff, please write "no staff". *

AWARD CATEGORY

9. Please select an award category that best fits your project. (Please note that NAPC * reserves the right to assign a different award category from the nominator's selection.)

Mark only one oval.

IDENTIFICATION/REGISTRATION of historic resources, such as historic resource surveys, historic contexts, local designation reports, and nominations and multiple property submissions for listing in the National Register of Historic Places.

PROTECTION of historic resources, such as preservation ordinances, new program tools/initiatives, rules and regulations, preservation plans and master plans, incentives, design guidelines and policies, grant and revolving fund programs, code enforcement programs, and zoning and building code provisions for historic properties.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/ADVOCACY, such as brochures, publications, websites, and other outreach materials; markers/signage; workshops, conferences, awards programs and other public participation and education initiatives; and advocacy campaigns and other organized efforts on behalf of local historic preservation or a specific historic resource.

TECHNOLOGY, such as the innovative use of GIS, databases, photography, digitization and other technology used in the protection and identification of historic resources; and the use of technology for organizing and orchestrating grassroots efforts.

10. If applicable, please select a *secondary* award category for your project. (Please note that NAPC reserves the right to assign a different award category from the nominator's selection.)

Mark only one oval.

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- PROTECTION of historic resources, such as preservation ordinances, new program tools/initiatives, rules and regulations, preservation plans and master plans, incentives, design guidelines and policies, grant and revolving fund programs, code enforcement programs, and zoning and building code provisions for historic properties.
- PUBLIC OUTREACH/ADVOCACY, such as brochures, publications, websites, and other outreach materials; markers/signage; workshops, conferences, awards programs and other public participation and education initiatives; and advocacy campaigns and other organized efforts on behalf of local historic preservation or a specific historic resource.
- TECHNOLOGY, such as the innovative use of GIS, databases, photography, digitization and other technology used in the protection and identification of historic resources; and the use of technology for organizing and orchestrating grassroots efforts.

SUMMARY OF PROJECT

11. Please provide a concise summary of the commission's work and how it meets the award criteria in 500 words or less. Keep in mind that this narrative will be used as a script to describe the commission's work at the award ceremony, if selected.

Nominations in the 'Best Practices' category will be scored based on the following criteria.

(a) Originality and Innovation – The creativity, forward-thinking approach, or unique methodology demonstrated in the practice, tool, program, or process being recognized.

(b) Transferability – The degree to which the practice can serve as a replicable model for other preservation commissions, including clarity of process, adaptability, and potential for broader application.

(c) Challenges and Problem-Solving – How effectively the commission addressed, and overcame obstacles, whether related to resources, community dynamics, regulatory issues, or project complexity.

(d) Impact and Demonstrated Results – The measurable or observable outcomes of the practice, including benefits to the community, improvements to preservation processes, enhanced public engagement, or strengthened protection of historic resources.

AWARD CRITERIA - Up to 70 points

12. Explain how the commission's work is original and innovative. (300 words or less) *

13. Explain how the commission's work might be used as a model for others. (300 words or less) *

14. What challenges did the commission have to overcome to accomplish this work? * (300 words or less)

15. What were the results of the commission's work? And, what impact did this project * have on the community? Future work? (300 words or less)

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIAL - Up to 15 points

In order for your nomination to be complete, the following must be emailed to NAPC's email director@napcommissions.org. Please use the subject line "2026 [Name of Commission] CEA Nomination [Name of Award Type (e.g., Best Practices in Technology)]". NAPC is able to receive email attachments up to 25MB. If your submission is larger than 25MB, please use a file sharing service. File transfers work well. If you need NAPC to set up a shared file location, please let us know at director@napcommissions.org.

1. Please send 1-3 letters of support. (Current NAPC board members are ineligible to provide letters of support.)
2. Please send 9-12 copyright-free images that provide context and/or show the nominated effort. Provide captions in the file names of the photos. Keep in mind that these photos will be used during the awards presentation if the person is selected. All photos must be high resolution with a minimum of 150 d.p.i. (dots per inch).
3. As applicable, media coverage or other similar content.
4. As applicable, a short video highlighting the effort.

16. I acknowledge that in order for my application to be complete, supplemental material explained above must be sent to NAPC. *

Mark only one oval.

Yes, I understand.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY - Up to 15 points

17. Please describe the community the commission serves. Include information about * population and setting (rural, urban, small town, etc.). (500 words or less)

18. Please describe the local preservation program. Include information about staffing * levels, volunteer contributions, and the commission's access to resources/funding. (500 words or less)

RELEASE AUTHORIZATION

19. Release Authorization: The undersigned hereby acknowledges and accepts the * terms and conditions of this Call for Nomination for the NAPC Commission Excellence Awards. (By entering your name below, you are confirming by electronic signature.)

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