

JON A. WEST, A.I.C.P

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EDUCATION

M.S.—COMMUNITY & REGIONAL PLANNING

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA
Carrollton, GA
2004-2006

B.A.—POLITICAL SCIENCE (Minor: Speech)

BERRY COLLEGE
Rome, GA
1997-2001

HONORS DIPLOMA

SEMINOLE COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL
Donalsonville, GA
1993-1997

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

SENIOR PLANNER

MANAGER OF LOCAL & INTERGOVERNMENTAL PLANNING PROGRAMS

GEORGIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (DCA)--OFFICE OF PLANNING &
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT (OPEM)
ATLANTA, GA
DECEMBER 2006-CURRENT

- ~ Managing the review of local comprehensive plans, service delivery strategies, developments of regional impact, and capital improvement/impact fee programs; Guiding professional staff and coordinating DCA and Regional Commission (RC) processes to effectively discharge the Department's statutory responsibility for these program
- ~ Managing the alternative dispute resolution program for intergovernmental conflicts
- ~ Managing day-to-day outreach and assistance to local governments, RCs, and citizens regarding zoning, development regulation and growth management
- ~ Collaborating with colleagues to draft RC contracts and monitor compliance, including, as needed, review of contract deliverables and regional plans to ensure effective oversight of regional planning issues
- ~ Partnering with colleagues to develop/monitor performance measures and analyze data assessing the performance of OPEM, RCs, and local governments; Tactfully communicating this information to the Governor's Office of Planning and Budget, local/regional partners, and DCA leadership

- ~ Collaborating with internal and external partners to provide a variety of training opportunities for local government elected and appointed officials and staffers; Presenting/speaking at training events, workshops, and community meetings across the state; Developing community planning training curricula
- ~ Investigating legislation and other issues with potential impacts on OPEM and DCA programs, writing reports, and recommending positions/actions to agency leadership
- ~ Partnering with the Office of Mapping and Decision Support on a variety of projects; Applying basic GIS skills and statistical analysis to meet specific data and mapping needs
- ~ Monitoring eligibility for incentives and funding opportunities
- ~ Streamlining processes and reengineering programs in response to a dramatic reduction in staff and a rapidly evolving legislative/public policy environment
- ~ Representing DCA and OPEM to other state agencies, regional commissions, local governments, and non-governmental organizations, sitting on advisory boards, committees, task forces, etc.
- ~ Working with consultants on a variety of projects; Familiarity with the State's RFP/contracting process

CONSULTANT/SUBCONTRACTOR

P.R.I.S.M. ASSOCIATES, LLC.
 CARROLLTON, GA
 MARCH 2006-JANUARY 2009

- ~ Project Manager for the production of local comprehensive plans
- ~ Managed RFP-RFQ responses
- ~ Developed and ensured adherence to project budgets
- ~ Assisted in post-Katrina revisions to comprehensive and master plans, subdivision regulations, zoning ordinances, and building codes for several communities on the Alabama and Mississippi Gulf Coasts

CONSULTANT/SUBCONTRACTOR

THE COLLABORATIVE FIRM, LLC.
 EAST POINT, GA
 SEPTEMBER 2006-NOVEMBER 2006

- ~ Assembled data and analysis provided by other subcontractors to produce small-area plans focusing on transportation enhancement and economic development
- ~ Assisted in the coordination of public involvement processes
- ~ Coordinated work of other sub-contractors from various firms to produce housing, land-use, urban design, marketing, and funding strategies
- ~ Produced RFP-RFQ responses

GRADUATE TEACHING & RESEARCH ASSISTANT

UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA--POLITICAL SCIENCE & PLANNING DEPARTMENT
 CARROLLTON, GA
 AUGUST 2005-MAY 2006

- ~ Coordinated operations of the Thomas B. Murphy Center for Public Service
 - ~ Routine administrative activities of undergraduate courses
 - ~ Lectured in introductory and upper-level courses undergraduate government and political science courses
 - ~ Assisted professors with personal research, statistical analysis, lecture preparation, and lecture preparation
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VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

PLANNING COMMISSIONER

DEKALB COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION
DEKALB COUNTY, GA
JULY 2011–CURRENT

- ~ Representing the most densely populated district in Georgia's third most populated county and second most densely populated county as a Planning Commissioner
- ~ Collaborating with elected leadership and the public to craft and implement local government land use policy and regulations
- ~ Recommending actions to the County Commission on rezonings, comprehensive plan amendments, and special use permits
- ~ Regulating the platting of new subdivisions
- ~ Providing guidance and direction to the County's professional planning staff

DISASTER LEADERSHIP VOLUNTEER

AMERICAN RED CROSS – GEORGIA REGION
ATLANTA, GA
AUGUST 2007– CURRENT

- ~ External Relations Group Leader, 2012-Current--Supervising, supporting and advocating for the local Government Operations and Community Partnerships Teams and managing their Activity Leaders during emergency situations; Managing strategic planning for the Group including forecasting personnel requirements, budgeting, and performance evaluation; Collaborating with other members of the local Disaster Leadership Committee to improve service delivery for all local disaster preparedness, response, and recovery functions
 - ~ Government Operations Activity Leader, 2011-2012--Directing recruitment, training, and communications for a team of volunteers to ensure active coordination with GEMA and FEMA during disaster preparedness, response, and recovery operations; Supervising government operations staff/volunteers during emergency situations; Enhancing redundancy and training for volunteers; Collaborating with other members of the local Disaster Leadership Committee to improve service delivery for all local disaster preparedness and response functions
 - ~ Government Liaison, 2008-Current--Providing an interface between the organization and local-state-federal government agencies at Emergency Operations Centers (EOCs) to facilitate effective disaster response and recovery
 - ~ Disaster Action Team (DAT), 2007-2010-- Team Leader, 2009-2010 Managing coverage/staffing 1 week per month; Training/mentoring new team members; Supervising on-scene response to small-moderate scale local disasters (e.g., home-apartment fires, wind damage, etc.); Providing affected individuals the means to acquire food, shelter and clothing
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MEMBERSHIPS & AWARDS

- ~American Institute of Certified Planners (A.I.C.P.), Admitted 2010
- ~Governor's Commendation for Customer Service Excellence, 2010
- ~American Planning Association & Georgia Planning Association, Since 2006
- ~Georgia Academy for Economic Development, Graduated 2007
- ~Community Planning Institute, Completed 2007
- ~Phi Kappa Phi, Inducted 2006
- ~Pi Alpha Alpha, Inducted 2006