

Town of Chapel Hill Community Design Award

Proposal to the Community Design Commission for Feb. 27, 2018 meeting.

The Town of Chapel Hill Community Design Award

The Town of Chapel Hill Community Design Award recognizes excellence in design.

The Town of Chapel Hill Community Design Award supports the charge of the Community Design Commission (CDC) to assist Town Council in guiding the Town's vision on aesthetics, character, and function to focus community growth through advice, advocacy, and implementation of the Council's policies and review of proposed development in key areas of the community.

The Design Award provides an opportunity for a retrospective assessment of the success of realized projects and developments. It offers inspiration to owners, developers, and design teams.

Project Eligibility

Eligible for the Design Award are projects within the jurisdiction of the Town of Chapel Hill that have received a "Certificate of Occupancy" or equivalent within five (5) years before the call for nominations and have been reviewed by the CDC or its predecessor. Additional projects may receive "Honorable Mentions". Eligible for Honorable Mentions are all projects eligible for the Design Award. In addition, projects within the jurisdiction of the Town of Chapel Hill that have received a Certificate of Occupancy or equivalent within five (5) years before the call for nominations are eligible even if not reviewed by the CDC or its predecessor. Also eligible are unbuilt projects reviewed by the CDC within three (3) years before the call for nominations. Projects receiving Honorable Mentions are not precluded from eligibility for the Design Award in subsequent years.

Project Nomination

Nominations are solicited through a press release. Each nomination is checked to confirm eligibility for the Design Award or Honorable Mention categories and assembled into a list by town staff.

Nominations must include the name and address of the project, a brief statement why it should be considered for a Design Award or Honorable Mention, and two to seven photos. If known, the following information may be included: names of owner, developer, and design team, date of Certificate of Occupancy, and date when the project was reviewed by the CDC or its predecessor. Nominations are to be submitted to the CDC.

Nominations are acceptable in digital format.

Awardee Selection

From the list of eligible nominees, a Design Awards subcommittee, selected by the CDC for each Design Award year, develops short lists for the Design Award and Honorable Mention categories with all Design Award candidates automatically eligible for an Honorable Mention. In the final stage, the CDC selects any winners for the Design Award and Honorable Mention categories.

There is no pre-defined catalog of selection criteria.

One Town of Chapel Hill Community Design Award may be awarded per year. One or more Honorable Mentions may be awarded per year. If none of the eligible projects is deemed worthy of a Design Award, no Design Award may be awarded.

The Design Award is in form of a resolution by the CDC. Certificates will be issued to the recipients of the Design Award. If recipients are present during the CDC meeting at which the winning projects are announced, recipients will be recognized and handed their Design Award certificates. In addition, Town Council may wish to recognize Design Award winners in a Town Council meeting.

Pending funding and agreement with responsible authorities, project name and year will be added to a publicly visible list of Town of Chapel Hill Community Design Award recipients, for example in the lobby of the Council Chamber. In addition, also pending funding, a plaque suitable for exterior mounting on the awarded building will be issued to the current owner of the project.

Proposed Award Timeline for 2018

The Design Award timeline for this year is proposed as follows:

- Solicit nominations – 2 months (May and June)
- Short listing of candidate projects – 1 month (July)
- Selection of Design Award and Honorable Mention projects – 1 month (September)
- Preparation and publication of Design Award presentation – 1 month (October)
- Presentation of Design Award – November (before Thanksgiving).

Design Award Recipients

Design Award and Honorable Mentions are honoring outstanding projects. The recipients of Design Award and Honorable Mention certificates are the owners/project clients at the time of the Certificate of Occupancy for the projects, the developers of the projects, and the design teams. If a plaque is part of the Design Award, then it is for attachment to the project and, therefore, will be issued to the current owner of the project.

Publicity

The Design Award and Honorable Mentions will be announced in a regular meeting of the CDC. This will be an item on the agenda of the CDC after awardee projects have been selected. Recipients of the Design Awards will be notified at their respective contact information on record. Design Award projects and Honorable Mentions with their respective recipients will also be announced in a press release.

Sponsorships

The Design Award subcommittee considers contacting sponsors to support costs associated with the Design Award, specifically any winner board for the Town Council Chamber lobby, or any plaque for the winning project.