

# 2019 Youth In Planning Awards

*by Wade Broadhead, AICP - Youth In Planning Committee Chair*

This year the Youth in Planning Committee gave out their first awards to two very different efforts that aimed to engage nontraditional audiences in city planning. The first award went to the Eastern Fremont Elementary School in Florence Colorado. Students from this school come from a small town urban area as well as a much wider rural area and with direction from the principal and school staff conducted a Project based Learning module where the entire school (K-5) worked on making the school more accessible for all students. Classes' conducted age appropriate media to represent their ideas including arts and crafts as well as sophisticated computer modeling software. Students even engaged vendors for accessible playground equipment and others. They completed the project with a community wide open house with over 500 people attending as well as landscape architects working on another city project. The plans will immediately be put to use as the City works on a safe routes to school project with the district to increase ADA access at multiple points. The Second award went to Forged in Steel, a table top board game highlighting the period of 1890-1920 in Southern Colorado. FIS is based on a card driven strategy model where each turn is taken with a card that represents movements and inventions in US and Colorado history. Players then place little buildings and score points for position and the cards do actions reminiscent of what they represent. The game captures the turbulent Progressive Era where a labor issues at a large steel mill town came face to face with the City Beautiful movement and even captures the role of Woman's auxiliary societies women, kindergartens and sidewalks. 1000 copies of the game were made and it was distributed worldwide and is currently sold out. We feel both efforts this year expanded the traditional role of planning into new audiences in creative and engaging ways.