



La Verne Community Design Awards

AWARD CRITERIA

“It is not by accident that “Quality of Life” and “Sense of Place” are terms often used to describe our community . . .it is by design.”

- The Community Design Element of the La Verne General Plan

The La Verne General Plan prides itself on development policies that promote and protect the City’s unique character. It is the vision of the General Plan Community Design Element to:

- *Protect the small town character*
- *Promote a “green” environment*
- *Promote a strong image and distinction*
- *Capitalize on our natural resources*
- *Improve architectural quality*
- *Encourage people-oriented design*
- *Provide design guidelines for developmental trends*

In an effort to promote good design, encourage distinctive development, and preserve those qualities unique to La Verne, the City Council has established the Community Design Award program (LVFDA), which recognizes those projects that contribute to the City’s vision. The following categories have been established for consideration and nominees should meet these conceptual criteria within the respective category. The criteria for each category are not exclusive and projects can be nominated for more than one category.

Commercial

- Creative site and building design
- Innovative use of building materials
- Historical correctness
- Functional and well defined by variations in massing, plane, and texture
- 360 degree architecture
- Incorporates pedestrian amenities, i.e. plazas, water elements, art features, patios, courtyards, etc.
- Architectural uniformity (project design carried out through all elements of the project)
- Incorporates the basic elements/principles of design (refer to architectural policy)

Industrial

- Development that places an emphasis on form and function
- Addresses traditional needs of industrial uses while remaining useful in an ever-evolving market

Historic Preservation & Rehabilitation/Adaptive Reuse

- Retains historic character-defining features
- Additions are sympathetic to the original structure
- Follows recognized standards for preservation and protection
- Retains the feel of Lordsburg/early La Verne



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Residential

- Preservation of existing historic housing stock
- Variety in architectural style
- Use of quality materials (natural vs. man made)
- Compatibility with the neighborhood
- Use of natural resources (solar, etc.)
- Architecture sensitive to land use limitations (geologic, biological, topographical)

Institutional

- Enhances visual cohesiveness of development
- Compliments the existing use
- Creative site and building design
- Functional and well defined by variations in massing, plane, and texture
- Incorporates the basic elements/principles of design (refer to architectural policy)
- Use of quality materials (natural vs. man made)
- Compatibility with the existing development and surrounding neighborhood
- Additions or improvements to schools that enhance the neighborhood or site
- Additions or improvements that enhance the benefits for those who attend, interact, or participate with the institution
- Additions or improvements that add an unique aspect to the facility, institution or community
- Enhances overall functionality of site

Community Enhancement

Public Art

- Artwork that intrigues and adds character to a development or business
- Provides maximum visibility from public right-of-ways
- Historically/culturally relevant to the community site
- Creative use of materials
- Innovation
- Most bang for the bucks

Landscape – (Applicable to all categories of projects)

- Preservation of existing trees
- Beautification of a street scene
- Incorporation of variety of species to add color and contrast to a site
- Good maintenance and enhancement programs for existing sites
- Incorporation of natural materials
- Decorative/enhanced paving
- Outstanding sign programs



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Interior Design

- Projects that are visually attractive on the inside
- Creation of a unique ambiance
- Use of interior décor that sparks the imagination utilizing vibrant artwork, interior textures and colors, or unique lighting
- Interior renovations

Public/Community Facilities

- Improvements to schools, churches, or other community facilities that enhance the neighborhood or add a unique aspect to the facility or community

Green/Sustainability

- Any residential, commercial, industrial, or institutional entity that has made efforts to “green” their lives through sustainability concepts, which include economic growth, social equity, or environmental conservation, or environmentally safe concepts

The Community Design Award winners will be selected after an open nomination period. Projects must have been completed or implemented in the previous two years. Nomination forms will be available from the Community Development Department. The Mayor, the Planning Commission Chairman, and the Community Development Director will select the winners. The City’s General Architectural Policy (adopted 1991) and the La Verne General Plan can be used to assist when evaluating the architectural merit of any project under consideration – copies of both are available through the Community Development Department.

If you have any questions, please contact the Community Development Department at 909-596-8706.

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