Apply for a 2020 URISA ESIG™ Award!

Has your organization improved the delivery and quality of government services through the application of geospatial information technology? If so, that achievement should be recognized and shared with your peers. Nominate your organization for a prestigious URISA Exemplary Systems in Government (ESIG™) Award. Or convince a colleague to participate!

Why Participate?

"By participating in the ESIG process we are able to demonstrate how GIS technology benefits the whole organization in a very broad scope. Winning the award also greatly increased "GIS awareness" in the organization. The project eventually received an internal "City Manager Award", boosting the importance of GIS in the organization's technology environment." - Nianwei Liu, GISP, Senior System Analyst, City of Charlotte, NC - Virtual Charlotte, ESIG Enterprise Systems Category Winner

"One of the most rewarding aspects of participating in the ESIG Awards process was the rare opportunity to formally acknowledge the outstanding efforts of our staff and regional partner agencies for their collaborative work. Recognition of their achievements by URISA's respected community of GIS professionals and peers has provided quite a charge." - - Eric Brandt, GISP, GIS Program Manager, Lane Council of Governments, OR - Regional Land Information Database (RLID), ESIG Enterprise Systems Category - Distinguished System

Winners will be recognized during the Awards Luncheon at **GIS-Pro 2020 in Baltimore.** One person from each winning and distinguished system will receive a complimentary full registration for the conference. ESIG award recipients will have the opportunity to showcase their accomplishments during the Awards Ceremony (see examples of recent winners' videos here) and in a session during the conference. Winners will receive additional recognition in URISA publications and an announcement of their accomplishment will be made to media representatives around the world.

In order for the ESIG™ Review Team to fairly evaluate each system, specific information (A-F below) must be included in your submission. When submitting this application, send it as an email attachment to URISA at wnelson@urisa.org in PDF or Microsoft Word format. Include "ESIG Application" in the email subject field. Provide all requested information in your submission. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

The application deadline is: June 1, 2020

A. System
1. Name of system and ESIG™ category for which you are applying (Enterprise System or Single Process System).
   ESIG™ Award Categories:
   - *Enterprise Systems*: Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of using information systems technology in a multi-department environment as part of an integrated process. These systems exemplify effective use of technology yielding widespread improvements in the process(es) and/or service(s) involved and/or cost savings to the organization.
   - *Single Process Systems*: Systems in this category are outstanding and working examples of applying information system technology to automate a specific SINGLE process or operation involving one department or sub-unit of an agency. The system application results in extended and/or improved government services that are more efficient and/or save money.
2. A letter from the executive administrator authorizing submission of the system application (letters must be signed and scanned).
3. One (1) page, or less, summary of what the system accomplishes and why it is exemplary.
4. Three "user testimonials". These testimonials should include the title of the system, the person's name, job title (if relevant), a statement of what specific ways the system improves their work and/or the work of their organization, and how frequently they use the system (testimonials may be signed and scanned).

B. Jurisdiction
1. Name of jurisdiction
2. Population served by the organization/agency
3. Annual total budget for jurisdiction
4. Name, title, and address of chief elected and/or appointed official
5. Name, title, address, telephone, FAX, and email for contact person for system

You must answer each of the following questions. Please cross-reference your responses to each of the topics/questions listed below. Be sure that your responses are clearly written and sufficiently comprehensive for reviewers to develop a clear understanding of the system. Responses should be in complete sentences and as brief as possible while communicating the necessary information. If appropriate, include graphics.

C. System Design
1. What motivated the system development?
2. What specific service or services was the system intended to improve?
3. What, if any, unexpected benefits did you achieve?
4. What system design problems were encountered?
5. What differentiates this system from other similar systems?

D. Implementation
1. What phases did you go through in developing the system?
2. Were there any modifications to the original system design? Why? What?

E. Organizational Impact
1. What user community does the system serve and how?
2. What are the ultimate decisions/operations/services being affected? If appropriate, provide a few examples including, but not limited to: screen input/output forms, paper products, or other descriptive graphics.
3. What were the quantitative and qualitative impacts of the system?
4. What effect has the system had on productivity?
5. What, if any, other impacts has the system had?
6. How did the system change the way business is conducted with and/or service delivered to clients? Give specific examples comparing the old way with the new.

F. System Resources
1. What are the system's primary hardware components? Give a brief list or description of the hardware configuration supporting the system.
2. What are the system's primary software components? Describe the primary software and, if a commercial package, any customizations required for the system.
3. What data does the system work with? List and briefly describe the database(s).
4. What staff resources were required to implement the system? (i.e., report approximate staff and consultant time as FTE's)
5. Comment on anything unusual about the resources used to develop your system, such as data, software, personnel and financing.

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Join the exclusive list of ESIG™ Award winners. You are strongly encouraged to review previous winning submissions here: http://www.urisa.org/awards/exemplary-systems-in-government/

If you've successfully improved the way in which government operates, through the use of geospatial information technology, you should apply for a 2020 URISA ESIG™ Award. If you have any questions, contact URISA Headquarters at (847) 824-6300 or wnelson@urisa.org.