



Award to outstanding cities and municipalities
for improving public spaces for recreation and
promoting physical activity in the Americas

SELECTION COMMITTEE

May 28, 2002

Procedures

One hundred and forty-two (142) completed submissions were entered into an electronic database and variables were coded and assigned a numeric value based upon a point system. Those applicants who had scored in the top third, ($N=51$) were then individually reviewed by a Pre-Selection Committee. This process allowed for careful examination of supporting documents and follow-up contact on clarifications that may have needed to be made with the submitting applicant.

Of the 47 applicants from Latin America, the Pre-Selection committees recommended 8 municipalities for further review and consideration for Awards. Of the 6 applicants from North America, the Pre-Selection Committee recommended 2 municipalities for consideration to receive an award. In addition, a sub-set of 15 cities was also recommended for special recognition. Finally, the members of the Selection Committee gathered on May 28th at the Pan-American Health Organization headquarters in Washington D.C. for a further documentation review and to select the winners. As a result, the Selection Committee unanimously chose the following cities to receive awards and special recognition.

Awards for the Latin American and Caribbean category

First place goes to the city of **Loja**, Ecuador. A strong interest in preserving their natural environment in harmony with the city, offering both a healthy environment and opportunities for an active life style. Their efforts also encompass a strong recycling initiative.

Second place goes to the district of **Surco**, Lima, Peru. An outstanding feature is the expansion and preservation of green areas by recovering water from the Rio Surco. In addition, physical activity promotion places special emphasis on diverse sports initiatives.

Third place goes to the city of **Balcarce**, Argentina. The city has successfully engaged in conservation of green areas, with reforestation initiatives and a pedestrian friendly community.

Award for the US and Canada category

Only one award is presented in this category and goes to the city of **Surrey**, British Columbia, Canada. This city has presented an exceptionally well-documented entry. Surrey's application emphasizes the protection of open areas for recreation as well as diverse programs for promoting physical activity.

Special Recognition

City of Manizales, Colombia: For their important physical activity promotion initiatives throughout the lifespan.

La Habana Vieja, Cuba: For their beautifully preserved colonial architecture and a pedestrian friendly downtown area.

City of Eugene, Oregon, USA: Preservation of green areas in a pedestrian friendly city.

Lo Barnechea, Chile: Preservation of green areas for recreation and a good blend of lifestyle and sports oriented physical activity promotion



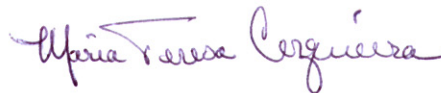
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