

What are the Outstanding Local Government Achievement Awards (OLGAs)

Each year, East-West Gateway presents its Outstanding Local Government Achievement Awards (OLGAs) to recognize the extraordinary work of individuals, municipal and county governments/departments, special purpose districts and public educational institutions in Madison, Monroe and St. Clair counties in Illinois and Franklin, Jefferson, St. Charles and St. Louis counties, and the city of St. Louis, in Missouri. It does not matter whether a jurisdiction, department or district is large or small, volunteer or professional, part-time or full-time. We are looking for individuals who have provided the highest level of leadership; for projects and partnerships that raise the bar as to what is possible; for jurisdictions that provide a level of excellence, expertise and service in local government for all to emulate. We challenge you to bring those who embody these qualities forward for consideration.

Examples of some of the award categories from the past are:

Exemplary Accomplishment by a Local Government Jurisdiction, Agency or Individual: Honors local government jurisdictions, special purpose and school districts, public agencies and individuals for unique achievements in the creation and implementation of exemplary government programs or projects and exceptional public sector contributions.

Exemplary Intergovernmental Collaboration: Honors cooperative efforts between local government jurisdictions or agencies resulting in public benefits across jurisdictional boundaries.

Exemplary Public/Private or Public/Non-Profit Collaboration: Honors joint ventures between local government jurisdictions or agencies and private or non-profit organizations that exemplify high impact, positive change.

Leadership in Planning and Design Innovation: Honors forward-thinking planning and design efforts for public spaces or community development that challenges the way people think about their surroundings.

Gateway Lifetime Public Service Award: Honors exemplary individuals who have given a lifetime of service to the public sector and achieved the highest standard and benefit for the community for more than 30 years.