



ERICA HELLER, AICP

Senior Associate
Progressive Urban Management Associates

Expertise

Erica Heller is a Senior Associate with Progressive Urban Management Associates. Erica provides lead support for P.U.M.A. community development, planning, and reinvestment projects. Her areas of expertise include urban renewal and revitalization, neighborhood involvement, sustainability, alternative energy and tailored district development standards.

Past Experience

Associate, Clarion Associates, Denver, Colorado, 2006-2010

Assisted local government clients with a wide range of land use planning and zoning projects. Responsibilities included evaluating planning documents; interviewing stakeholders; distilling themes and trends; researching appropriate tools and strategies; drafting analyses, plans, and regulations; facilitating meetings; and presenting products in public adoption hearings.

Representative projects include:

Drafting mixed-use, pedestrian friendly, and transit-oriented development plans and standards for vibrant, live-work-play environments such as in Sacramento, Calif.; and Lakewood, Colo.

Evaluating and drafting development standards to encourage district redevelopment in communities such as Sparks, Nev.; and Avon, Colo.

Conducting case studies and undertaking specialized research in sustainability regulations, urban renewal governance structures, demographics, airport land use compatibility, volunteer code enforcement, rental property maintenance requirements, transit-oriented development, and transfer of density programs.

Partnering with the American Planning Association as the small wind energy/land use expert on a wind energy implementation best practices report for local planners.

Redevelopment Specialist, Lakewood Reinvestment Authority, Lakewood, Colorado, 2004-2006

Managed an educational and decision-making process that resulted in consensus recommendations for urban renewal. Oversaw urban renewal project construction. Designated a new urban renewal area. Partnered with business associations and improvement districts. Administered annual budget, tax increment financing payments, grant program, and communications and marketing program.

Neighborhood Planner, City of Lakewood, Colorado, 2004-2006

Developed neighborhood plans, managed plan updates, and implemented projects. Fostered active neighborhood participation and improved communication with citizens.

Publications, Presentations, Affiliations

Publications:

"Planning & Zoning for Geothermal Energy." *Zoning Practice*. American Planning Association. 2010.

"Local Sustainable Energy Sources in Green Community." American Planning Association. 2009.

"Urban Wind Turbines." *Zoning Practice*. American Planning Association. July 2008.

"Alternative Energy" in *Model Sustainable Community Development Code*. Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute. Contributing author. May 2008.

Selected Presentations:

Planning and Zoning for Geothermal Energy - American Planning Association, 2010

Renewables Scale Up - Rocky Mountain Land Use Institute Annual Conference, 2010

Renewable Local Energy Webinar - American Planning Association Climate Change Initiative, 2008

Small Wind in Western Contexts - Western Planner Resources, 2008

Hottest Topics in Planning - Colorado Municipal League, 2008

Zoning and Permitting Standards for Urban Wind Turbines - American Planning Association, 2008

Neighborhood Involvement Strategies - Colorado Tomorrow Alliance, 2006

Professional Affiliations:

American Planning Association

American Institute of Certified Planners

Downtown Colorado Inc.

Local Government Commission

Jefferson County Leadership Alumni Association

Education

MA, University of Colorado at Boulder

BA, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut

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