February 4, 2015

International City/County Management Association
Local Government Excellence Awards
777 North Capitol Street NE, Suite 500
Washington DC, 20002-4201

To Whom It May Concern,

The Congress for the New Urbanism Central Texas Chapter (CNU-CTX) recommends the City of Austin’s Neighborhood Partnering Program for the ICMA Community Partnership award. This award recognizes programs or processes that demonstrate innovation, excellence, and success in multi-participant involvement to improve the quality of life for residents.

As stated in the Charter for the New Urbanism, members “dedicate ourselves to reclaiming our homes, blocks, streets, parks, neighborhoods, districts, towns, cities, regions, and environment.” The City of Austin’s Neighborhood Partnering Program exemplifies this principle by assisting community groups in developing, resourcing, and executing small- to medium-sized improvement projects in the City’s right of way or on City-owned property.

CNU-CTX applauds the many Neighborhood Partnering Program projects that are creating usable public spaces to be enjoyed by people on a neighborhood scale. These projects include:

• San Antonio Street sidewalk, in partnership with Girl Scout Brownie Troop 591
• Huffstickler Green, in partnership with the Hyde Park Neighborhood Association
• Meadowview Triangle Park, in partnership with the Highland Neighborhood Association
• Patterson Park Mosaic, in partnership with the Wilshire Woods, Delwood, and Cherrywood Neighborhood Associations
• Hollywood Ave. Cul-de-sac, in partnership with the Wild Hare Community

These low-cost, neighborhood-scaled investments compound over time to enrich the sense of place, improve walkability, and build neighborhood value. The City of Austin’s Neighborhood Partnering Program is a model initiative for local governments looking to make low-cost investments with a high return to the community.

Regards,

Cid Galindo
President
CNU-CTX