



# LIVINGSTON COUNTY PLANNING DEPARTMENT

LIVINGSTON COUNTY, MICHIGAN

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## **Livingston County, Michigan, Master Plan wins Prestigious 2020 American Planning Association County Planning Division Merit Award**

Each year the American Planning Association (APA), County Planning Division (CPD) and its sister organization, the National Association of County Planners (NACP) gives out County Planning Project Awards. There are two types of awards, Awards of Excellence and Awards of Merit. In addition, there are seven categories of awards; Planning Project, Comprehensive Plan – Large Jurisdiction, Comprehensive Plan – Small Jurisdiction, Best Practices, Grass Roots Initiative, Small Area/Special Area Planning, and Special Focus Planning Initiative – County Holistic Innovation Project. ***Only one Award of Excellence and one Award of Merit may be granted per category each year.*** If the Awards Jury finds that none of the nominations in a particular category meets the desirable standards, they may grant no award in that category for that year.

This year, Livingston County is the recipient of an **Award of Merit** in the Comprehensive Plan – Large Jurisdiction category (population of 50,000 or more) for the *2018 Livingston County Master Plan*.

The Livingston County Master Plan was adopted in October 2018. The entire planning process of creating this document was completed in-house by the three American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) of the Livingston County Planning Department in collaboration with the seven-person Livingston County Planning Commission. The process was fully funded through the department's annual budget and with support from the Livingston County Board of Commissioners.

The intent of the Livingston County Master Plan is to provide a big-picture, county-wide approach to planning in Livingston County that focuses on the planning features that connect our twenty local units of government. These features may be part of the built environment such as transportation corridors, natural features such as rivers and streams, or even land uses at the boundaries of Livingston County and each municipality.

The Livingston County Master Plan is a fully web-based, interactive plan that focuses on presenting current national, state, regional, county and local planning and zoning trends and best practices with hundreds of supporting web links. The Master Plan includes ten subject chapters including Hazard Mitigation and Social Equity; that promote the importance of these lesser known, and seldom included master plan components. The adopted policies of the APA are widely sourced and promoted in the trends and best practices of these chapters. Livingston County does not currently have a county-wide zoning ordinance, so the Livingston County Master Plan is intended to influence both the master plans and zoning ordinances of our local communities. An on-line version of the plan is available at: <https://www.livgov.com/plan/Documents/MasterPlan/2018-County-Master-Plan-Approved-Final-optimized-final-2.pdf>

The American Planning Association (APA) is the world's largest professional organization representing the field of urban planning. Learn more at <https://www.planning.org> APA County Planning Division Contact: Tim Brown, APA County Planning Division at 850-267-1955.