



2010 Kansas Planning Awards Cover Sheet

Please complete the information below and include it as the first page of the proposal.

Award Category:

- | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Ad Astra Award | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pioneer Award (Rural) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New Horizon Award (individual) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Pioneer Award (Urban) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | New Horizon Award (group) | <input type="checkbox"/> | Sod Buster Award |

Nominee: Bickley Foster, FAICP **Name of Project:** _____

Mailing Address: 2818 N. Edwards Ave.

City/State/Zip: Wichita, KS 67204

Daytime Phone: 316-838-7563 **Fax:** 316-838-7708

Email Address: fosterszone@aol.com

Nominator: Sara Copeland, AICP **Title:** APA-KS Chapter President

Mailing Address: 1200 Main St.

City/State/Zip: Grandview, MO 64030

Daytime Phone: 816-316-4822 **Fax:** 816-316-4809

Email Address: scopeland@ci.grandview.mo.us

Sara K. Copeland
Signature of Person Submitting Application

8/06/10
Date

Submissions -- Five (5) complete sets of the application (including all support material) must be submitted with a postmark of no later than **August 6, 2010**. Mail applications to Bonnie Johnson, KU Graduate Program in Urban Planning, 1465 Jayhawk Blvd., Room 317, Lawrence, KS 66045-7626.

To: APA-Kansas Awards Committee
From: Sara K. Copeland, AICP
APA-Kansas Executive Committee
Date: August 6, 2010
Re: Bickley Foster – Nomination for Ad Astra Award

On June 18, the Executive Committee of the Kansas Chapter of APA endorsed the nomination of Bickley Foster for the Chapter's Ad Astra Award. Bickley was inducted into the College of Fellows of AICP in April, 2010 and the Executive Committee felt that his significant, long term contribution to planning in Kansas was worthy of our recognition.

Enhancement of Planning Profession

Most of Bickley's professional career has focused on providing planning services to the small cities and rural counties of Kansas through the work of his consulting firm, Foster & Associates. He has completed projects for over 100 communities, most of which do not have their own professional planning staff. At the beginning of his tenure with Foster & Associates, "planning" was a foreign concept to many of these communities. Bickley acted as an ambassador for planning in these communities, developing not only plans but also the necessary support for good planning.

Bickley's work has always left a community with a framework for and training in administering the plan or the development regulations he assisted them in developing. He has been masterful in building the confidence of city or county staff without a formal planning background. The letters of support included here offer testimonials from city staff members who have been trained by Bickley to be the planners in their communities.

Bickley has consistently been at the vanguard of planning issues, from the initial development of plans and regulations for areas without previous plans in the 1970s to alternative energy and floodplain management today. He has also contributed to an impressive number of community organizations. His service to the City of Wichita is certainly an example of his service. After serving as Director of the Planning Department in the 1960s, Bickley has continued to assist in planning efforts for the City through the Landmark Preservation Commission, various plan steering committees, and on the Board of Zoning Appeals, of which he is still a member.

Significant Contribution

Bickley's work has expanded the ability of communities to put good planning principles into practice themselves. This accomplishment may be the most important achievement of his career. Bickley has not only educated people who are not professional planners about the importance of planning, but he brought them into the profession by building their individual skills and leaving them with an infrastructure for ongoing planning and development services. The importance of this achievement is immeasurable. With so many communities in our state lacking a

professional planner, training others to undertake everyday planning tasks is vital to the development of high quality places.

Bickley's professional services have always focused on tasks that a community could not complete itself. If a client could collect data and write portions of the Comprehensive Plan, Bickley focused his efforts on the remainder of the Plan. His projects were true partnerships with the client community, building on local talent. I have witnessed other consultants who involve the public in the planning process but not in the development of the plan itself. Bickley goes far beyond just public participation; his projects are shared efforts. He places an emphasis on this partnership for two reasons: to keep costs low for the community and to build on planning-related knowledge in the community.

For these reasons, the Executive Committee nominates Bickley for the Ad Astra Award. Included for your consideration are some of the letters submitted with Bickley's nominations to the AICP College of Fellows, illustrating his impact on the planning profession in Kansas. Thank you for considering him for this honor.

CITY OF TOWANDA

From the desk of Planning/Zoning Administrator, Lisa Long
110 S. 3rd P. O. Box 160 Towanda Ks 67144
Phone 316-541-2373/ 316-536-2243 fax 316-536-2737

Thomas Dow, AICP
State Transportation Planner
Kansas Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Planning
700 SW Harrison
Topeka, KS 60603-3754

Dear Mr. Dow,

Greetings! What an honor it is to speak on behalf of someone as respected as Bickley Foster of Foster & Associates. Towanda has had a long standing relationship with Mr. Foster that continues today. In previous administrations he had always been available to lend a helping hand in educating Board Members, Council Members, City Administrators and Zoning Administrators. The City currently has Zoning and Subdivision Regulations in place provided by Mr. Foster and three notebooks of administrative forms to enable administrators to carry out their responsibilities which are invaluable to the adherence of State Statutes in carrying out the daily tasks of Planning/Zoning Administration. As a small city, often in prior administration, the individual performing the work worked less than 20 hours a week and often was not educated in the field of Planning, although with the guidance of the paperwork, that Mr. Foster had the forethought to prepare, the work was preformed correctly. In using the prepared forms not only is the work done correctly but it is also a learning process while preparing the forms and carrying out the tasks.

As a graduate of Wichita State University Master of Public Administration with emphasis in Planning, I was first introduced to Mr. Foster not in person but by the other individuals who also were in the program and had worked with him. For me, his reputation preceded him, as I would not meet him until I began work here at Towanda some five years ago. It was the saying that "every little town has Foster boiler plate zoning". He has it down pat so well that it serves many while keeping the cost low for even small towns to afford.

Towanda hired Mr. Foster to write the Towanda Comprehensive Plan for 1977-1995. After that time period, until I came on board in 2004, the City was only able to extend that plan due to lack of funds or manpower to acquire a new one. Bickley Foster agreed after meeting with us to allow me to write the Comprehensive Plan with his guidance. In the past two years, Mr. Foster provided samples, suggestions, illustrations, advice and editing of the finished work of a new comprehensive plan for Towanda. He also brought on board for the project his son David's company, Rice Foster Associates, P.A. to assist with the land use and mapping needs. By allowing me to do the actual writing and organization of the plan the City saved enormously on the total cost reducing it to half of what it would have cost otherwise.

Bickley Foster served our community not only in an indirect way of providing the City with a new comprehensive plan, but he allowed me to learn by the process of doing, writing the comprehensive plan with his guidance. If not for him working with the City as he did on this project, we would not have a more workable, up to date plan. Other Planning Consultants we contacted required much more capital and did not offer to allow the work to be done in house at the City as Mr. Foster did. He truly provided Towanda with a service unlike others. Our relationship with Bickley Foster continues today. Our Zoning Regulations are in need of updating and in the future he has agreed to do as we did with the Comprehensive Plan, some of the work done in-house at the City to save costs and make it affordable with a small town's limited budget.

Thank you for assisting him with this honor and the City of Towanda wishes him the best. If Towanda can be of any further assistance, please contact me. Thank You.

Sincerely,



Lisa K. Long
City of Towanda Planning/Zoning/Subdivision Administrator

614 East Seitz Street
McPherson, Kansas 67460
November 2, 2009

Thomas Dow, AICP
State Transportation Planner
Kansas Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Planning
700 SW Harrison
Topeka, Kansas 60603-3754

Dear Mr. Dow:

This letter is being written in support of the nomination of Mr. Bickley Foster, Planning Consultant with Foster and Associates, Wichita, Kansas, to be a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners (FAICP).

My 35-year acquaintance with Bickley Foster goes back to 1974, when he became Planning Consultant for the City of McPherson. This includes my 25 years on the City of McPherson Planning Commission and presently, seven years on the Board of Zoning Appeals. Based on my long association with Bickley as well as on his many significant contributions to better community planning, I believe that he is an outstanding candidate for election as a fellow of the AICP. His professionalism, knowledge, experience, integrity, and accomplishments are worthy of the honor befitting the Fellow designation.

Bickley chose to work especially with smaller cities and rural counties who could not afford their own planning staff and were not adequately served by the larger consulting firms. His contract fees have been reasonable and his service has been superb. He also is planning consultant for McPherson County and has helped to maintain a good working relationship between the two governing entities.

In his early work with the City of McPherson, Bickley Foster wrote and/or revised Zoning Regulations and Subdivision Regulations. Over the years, he has trained planning commissioners and city staff to do much of this updating themselves, thereby making the task more educational and affordable. Later projects involved Comprehensive Plans, Airport Regulations, Mobile and Manufactured Home Parks, Flood Plain Regulations, Planned Unit Developments, Central Business District, Site Plans, Extra-Territorial discussions, and many other involvements, such as Board of Zoning Appeals.

Bickley provides meaningful support and guidance to the Planning Commission and regularly attends monthly meetings. He can usually be reached by telephone for consultation when needed. His services are also available to City commissioners and staff members. Having a law degree gives him an added dimension in providing assistance when appropriate. Bickley has provided training sessions and has also encouraged attendance at educational seminars, including American Planning Association events. In addition to assisting with the updating of Zoning and Subdivision

Regulations and the Comprehensive Plan, Bickley has provided such helps as model bylaws as well as administrative forms and checklists to assist the Planning Commission and to conform with Kansas state statutes. He also promotes decorum in meetings and hearings, complete and accurate minutes, and gives guidance on how to handle difficult situations.

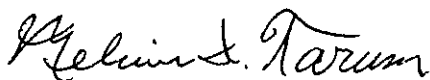
As would be expected, a listing of projects Bickley Foster has worked on for the City of McPherson would be too numerous to mention. In addition to those already listed, their variety can be illustrated by noting the McPherson College Campus Redevelopment, new public schools and parks, City-County Law Enforcement Center, shopping centers, industrial development, and economic and environmental issues.

McPherson is a progressive city of 14,000 residents, located in Central Kansas. It has a reputation statewide, and in some national surveys, as being one of the best places to live, with extensive shopping opportunities, ample recreational facilities, great schools and colleges, a modern hospital, an outstanding industrial and agricultural base, and located on an interstate highway, which provides convenient access to larger cities.

Bickley Foster has had a guiding hand in McPherson's orderly and responsible growth and development for the past 35 years. McPherson is a better place because of his involvement and leadership, especially in the aspect of overall planning and development.

Based on my 35-year association with Bickley Foster and on McPherson's record of accomplishment, I heartily recommend him for consideration and election to the College of Fellows in the American Institute of Certified Planners. He is deserving of such an honor and would faithfully continue to support the Kansas Chapter and the American Planning Association.

Sincerely,



Melvin I. Tarum

Past Chair, McPherson Planning Commission
Member, McPherson Board of Zoning Appeals

Telephone 620.241.0040

CITY OF MULVANE

211 NORTH SECOND STREET
MULVANE, KANSAS 67110
(316) 777-1143
(316) 777-4081 (Fax)

Thomas Dow, AICP
State Transportation Planner
ATT; Kansas Department of Transportation
Bureau of Transportation Planning
700 SW Harrison
Topeka, Ks. 60603-3754

Dear Mr. Dow,

As the Zoning Administrator for the City of Mulvane, Kansas, It is my pleasure to recommend C. Bickley Foster as a Fellow of the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Mr. Foster has worked for the City of Mulvane as a planning consultant for over thirty years. During that time he has developed comprehensive plans and subdivision and zoning regulations to instill a stronger and safer community. The twenty years that I have worked with him he has mentored me and been an invaluable source of knowledge and information. He has held training sessions for our volunteers serving on the Planning Commission and City Council members and myself; developed administrative forms for zoning and subdivision cases to maintain a record of the process, and forms standardizing the process to successfully conduct a public hearing. Through the years with the ever changing backdrop of development his direction and engaged ideas has helped Mulvane maintain regulations to facilitate and plan for new development.

Mr. Foster works tirelessly for his clients. He has consulted Mulvane on several issues that were controversial . One particular event was in 2008. The Wichita Eagle had front page headlines about a Lottery Gaming Facility zoning case that was being considered by Mulvane and another about a landfill case in Harper County case he was consulting on. He stated 'that was a first time he had two cases at the same time make the front page'.

Mr. Foster consults with other jurisdictions. That experience brings knowledge to relate and address situations that have been problematic, and allows the City of Mulvane to

avoid the same costly errors. Overall, Bickley Foster represents the City with pride and professionalism.

Along with that long list of clients comes long hours of work. Bickley has been more than willing over the years to get the needed work completed. Whether it be attending long meetings that extend late into the night or working long hours developing documents to meet deadlines.

Please accept my recommendation of C. Bickley Foster as a fellow of the American Institute of Certified planners.

Raymond Fleming

Raymond Fleming

City of Mulvane Zoning Administrator