The Governor’s Smart Communities Awards program recognizes outstanding efforts of local communities and their partners throughout the state to create vibrant and livable communities through achieving the goals of the Growth Management Act and other community development objectives.

Selection Process:
A panel of statewide leaders in growth management and community development will review the nominations and select the winners. Eligible projects or plans must have been completed: January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014.

In each category, three winners will be selected by: County, a City under 10,000 in population, a City over 10,000 in population.

CATEGORIES:
A | Smart Vision Award – Submitted for a Comprehensive Plan, Subarea Plan, or Countywide Planning Policies

Only counties, cities and towns are invited to submit nominations in this category. Entries may include adopted or amended comprehensive plans or major elements within a comprehensive plan; subarea plans; or county-wide planning policies.

B | Smart Choices Award – Submitted for Programs and Projects Implementing a Comprehensive Plan

Only counties, cities, towns, special districts, and other public sector agencies are invited to submit nominations in this category. Entries show how well a county, city or town implements its local comprehensive plan or subarea plan, or how projects by another local government entity implement a county, city, or town’s comprehensive plan or subarea ordinance. These entries include local zoning ordinances or development regulations; subdivision ordinances; capital facilities projects or programs; critical areas enhancement programs and projects; farm or forest land conservation programs; public education programs; design review programs; parks, recreation and open space programs and projects; and permitting programs. Entries may also include programs and projects that provide significant integration of land use and transportation planning aimed at reducing vehicle miles traveled, decreasing trip lengths, or increasing mode split – all in an effort to reduce the emission of greenhouse gases from the transportation sector. Programs that offer incentives for achieving quality communities also may be nominated in this category. A clear description is required of how the project directly implements one or more policies or goals in the comprehensive plan.

C | Smart Partnership Award – Submitted for Development Project Implementing a Comprehensive Plan

Only joint submittals from two or more entities will be accepted. Entries may be submitted by counties, cities, towns, special districts, public sector agencies, the private sector; and public-private partnerships. Development project entries only include joint public sector projects or joint public/private sector projects or developments implementing a county, city or town comprehensive plan, including mixed-use developments; neotraditional developments; historic preservation; infill development; affordable housing projects; capital facility projects; transportation improvements; park and recreation projects; and similar projects. A clear description is required of how the project directly implements a policy or goal in the comprehensive plan.
INSTRUCTIONS:

• Complete a separate nomination packet for each category. Use the specific form for each award: SMART VISION, SMART CHOICES, and SMART PARTNERSHIP.

• Nominations may be submitted by a single entity or a partnership.

• Eligible projects or plans must have been completed between: January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014.

• Limit of 7 pages, including attachments, for the complete nomination. Flash Drive or CD’s of attachments will be counted as one page. Photographs and illustrations are encouraged.

• Deadline for Submittals:
  Email, hand delivered, or post marked by: 6:00 p.m., April 20, 2015.

• Nominations may be submitted electronically or in hard copy. Please provide five hard copies and just one CD if attachments are included.

• This year’s nomination must not have been previously submitted to the Governor’s Smart Communities Award program.

• Send nominations: email to Julie.Knackstedt@commerce.wa.gov or mail to: Julie Knackstedt, Department of Commerce, Growth Management Services, 1011 Plum Street SE, PO Box 42525, Olympia, WA 98504-2525.

CHECKLIST:

☑ Nomination Form
  Use the specific nomination form (SMART VISION, SMART CHOICES, and SMART PARTNERSHIP) for the award category for which you are applying. Answer all questions as completely as possible within the 7-page limit.

☑ Include your name, address and telephone number in the space marked “Contact Person”. If someone other than you is to be notified of the status of the nomination or award, please include that information in the “Contact Person” section.

☑ List the names of all recipients that should appear on the award certificates.

☑ Submit the document being nominated and any additional materials (i.e., photographs, brochures, etc.) that will help support your nomination. Be sure the complete nomination remains within the 7-page limit. CD of attachments will be counted as one page. Materials not marked for return may be retained by the Department of Commerce for future use.

☑ Must provide a written statement from the City or County, or a letter of support for the nomination from the City or County about the benefits of the plan or project. (This does not count as one of the 7-pages)

☑ Provide the adoption date and submittal of the adopting ordinance or resolution (or in the case of development projects, the permit approval.)

☑ A clear description is required of how the project directly implements one or more policies or goals in the comprehensive plan.