



## North Central Texas Council of Governments

**TO:** Local Government Officials  
**FROM:** Mike Eastland  
Executive Director

**DATE:** April 10, 2024

**SUBJECT:** Nominations for NCTCOG's *Linda Keithley Award for Women in Public Management*

As a memorial to Linda Keithley, the North Central Texas Council of Governments established the **Linda Keithley Award for Women in Public Management** in 1986. This award annually recognizes an outstanding woman in public management from the North Central Texas region who best exemplifies the standards represented by Linda Keithley during her 17 years of service with NCTCOG. Those standards include dedicated service as a public servant, service to the public management profession, and service to the community. Former recipients (with their titles at the time the award was presented) are:

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| 2023 - <b>Jennifer Wichmann</b> , Deputy City Manager, City of Arlington                   | 2003 - <b>Cathy Anderson</b> , Assistant City Manager, Mansfield   |
| 2022 - <b>Rebecca Vice</b> , Assistant City Manager, Allen                                 | 2002 - <b>Kathy DuBose</b> , Assistant City Manager, Denton  |
| 2021 - <b>Gina Nash</b> , City Manager, Sachse   | 2001 - <b>Nancy Amos</b> , Deputy Assistant General Manager, Fort Worth Transportation Authority                           |
| 2020 - <b>Alison Ortowski</b> , Assistant City Manager, Southlake                          | 2000 - <b>Ranette Larsen</b> , City Secretary/Legislative Liaison/Records Mgmt. Officer, Garland                           |
| 2019 - <b>Jennifer Nguyen</b> , Chair, Community Multicultural Commission, Garland         | 1999 - <b>Barbara Childress</b> , Chief of Police, Richland Hills  |
| 2018 - <b>Mindy Manson</b> , City Manager, Wylie   | 1998 - <b>Beth Little Bormann</b> , Assistant City Manager, Carrollton   |
| 2017 - <b>Shelli Siemer</b> , Assistant City Manager, Allen                                | 1997 - <b>Alice Church</b> , City Secretary, Fort Worth  |
| 2016 - <b>Opal Mauldin-Robertson</b> , City Manager, Lancaster                             | 1996 - <b>H. Kay Godbey</b> , City Manager, Burleson   |
| 2015 - <b>Debra Wallace</b> , Assistant Town Manager/Chief Financial Officer, Flower Mound | 1995 - <b>Patricia Doyle</b> , Assistant City Manager, McKinney, and <b>Mary Kay Suhm</b> , Assistant City Manager, Dallas |
| 2014 - <b>LaShon Ross</b> , Deputy City Manager, Plano                                     | 1994 - <b>Betty Culbreath</b> , Director of Human Services, Dallas County  |
| 2013 - <b>Paulette Hartman</b> , City Manager, Joshua                                      | 1993 - <b>Elizabeth Watson</b> , Assistant City Manager, Fort Worth  |
| 2012 - <b>Jennifer Fadden</b> , City Manager, Colleyville                                  | 1992 - <b>Natalie Flores-Kelly</b> , City Manager, Mineral Wells   |
| 2011 - <b>Sharon Hayes</b> , Assistant City Manager, Weatherford                           | 1991 - <b>Harriet Harral</b> , Personnel Administrator, Fort Worth   |
| 2010 - <b>Karen Montgomery</b> , Assistant City Manager, Fort Worth                        | 1990 - <b>Barbara Watkins</b> , Vice President, Parkland Hospital, Dallas  |
| 2009 - <b>Anna Doll</b> , Deputy City Manager, Grand Prairie                               | 1989 - <b>Jan Hart</b> , First Assistant City Manager, Dallas  |
| 2008 - <b>Michelle Thames</b> , Assistant City Manager, Richardson                         | 1988 - <b>Patsy Fulton</b> , President, Brookhaven College, Dallas County Community College Dist.                          |
| 2007 - <b>Shana Yelverton</b> , City Manager, Southlake                                    | 1987 - <b>Martha Ritter</b> , Director, Dallas County Children's Emergency Shelter   |
| 2006 - <b>Anita Thetford</b> , Finance Director, Hurst                                     | 1986 - <b>Kay D. Kramme</b> , Administrative Assistant to Police Chief, Plano  |
| 2005 - <b>Linda Groomer</b> , City Manager, Farmers Branch                                 |  |
| 2004 - <b>Julie Couch</b> , City Manager, Rockwall   |  |

We are inviting nominations for the **2024 Linda Keithley Award**, which will be presented at NCTCOG's Annual General Assembly Meeting scheduled to be held at the Hurst Conference Center on Friday, June 14, 2024, at 12:00 p.m. A distinguished panel of local government professionals will select this year's winner. Previously nominated candidates are eligible, and re-nominations are welcome.

Both the nomination **guidelines** and the **nomination form** are available online. You may download an editable form or nominate online at [www.nctcog.org/nominations](http://www.nctcog.org/nominations). We would appreciate return of the form no later than **May 17, 2024**. Thank you for your interest in the principles represented by this award and, in advance, for your response to this call for nominations.

ME:jw  
Attachments

**North Central Texas Council of Governments  
Linda Keithley Award for Women in Public Management**

**GUIDELINES**

In 1986, the North Central Texas Council of Governments established the Linda Keithley Award to be presented each year at NCTCOG's Annual General Assembly Meeting. The award honors the dedicated professionalism of Linda Keithley during her 17 years of service to the council of governments. The award recognizes a woman who displays the "Linda Keithley traits" of integrity, dignity, poise, loyalty, commitment, and dedication while serving as a faithful public servant.

**Who is Eligible?**

Any woman who is employed as a full-time public management professional in the 16-county North Central Texas region (Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Erath, Hood, Hunt, Johnson, Kaufman, Navarro, Palo Pinto, Parker, Rockwall, Somervell, Tarrant, Wise counties). This award defines "public management professional" as a professional position in local government.

**Who Can Nominate?**

Local government staff members, local elected officials, chamber of commerce officials, or interested citizens may nominate someone for this award (individuals may nominate themselves).

**How Do I Nominate?**

- Submit a one-page transmittal letter to identify the nominator(s) and the nominee (including title and employer), and to summarize the nominee's qualifications for this award.
- Complete the nomination form. To be qualified, nominations must be submitted on this form or a facsimile thereof. Additional comments relative to why your nominee should receive this award must not exceed one typed 8 ½" x11" page. Please provide additional information beyond solely a resume.

**Selection Criteria**

Nominators need to provide evidence that the nominee has made substantial contributions in each of these three areas:

- **Service** as a public management professional — effectiveness in meeting the challenges of the position, as well as dedicated, honest, and courteous performance;
- **Service** to the public management profession — participation in and leadership to professional associations; and
- **Service** to the community — participation in and leadership to civic, service, charity, or public school organizations, in church activities, and/or in community volunteer projects.

**NOMINATION DEADLINE**

**THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS MAY 17, 2024**

**PLEASE NOMINATE ONLINE AT [www.nctcog.org/nominations](http://www.nctcog.org/nominations)**  
or email the nomination form to the Executive Director's Office at [jwatson@nctcog.org](mailto:jwatson@nctcog.org)

# Linda Keithley Award for Women in Public Management NOMINATION FORM

Submission Deadline: May 17, 2024

**PRINCIPAL NOMINATOR INFORMATION:**

**NOMINEE INFORMATION:**

Date:	Nominee Name:
Name:	Nominee Title:
Title:	Nominee Organization:
Organization:	Nominee Email:
Email:	Nominee Mailing City/State/Zip:
Mailing City/State/Zip:	Nominee Office Phone:
Office Phone:	Nominee Home/Cell Phone:
Home/Cell Phone:	

**EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

Include degrees, certifications, institutions, dates:

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

Summarize nominee's public management career (title, organization, dates, major responsibilities):

**PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

Memberships, offices held, and leadership to organizations related to professional career:

**CIVIC, CHURCH, ETC. SERVICE**

Participation in and leadership to community service, civic, and church organizations:

**AWARDS, RECOGNITIONS**

Special honors, awards, recognitions and why received:

**DESCRIBE WHY YOUR NOMINEE SHOULD RECEIVE THIS AWARD**

Be specific about her accomplishments, public service, and mentoring in the public management profession and in the community and how they relate to the "Linda Keithley traits". Please provide additional information beyond solely a resume.