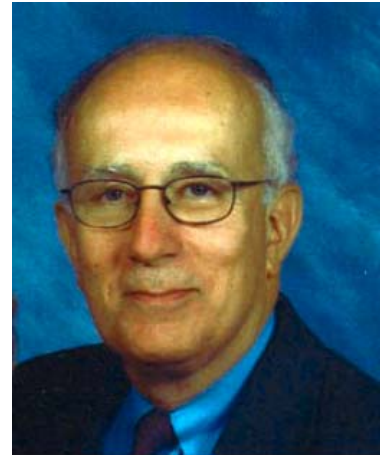


Excerpt from: *The Ohio Planner's News*, article titled "APA Ohio Biennial Awards". Written by Kristin Hopkins, AICP.



## Outstanding Planner: David Hartt

The "Outstanding Planner Award" is bestowed upon a professional planner for outstanding achievement and sustained contribution to the profession through distinguished service. This year's recipient was David B. Hartt, president and founder of D.B. Hartt, Inc Planning and Development Consultants (Cleveland) for his commitment to and advancement of the planning profession and his contributions to the State Chapter and the local Cleveland Section of APA Ohio.



During the Awards Ceremony on September 25, 2009, APA Ohio President Aaron Sorrell, when presenting the award to Hartt, asked the 250 plus attendees to raise their hand if they had worked with Hartt in any way, and more than half of them did. Hartt's influence and impact in Ohio has been wide ranging.

Over the more than 40 years that Hartt has been a practicing planner, he has worked with countless communities, planners, planning commission and appeals board members, as well as developers and attorneys in all aspects of land use planning and development.

He is known for providing for specialized needs in comprehensive planning, zoning consultation, zoning code development, and expert witness testimony. He consciously works for both private sector and public sector clients with the mindset that working with both sides helps to provide a better perspective to his clients on how proposed policies and recommendations or proposals might be accepted.

He has long been an advocate of citizen participation, with a strong belief that communities have choices! And that in order to have a plan that will be acted on it must be have the full backing of the community.

Hartt has volunteered hundreds of hours over the years to the planning profession and to the APA Ohio and Cleveland organizations. He served as the Cleveland Section co-president and helped to bring the dormant section back to life. In 1989, he was part of the committee that started the Cleveland Planning and Zoning Workshop, which continues to this day, and every year he has been a presenter. In the 1990s he served on the then Ohio Planning Conference's board of trustees, first as treasurer then as president. More recently he served on the board of the Ohio Planning Foundation.

He continues to be a regular speaker at planning and law conferences, promoting important themes of community planning such as Smart Growth, reinforcing the character of what's built, and preserving natural areas from development. For several years he has partnered with the Cleveland Home Builders Association to educate the development community about Smart Growth.

His volunteer activities and contributions have influenced a number of former and current staff members to get involved both in APA Ohio and Cleveland organizations as well as in their local communities. In addition to other volunteer activities, he is a Board Member of the Historic Warehouse District Development Corporation and a long-time member of the Shaker Heights Planning Commission.

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