

The Aim Awards Program honors communities and individuals for outstanding achievement, successful innovation, and exceptional leadership in municipal government. The program provides Aim members the opportunity to be recognized for their achievements while inspiring peer communities with ideas and best practices.

Awards will be presented during the 2026 Aim Ideas Summit, held Sept. 29-Oct. 1, in French Lick, Indiana. All award recipients will be honored at the Annual Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, September 30.

A panel of former municipal officials and municipal government experts from the public and private sectors serve as judges for the awards. Aim staff facilitates judging but does not vote on nominations.

COMMUNITY AWARDS

PLACEMAKING

The Placemaking Award recognizes completed projects that demonstrate innovative approaches to addressing municipal challenges. These initiatives should showcase how planning, revitalization, or economic development efforts have improved the physical environment and enhanced the economic and social well-being of the community. Eligible projects must include a completed physical component within the past year. Awards are presented in multiple population categories based on nominations received. Winners will be featured in a professionally produced video highlighting the project.

GREEN PROJECT OF THE YEAR

The Green Project of the Year Award highlights a program or project implemented within the past year that demonstrates a commitment to sustainability, energy efficiency, environmental stewardship, or other environmentally conscious practices. The winner of this award will be featured in a professionally produced video highlighting the project.

PROGRAM INNOVATION

The Program Innovation Award honors municipalities that have successfully developed and implemented creative new approaches to delivering services or conducting municipal operations. Awards are presented in multiple population categories based on nominations received.

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

RUSSELL G. LLOYD DISTINGUISHED SERVICE

The Distinguished Service Award honors an individual who has made exceptional contributions to local government and public service. Nominees should demonstrate impact beyond their own community and exhibit a legacy of leadership, initiative, and dedicated involvement with Aim.

IVAN H. BRINEGAR MUNICIPAL MANAGEMENT

Presented to an appointed municipal official with ten years of service, the Brinegar Award recognizes exemplary leadership, commitment to community, and service as a role model for fellow officials and citizens.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

The Financial Management Award honors a finance officer or administrator for outstanding accomplishments in fiscal oversight, financial reporting, and leadership in public service. Recipients should demonstrate excellence in financial stewardship and dedication to municipal success.

The Aim Annual Awards
are presented by:



The Green Project of the
Year is presented by:



NOMINATION PROCESS

Nominations should include all of the following:

1. A completed official nomination form signed by an elected municipal official from an Aim member community in good standing. Emailed submissions must come directly from the elected official's email address.
2. For community awards, the initiative must have been completed within the past year (since June 2024).
3. A summary of the nomination, no longer than two pages.
4. Up to four (4) digital photographs, graphics, or other visual materials.
5. Supporting materials that clearly explain or enhance the nomination. Please limit to the most relevant items.

All entries must be received by **Friday, June 26**.

Upon reviewing all nominations, Aim reserves the ability to move a nomination into a different award category.

Questions? Contact Marek Mazurek at (317) 237-6200 ext. 228 or mmazurek@aimindiana.org.

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CATEGORY (Select one per nomination form)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Placemaking Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Russell G. Lloyd Distinguished Service Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Green Project of the Year Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Ivan H. Brinegar Municipal Management Award |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community Program Innovation Award | <input type="checkbox"/> Financial Award |

NOMINEE

Name/Project

Population

Title

City/Town

Phone

Email

NOMINATOR (Must be an elected municipal official and an Aim member community)

Name

Title

City/Town

Phone

Email

Signature

TO SUBMIT NOMINATIONS or ASK QUESTIONS

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