

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Anthony G. Brown
Lt. Governor



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Press Release

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Governor O'Malley receives national award for planning leadership

Recognition for Chesapeake Bay focus, transit-oriented development, PlanMaryland

LOS ANGELES – The [American Planning Association](#) today awarded Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley its [2012 National Planning Leadership Award](#) for his advocacy of environmental planning issues. The association made the announcement at its National Planning Conference at the Los Angeles Convention Center. The Planning Advocate award recognizes an individual who has advanced or promoted the cause of planning in the public arena. The APA, which represents the field of city and regional planning in the United States, has 40,000 members, including more than 16,000 certified planners.

“The planning field at the national level recognizes that Governor O'Malley has focused on a smarter, more sustainable, more energy-efficient approach at a time when some other states have taken a step backward,” said Richard Eberhart Hall, AICP, secretary of the [Maryland Department of Planning](#). A long-time member of the APA, [Secretary Hall accepted the award on behalf of Governor O'Malley](#).

The governor is the first individual from Maryland to receive the award in more than a decade. Baltimore County's “Plan for the Valleys,” a national model for preservation that was created in the 1960s, and Enterprise Community Partners Inc. of Columbia were honored in 2010. The APA's national awards program began more than 50 years ago to recognize outstanding community plans, planning programs and initiatives, public education efforts and individuals for their leadership on planning issues.

In presenting the award to Governor O'Malley, the [APA noted](#) that he adapted for planning some of the statistical tools he had used as mayor of Baltimore to combat crime and other problems. In 2007, the governor created a rigorous program called BayStat to bring more accountability toward restoring the Chesapeake Bay. His departments of planning, natural resources and agriculture developed web-based tools called AgPrint, GreenPrint and GrowthPrint to better identify areas for growth and preservation. A proponent of Transit-Oriented Development, the governor has championed two light rail projects in the Baltimore and Washington, D.C. areas. His administration also recently created Maryland's first statewide growth plan, [PlanMaryland](#). The Maryland General Assembly also recently approved significant legislation sponsored by the O'Malley Administration to curb the spread of residential development on septic systems.

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