American Planning Association



**Minnesota Chapter**

*Creating Great Communities for All*

December 6, 2016

RE: Letter of Recommendation for Rita Trapp

On behalf of the American Planning Association, Minnesota Chapter, I wish to extend my support the nomination of Ms. Rita Trapp for the Chapter President’s Council Leadership Award for Professional Development Official. Our nomination is provided with pride, as Ms. Trapp now passes the torch to a new generation of PDO members.

Ms. Trapp exemplifies the qualities of the American Planning Association and the American Institute of Professional Planners. Ms. Trapp has been key to the success of the program locally, designing and growing the position in a manner that serves our membership to the highest of qualities.

Ms. Trapp has developed as system and process that should be replicated by other organizations. The success of the Chapter and its multiple professional development opportunities have led to the need to strengthen the position of PDO. Ms. Trapp created a path for ongoing succession planning by creating a three-person approach to the PDO position. Additionally, Ms. Trapp has led the effort to better coordinate professional development, networking, and other events for the organization. Ms. Trapp has worked hard to create a Program Committee that encompasses these activities. This coordination is key to any number of logistical issues. Prior to this approach, the planning of these events were ‘ad-hoc’, and coordination was inconsistent.

We thank the Council for consideration for this nomination. A successful award will properly illustrate how other Chapters should approach the PDO position.

Sincerely,



AMERICAN PLANNING ASSOCIATION, MINNESOTA CHAPTER

Tim Gladhill

Vice President