



Item #09-8-18

Government Relations & Public Affairs Committee Information

July 30, 2009

SACOG *Salutes!* Update

Issue: SACOG's annual awards program, *SACOG Salutes!* will open the application period in September.

Recommendation: None; this is for information only.

Discussion: *SACOG Salutes!* began in 1999 in an effort to recognize best practices throughout the region in categories including: the Bill Hughes Elected Official Award, Blueprint Excellence Award, Organization/Agency of the Year, Business of the Year, Project of the Year, Citizen of the Year, Employee of the Year, and new this year the Mary Brill Youth Excellence Award. (Attachment A provides award criteria by category.)

The *SACOG Salutes!* nomination period will open on September 11. Notification will include advisory committees, community and agency partners throughout the region, SACOG newsletters and website. Nominations must be submitted online through the SACOG website. Supplemental material such as maps, diagrams, photos or letters of support may be provided via the website, U.S. mail, fax or hand delivery to the SACOG offices. The nomination period will end on October 23. The awards presentation will take place on Thursday, December 17 during the SACOG Board Meeting. (Attachment B provides award selection timeline.)

In response to Board input last year, SACOG staff is providing an overview of the *SACOG Salutes!* jury panel. Staff will seek representatives from across the region in the following categories, air quality, land use, transportation, civic engagement and community development in addition to director level representation from SACOG.

Approved by:

Michael McKeever
Executive Director

MM:RS:MH:sb

Attachment

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In response to Board input last year, SACOG staff is providing an overview of the SACOG *Salutes!* jury panel. Staff will seek representatives from across the region in the following categories, air quality, land use, transportation, and community development in addition to director level representation from SACOG.

SACOG *Salutes!* Award Categories and Criteria

Eligibility

The SACOG *Salutes!* regional awards program is open to both public and private entities residing in or affecting the six-county Sacramento region. The region includes El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties.

Entry Information and Requirements

Online nominations open on Friday, September 11, 2009. All entries must be submitted online no later than 5:00 p.m. on Friday, October 23, 2009. Online submissions accepted at www.sacog.org. Award recipients will be notified in December and honored at a ceremony during the SACOG Board of Directors meeting on Thursday, December 17, 2009.

Please note that the number of awards given in any one year will depend upon the applications received. Some categories may have multiple award winners, while other categories, may not have any winners selected. SACOG may create a Special Recognition category if deemed appropriate.

Award Categories

The Bill Hughes Elected Official Award

Bill Hughes was the driving force in the expansion of the SACOG Board, bringing voices from all of the region's cities and counties to the table. He was a tremendous supporter of the Blueprint project and was chair of the SACOG Board at the time of his sudden passing in 2003. This category recognizes leadership excellence by an elected official who has made a significant contributions to transportation, air quality, or land use planning in the Sacramento region at the local, state, regional or federal level.

Selection Criteria

- Comprehensive description of activities that promoted regional cooperation in the Sacramento region
- Description of significant accomplishments and results throughout tenure
- Demonstration of consensus building and public service

Blueprint Excellence Award

The Blueprint project was a multi-year study to optimize our transportation system through "smarter" land use planning. This category recognizes a project, organization, or business for unique approaches to Blueprint implementation. The nomination can be for a

general plan, completed project, or program that addresses at least four of the following smart growth principles and promotes the increased integration of transportation and land use planning.

Selection Criteria

- Provides a variety of transportation choices
- Offers housing choices and opportunities
- Takes advantage of compact development
- Uses existing assets
- Mixes land uses
- Preserves open space, farmland, and natural beauty through natural resources conservation
- Encourages distinctive, attractive communities with quality design

Organization/Agency of the Year

This category is for not-for-profit organizations or government agencies that have achieved overall excellence and made a significant effort to address, inform, and/or educate the public about transportation, air quality, or smart growth issues.

Selection Criteria

- Stellar public involvement campaigns
- Innovative transportation, air quality, and/or smart growth plans or programs
- Integration of new technology applications

Business of the Year

This category recognizes private businesses that have made significant contributions to the region in transportation, air quality, and/or smart growth.

Selection Criteria

- Innovative transportation, air quality, and/or smart growth projects, programs, or events
- Education, promotion or acknowledgement of programs in transportation, air quality, and/or smart

Project of the Year

This category recognizes a project completed or implemented in calendar year 2008 or 2009 that has made a significant contributions to the region in transportation, air quality, and/or smart growth.

Selection Criteria

- Positive regional impacts
- Significant public input
- Environmental compatibility
- Quality design

Citizen of the Year

This category recognizes a private citizen who participates and demonstrates leadership in public involvement activities of transportation, air quality, and/or land use planning activities.

Selection Criteria

- Civic involvement
- Outreach to others in the community

Employee of the Year

This category recognizes an individual employee of an organization or business who has made a significant contribution to the region in transportation, air quality, and/or smart growth.

Selection Criteria

- Contributions to the region through professional involvement

Mary Brill Youth Excellence Award

This award recognizes an individual or group of individuals in grades kindergarten through 12 who have made significant efforts on a project or campaign to promote peer education, engagement and/or behavior change in transportation, land use, air quality or climate change.

Selection Criteria

- Engagement and education of peers in land use, transportation, air quality and/or climate change
- Program or campaign that educates or encourages peers to become active in land use, transportation, air quality and/or climate change programs or supports behavior change
- Longevity of program and ability for other youth in the region to participate or replicate

SACOG *Salutes!* Timeline

September 1	Call for Nominations sent out electronically
September 11	Nominations open
October 13	Reminder note via electronic notification
October 23	Nominations close
Week of November 8	Jury Panel meets
December 1	Award recipients notified
December 17	Awards presentation during regular SACOG Board Meeting