

Elisabeth Draper

Education

University at Albany, Albany, NY 2004-2006
Master of Urban and Regional Planning—Environmental Planning and Land Use

Catholic University, Washington, D.C. 1999-2003
Bachelor of Arts—Media Studies, Minor—Philosophy

Experience

Program Director, NYS Homes & Community Renewal 2018-Present
Responsible for the Neighborhood and Rural Preservation Programs—an approximately \$18 million dollar grant program providing administrative funding to 200+ community development organizations that assist low-moderate income communities throughout New York State. Oversees all aspects of the program, including approving applications, developing the grant agreements, payments; implements policy changes; and provides technical assistance to the vast network of not-for-profits.

Principal Planner, New York Planning Federation, Albany, NY 2016-2018
Assisted in the day-to-day management of a statewide planning and zoning not-for-profit. Fielded questions from statewide membership regarding policy, procedures, and land use. Wrote monthly newsletter and helped with planning the annual conference for 350+ attendees.

Deputy Commissioner, City of Albany Department of Recreation, Albany, NY 2014-2015
Oversaw approximately 40 recreational facilities; 2 community centers; and supervised a large staff of permanent and seasonal employees. Helped develop recreational programming; facilitated a comprehensive overview of recreation resources to help establish department priorities; and developed budget allocations to achieve long-term goals and ensure fiscal responsibility. Duties included: union negotiations; grant writing; community outreach; and facility planning and management.

Planner, NYS Office of Parks Recreation & Historic Preservation, Albany, NY 2008-2014
Was responsible for the development of master plans, management plans, and environmental impact statements for state parks and historic sites in Long Island, New York City, and the Hudson Valley for over six years. Assisted Executive and regional staff with special projects and fostered partnerships with friends groups and other NGOs to improve, protect, and enhance the natural, cultural, and recreational resources in the state park and historic site system.

Coastal Specialist, NYS DOS, Office of Planning and Development, Albany, NY 2006–2007
Served as a project manager for several multi-million dollar Environmental Protection Fund grants for public waterfront improvement projects in New York City.

Et Cetera

- President / Board Member – Buckingham Pond Conservancy
 - Managed the first major capital campaign to create a new, inclusive playground at Buckingham Pond Park; a 5 acre park in the city of Albany. Helped to raise \$130k for the new playground and continues to volunteer to improve the ecological health, water quality, and overall betterment of the park.