



STAFF REPORT

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETING DATE: 09/23/15

DEPARTMENT: PLANNING

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Report by Department of Planning regarding the 2015 Mayor's Urban Design Awards, All Wards

SUMMARY

Nominations are open for the annual Mayor's Urban Design Awards.

Categories include:

- A: Building(s) and Environment: May include buildings of any size or use that masterfully incorporate their surroundings, such as open space, urban trails or streets and adjacent buildings, into the design. The design should also strive to incorporate significant passive environmental controls that take advantage of prevailing winds, solar patterns, etc.
- B: Public Places: May include buildings or portions of buildings, such as lobbies and atriums, and open spaces that are accessible to the public such as plazas, parks, agoras and amphitheaters. The design may or may not include public art which can be submitted separately under the Public Art category.
- C: Public Art: May include murals, free standing sculptures, and monuments to artist designed infrastructure and transportation environments created specifically to enhance that particular site such as, sidewalks, seating, subways and bus stops.
- D: Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse: May include buildings that are over 50 years old that have been preserved, rehabilitated for adaptive reuse or have incorporated green energy technology. Priority will be given to projects that have retained as much of the significant historic fabric as possible.

2014 MUDA winners included:

- Building and Environment: Inspire
- Public Places: Cedar Trail Retrofit and Mural
- Public Art: First Street Art Trail
- Historic Preservation and Adaptive Reuse: John E. Carson Building

Nominations are due November 2, 2015. Nomination forms can be accessed at www.lasvegasnevada.gov/muda.

Winners will be announced at the second City Council meeting in January 2016.

REPORTS BY STAFF: ITEM 8

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

NO ACTION REQUIRED

BACKUP DOCUMENTS

MUDA Judging Criteria

Mayor's Urban Design Awards General Judging Principles

- ☐ Individual architectural projects should be seamlessly linked to their surroundings. This issue transcends style.
- ☐ That urban architecture and landscape design is the physical definition of streets and public spaces as places of shared use.
- ☐ The revitalization of urban places depends on safety and security. The design of streets and buildings should reinforce safe environments, but not at the expense of accessibility and openness.
- ☐ In the contemporary metropolis, development must adequately accommodate automobiles. It should do so in ways that respect the pedestrian and the form of public space.
- ☐ Streets and squares should be safe, comfortable, and interesting to the pedestrian. Properly configured, they encourage walking and enable neighbors to know each other and protect their communities.
- ☐ Civic buildings and public gathering places require important sites to reinforce community identity and the culture of democracy. They deserve distinctive form, because their role is different from that of other buildings and places that constitute the fabric of the city.
- ☐ Architecture and landscape design should grow from local climate, topography, history and building practice.
- ☐ All buildings should provide their inhabitants with a clear sense of location, weather and time. Natural methods of heating and cooling can be more resource-efficient than mechanical systems.
- ☐ Historic buildings and landscapes should be preserved and reused as living representatives of Las Vegas' unique history and identity. Historic resources contribute to Heritage Tourism, increase community ownership and are a more sustainable form of urban development.
- ☐ Public Art should enhance the urban landscape, attract attention and economic benefit, connect artists with communities and enhance public appreciation of art. Great public art adds beauty to our shared environment, commemorates, memorializes, and celebrates.

Judging Criteria

- ☐ Adaptive reuse of space or materials
- ☐ Innovative paint application
- ☐ Planting the seeds of good design
- ☐ Design as branding, heritage, ethnicity
- ☐ Creative use of common materials
- ☐ Imaginative lighting, sign design
- ☐ Creative application of a theme
- ☐ Homegrown design
- ☐ Sustainable design
- ☐ Relationship of buildings to the street