



Urban Land San Diego-Tijuana Institute

On the evening of Wednesday, May 11, over 225 leaders of the San Diego-Tijuana real estate and land use community gathered at the Farmer and the Seahorse to honor the seven winners and three merit winners for the 2016 Healthy Places Awards (Awards). The Awards, the first of its kind for the San Diego-Tijuana District Council, embody the ULI's Healthy Places Initiative, recognizing outstanding projects, healthy programs and policies; and leaders who are forging the way in building healthy places in our region.

The Winners of the Awards have raised the bar across the San Diego-Tijuana Region in terms of creating thriving communities that understand the direct link between human health and the built environment. For more information on the awards, go to this [San Diego Union Tribune article](#).

Healthy Place Crown Jewel Award

Waterfront Park, County of San Diego

The Jury recognizes Waterfront Park as an exemplary project bringing together a diversity of people of all ages and walks of life. It is in this place that the temptations of high end retail and residential uses have been resisted in favor of fountains that children play in and places where people celebrate the ceremonies that constitute urban life. Not only has this project realized a major open space worthy of a great city, reawakened a civic structure, provided underground parking to minimize the impact of the automobile on the immediate neighborhood but it will also continue to inspire the much wished for extension of the embarcadero. It is a model project that incorporates the invitation to walk and gather and it reinforces the burgeoning community of urban dwellers living within close proximity.

The jury selected this project as the Grand Prize winner with recollections of the admonition to think in terms greater than ourselves, beyond our time and with faith in the future. It is a project that meets the challenge of Daniel Burnham's admonition in a most worthy fashion.

"Make no little plans; they have no magic to stir men's blood and probably themselves will not be realized. Make big plans; aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical [diagram](#) once recorded will never die, but long after we are gone be a living thing, asserting itself with ever-growing insistency." Daniel Burnham. The Waterfront Park is a gift to the people of San Diego.

Healthy Place Visionary Award

Dr. Jim Sallis, Active Living Research

What makes for a visionary? A true visionary is a rare breed; a person with big, new ideas --- someone ahead of their time whose unique contributions help create a better future. The jury is pleased to honor such an exemplary visionary—Dr. Jim Sallis. Jim is a trailblazer in the development of the field of active living research, utilizing scientific study and evaluation to illuminate the connections between environment and policy on physical activity and health. He is the author of over 600 scientific publications, serves on the editorial boards of several journals, and is one of the world's most cited authors in the social sciences. Time magazine has lauded him as an "Obesity Warrior". He has been honored with a Lifetime Achievement Award by the President's Council on Fitness, Sports and Nutrition; and has received the Bloomberg-Manulife Prize for the Promotion of Active Health. He is truly a "rock star" in the world of health and built environments. He is Distinguished Professor in the Department of Family Medicine and Public



Health at University of California, San Diego, where is also Director of Active Living Research. Even though his career achievements place him in high demand both nationally and internationally, he is still exceedingly generous with his time and expertise for local projects right here in San Diego.

Healthy Place for Business Award

The Alexandria at Torrey Pines

As a leader in creative office development, Alexandria has created a “cool place” to work. Built around the latest workplace amenities, dining, recreation, socialization and environmental stewardship all contribute to the creation of a healthy place in San Diego’s suburbs, where past expectations have been limited to convenient access to parking and 9-5 cubicles. The jury acknowledges the place-making and lifestyle improvements at Alexandria as an important first step in the transformation of San Diego’s many business parks into walkable healthy places that move San Diego even closer to a truly urban city.

Urban Agriculture for Better Health Award

Leichtag Commons and Coastal Roots Farm

Coastal Roots Farm is a spectacular 67-acre agricultural property, with breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean in North County. As a non-profit organization, Coastal Roots Farm serves as both an educational community farm and as an incubator and laboratory for innovative ideas and demonstrations advancing sustainable agriculture, nutrition and food security for the most vulnerable, civic and community engagement and Jewish education and culture. Coastal Roots Farm consists of mixed gardens, orchards, a public food forest trail, animal pastures, and vineyard, all in various stages of development. Through hands-on educational experiences and produce donations the Farm is fostering a more just and healthy community.

While locally focused, Coastal Roots Farm aims to help change the way those around the world look at their food and promote more sustainable, healthier models. The jury saw strong alignment between ULI’s 10 Healthy Places Principles and the mission and work of the Coastal Roots Farm. Jurors noted that the farm was a living lab with big thinkers advancing big ideas in practical and meaningful ways. Trips to the farm are exciting and fun—the best ingredients for creating a healthy, vibrant place.

Grass Roots Healthy Place Award

Hilltop gARTen

Expanding on the old adage that “good things come in small packages,” ULI recognizes the Hilltop gARTen project that not only transformed a previously unusable 6,000 square foot flood-prone area on an elementary school site into a healthy place for young school children and the broader community, but every aspect of the project involved and taught important lessons about healthy places. The small site now boasts a National Wildlife Federation-certified schoolyard habitat and outdoor classroom with native plants, a bio-swale to teach the life cycle of water and conservation, and observation and interaction with the wildlife the site attracts.

The Jury loved this project for its engagement of the children and community in the both design and construction of the project; for creating a positive connection for young children to positively interact with a



healthy natural environment; for the fact that it has tremendous immediate and long-term impact, and because it is so highly repeatable and transferable.

Urban Model for Healthy Living Award

Celadon at 9th and Broadway

The jury recognizes the Celadon at 9th and Broadway as a project that interprets its urban context with a contemporary architectural language while addressing a resident community that accommodates elderly, the adult workforce and at-risk youth transitioning to a productive adult hood. As a recognized LEED Gold certified project it incorporates a solar voltaic system, drought tolerant landscaping and roof terrace planting. This project establishes a mixed use context including office and retail uses that provides the resident community the opportunity to experience the richness of the city even while allowing residents to grow food on community terraces. Located in close proximity to a web of transportation options from the San Diego trolley to bus options the Celadon is an example for following projects to emulate ensuring that the city will have a diverse resident population. The Celadon community was established with a holistic appreciation for life incorporating affordable living strategies as well as providing an exhibition kitchen to facilitate the teaching of cooking classes to encourage healthy eating habits. This opportunity not only emphasizes nutrition and cooking instruction but also encourages a sense of community among the residents cultivating a Celadon neighborhood within the greater community. This complex relationship between architecture, quality of life and community make the Celadon worthy of recognition.

Artful Healthy Place Award

ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station

The jury recognizes the ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station for its long-term commitment to the arts and as a draw for creating healthy places. The historic buildings and spaces have been carefully renovated as a framework for a new arts-based community that includes uses ranging from working artist studios, community art venues and cultural programs to a home for one of San Diego's craft brewing giants. The recent addition of San Diego's first full-time vibrant and successful urban public marketplace further strengthens the ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station as a community center.

The ARTS DISTRICT Liberty Station is highly walkable and encourages biking and other outdoor recreational and social activities. It has enhanced the image for Point Loma as a place where arts, culture, commerce, recreation and dining come together creating a new public experience exemplifying ULI's Ten Principles for Building Healthy Places.



Catalysts for Food Health Merit Awards: Copley-Price Family YMCA

Putting people first, Empowering champions for health, making healthy choices easy. The jury offers a Catalyst for Good Health award to the Copley-Price Family YMCA for making healthy choices in exercise and nutrition easy for residents of City Heights, Talmadge, Kensington, and beyond. The new 53,000 square foot facility helped triple the number of participants in its programs and includes many new amenities in the neighborhood such as health and wellness classes, a demonstration kitchen, cooking classes, and job skills training among others. The facility is a true asset to the community, putting people first among diverse neighborhoods, and bringing support and opportunities that empower people to lead healthy lives. Special recognition goes to Price Charities for bringing this service to the community.

City of La Mesa's Urban Trails Mobility Action Plan

The jury is pleased to award La Mesa's Urban Trails Mobility Action Plan with a Catalyst for Good Health award. The Plan provides an implementation strategy to build 22 miles of new trails to the existing network of almost 10 miles and connect neighborhoods with parks and recreation and key community amenities. The Plan embraces the unique character of La Mesa, building on its community network of community stairs, and energizes shared spaces to give residents a healthy, fun choice for exercise. The jury was especially impressed with the robust, creative outreach for the project which included many walks with the newly formed Connect La Mesa Walking Group, and many related activities that allowed community members to get involved and help prioritize routes for the new trails system.

Cooking for Salud, Olivewood

Cooking for Salud is a new program at the much loved, award winning, Olivewood Gardens and Learning Center located in National City. Cooking for Salud is recognized for its commitment to disseminating the importance of great nutrition and healthy cooking through a 7 week course teaching the tools that give families the power to change their eating habits. ULI commends their work as catalysts for change and their tangible achievements in supporting healthy living.