

Project Team Biographical Sketches and Resumes

City of Chicago

Angela Tovar, Commissioner, Chicago Department of Environment, will be the leader of City of Chicago activities. Angela has over 17 years experience in various leadership roles in both the nonprofit and public sector. She has managed federal and large-scale grant programs in her current capacity and in her former capacity as a nonprofit executive. She has a Masters in Urban Planning.

Jared Policicchio, Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Environment, will coordinate cross-departmental and cross-agency contractual and reporting activities. Jared has 15 years of experience as a policy-maker and as an attorney and has extensive experience in contract development and oversight. He has a JD and has specialized in Environmental and Energy Law throughout his career.

Gaby Wagner-Sobrero, Environmental Justice Project Manager, Chicago Department of Environment, will oversee the City's program for industrial energy efficiency. Gaby currently works on a wide-range of EJ-focused projects including the City's current industrial energy efficiency partnership with UIC. Gaby has held various project manager positions in the government and nonprofit sectors. She has a Masters in Public Health.

Chris Sauve, Deputy Commissioner, Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation will oversee the food waste program on behalf of the City of Chicago. With over 25 years of experience, Chris currently oversees all sustainability programs on behalf of the Department of Streets and Sanitation including the City's recycling program and other materials management strategies. Chris recently launched the City's first food-waste diversion program opening up 17 drop-off locations city-wide. He has a BA in General Studies.

Lindy Wordlaw, Director of Climate and EJ Initiatives, Chicago Department of Environment, will oversee public buildings decarbonization on behalf of the City of Chicago. Lindy brings over 25 years of experience in energy policy and urban planning in various nonprofit and government roles including 17 years as a Director at Elevate, where she managed municipal programs. In her current capacity, Lindy oversees the climate and EJ portfolio of the Chicago Recovery Plan, which is investing over \$188m dollars in clean energy and EJ measures in Chicago communities, particularly in those most underserved. She has a Master's of Urban Planning.

Matthew Beach, Director of Energy and Sustainability, Chicago Public Schools will oversee CPS work on the food waste component of this proposal. He is responsible for energy and sustainability projects across more than 64 million square feet of buildings across the Chicago Public Schools portfolio. He has more than 20 years of experience working with large organizations on utility and environmental programs. He has an MA in Energy and Environmental Analysis.

Jennifer Herd, Senior Health Policy Analyst, Chicago Department of Public Health will oversee and manage the City's grocery retail food waste component of this proposal. Jennifer has over 20 years of experience leading multi-sectoral policy initiatives for the City. Recently, she led the City's first Food Rescue Assessment, which culminated in a comprehensive set of private-public strategies to address food waste. Jennifer has a Masters of Health Law & Policy.

Cook County

Deborah Stone, Director, will be the lead for all Cook County activities. She has 30 years of experience in government operations, finance, budgeting and capital investment and grant-making programs as well as urban planning at the state and local level. She has an MA in Public Policy Studies.

Ricardo Magallon, Manager Air Inspection Division, will manage the County's work on the Industrial component. He is responsible for inspection and enforcement of air regulations for over 9,000 businesses and established the County's BRITE pollution prevention program . He previously served as the Green Operations Specialist for San Francisco International Airport and held laboratory manager and other technical positions. He has an MS in Environmental Management.

Anthony Tindall, Solid Waste Coordinator, will manage Cook County's food waste program. He is responsible for regulating solid waste and recycling facilities, creating and implementing the solid waste management plan f, and creating programs such as the Center for Hard to Recycle Materials. He previously served as the Policy & Sustainability Manager at the County Forest Preserves and has over 15 years' experience in the government and non-profit sectors. He has a Master of Public Administration.

Sarah Edwards, Sustainability Program Manager, will coordinate the County's public buildings work. She helped create the Clean Energy Plan for County facilities, along with procurement of a major solar energy PPA; wrote the Green Fleet policy, led our EV Charging station work, and created several residential renewable energy programs at the County. She previously worked at the Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance, 15 years experience in the environmental field. She has a Master's of Community Development and Planning.

Julia Theis, Director of Financial Control, will manage Cook County's purchasing, financial tracking, and expenditure reporting. She has 16 years of experience in government and private business administration, extensive experience with grants reporting and has an MBA in Finance

Sarah A. Edwards | edwardsarah@gmail.com

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EXPERIENCE:

Cook County Department of Environment and Sustainability

Chicago, IL

Sustainability Program Manager

August 2019-Present

- Initiate, develop, and manage endeavors that help achieve the County's internal and external sustainability, climate, and Policy Roadmap goals
- Assist with the creation and implementation of Cook County's Clean Energy Plan, which lays out the roadmap to achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2030 and carbon neutrality for county-owned buildings by 2050
- Create and implement the County's green fleet policy to advance the goal of fleet electrification
- Lead the County's community EV charging station program, installing 75 new public EV stations in disinvested communities that lack charging access, determined through a community stakeholder engagement process across 50+ different municipalities
- Lead the County's community resilience hub pilot program that will operationalize 3 resilience hubs in the south suburbs, facilitating the design via a community-driven process
- Spearhead the County's development of an Environmental Justice policy
- Manage the County's participation in residential renewable energy programs Grow Solar Chicagoland and Grow Geo Chicagoland, and develop and implement the Cook County Sun and Save program, an income-qualified program
- Manage Cook County Solar Schools Grant program, which has awarded grants to 24 schools in 19 communities to install small scale solar systems that are utilized as educational tools for STEM programming
- Create and implement the Conserve Cook County Pledge, a community engagement tool that focuses on reducing waste with 1600 residents signing since program launch in September 2020
- Named a Notable Leader in Sustainability by Crain's Chicago Business in 2023
- Recipient of Smart Energy Decisions 2022 Women in Smart Energy Rising Stars Award

Energy Efficiency Community Outreach Coordinator

July 2016-July 2019

- Managed grant-funded program to establish and maintain strong strategic relationships between Cook County departments, municipalities, townships and nonprofits to originate opportunities for energy efficiency outreach and education
- Organized 175 events throughout Cook County attended by over 11,000 residents focused on energy management programs
- Conveyed the benefits of energy efficiency to a wide variety of audiences including Cook County residents, 22,000+ County employees, Village Managers and Township Trustees
- Developed and implemented an award-winning energy efficiency employee behavior change pilot program at 3 County facilities for over 1,400 employees, coordinating with 40 department heads

Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance

Chicago, IL

Senior Program Associate

Sept 2014-June 2016

- Managed and expanded *HVAC Save*, an innovative energy efficiency training program focused on developing the skill sets of over 2,400+ residential contractors to increase energy savings in the home
- Spearheaded everyday program operations and systemic program improvement between 6 diverse program partners ranging from non-profits, utilities, and small businesses
- Administered a US EPA grant to enhance marketing materials including directing a website redesign process

Program Associate

Oct 2013-Aug 2014

- Coordinated the *Building Operator Certification* program across four states; connecting utilities, community colleges, and non-profit partners to deliver impactful commercial energy efficiency workshop trainings

- Instituted operational improvements to programmatic systems that created a large reduction in program costs

Troy Prep Charter School (Uncommon Schools Network)

Director, Special Projects

Coordinator, Special Projects

Troy, NY

Aug 2012-Aug 2013

Nov 2010-July 2012

- A founding member of a high performing urban school, part of the Uncommon Schools network
- Demonstrated operational and strategic leadership as a cornerstone of the school community
- Recruited low-income families interested in a high performing urban charter school and expanded outreach through door-to-door communication, stakeholder involvement and community outreach events
- Developed and executed family engagement events and student activities
- Critically assessed school operations to identify methods of building the school's and community's capacities
- Created and administered school operational systems and educational assessment data systems

Organization for the Assabet River (OARS)

Education Coordinator

Concord, MA

May-Dec 2009

- Coordinated, created, and directed water-related summer workshops in 3 municipalities for 100+ youth aged 6-12 to provide holistic environmental education about how their actions affect the greater watershed
- Partnered with Intel Corporation to create a pilot Environmental Innovators Contest with 23 high school teams across the region that generated inventive solutions for local watershed problems
- Hired, managed, and mentored a team of interns who co-led watershed workshops

Crown Point Ecology Center and Farm

Education Coordinator/Teacher

Akron, OH

June-Aug 2008

- Co-directed and taught the Summer Farm and Science School Day Camp for 125 youth aged 5-13
- Constructed and implemented curriculum and activities for the program

SF Environment, City and County of San Francisco

School Education Associate Assistant

San Francisco, CA

Jan-May 2008

- Provided educational and operational direction in implementing the nation's first city-wide all-inclusive school recycling and composting system
- Taught classroom presentations about material consumption and recycling

EDUCATION:

Clark University

Master's of Community Development and Planning

GPA: 3.8/4.0

Worcester, MA

May 2010

Denison University

Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Studies and Biology

GPA: 3.6/4.0, Graduated Cum Laude

Granville, OH

May 2006

Students for International Training (Study Abroad): Tanzania-Wildlife, Ecology & Conservation

May 2005

CHICAGO COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

- Alliance for the Great Lakes' Young Professional Council: Co-Chair (2017-2018), Networking and Relationship Committee Lead (2016-2017)
- Chicago Conservation Corps Environmental Leader
- Garfield Park Conservatory Horticulture Volunteer

Jennifer A. Herd
North Wolcott Chicago, Illinois 60613

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Extensive record of accomplishment with strategic policy and systems development, design, and implementation in chronic disease
- Ability to lead, cultivate, maintain and nurture collaborative relationships with internal and external partners
- Exceptional depth of knowledge of City of Chicago and regional and state legislative and administrative networks to advance policy and practice
- Key contributor to the development of CDPH's chronic disease policy portfolio, including Food Access Agenda, Chicago's Clean Indoor Air Ordinance, innovations with electronic cigarettes, banning menthol sales, Tobacco 21, and designing improvements to Chicago's Day Care Center Guidelines
- Managed CDPH's combined CDC Tobacco and Obesity grants of over \$17.4m, which led to several policy, systems, and environmental changes: Non-smoking expansion in both the public (CHA, hospitals, and academic institutions) and private market housing, Produce Cart creation, Healthy Corner Stores, passage of Chicago's Food Plan, city-wide Healthy Vending implementation, and improvements to the built environment through *Complete Streets* and *Make Way for Play*

WORK HISTORY

Chicago Department of Public Health, Chicago, IL 1999-Present
Senior Health Policy Analyst (Policy & Legislative Affairs Division)

Policy, Systems and Environmental Development

- Develop and implement policy, systems and environmental health chronic disease strategies
- Evaluate priorities, positions, and strategies through rigorous analysis of value, feasibility, evidenced based practices, innovation and likelihood of success
- Direct CDPH's Federal, State and City Council policy and legislative priorities
- Grant development, execution and management

Leadership

- Serve as CDPH's Chronic Disease Content Expert for the past fifteen years
- Collaborate and cultivate an extensive set of external relationships from various sectors within academia, government, health systems and private and non-profit entities at the national, state and local level (including city and sister agencies) to develop and advance
CDPH's Healthy Chicago 2.0 Strategic Plan, previous Healthy Chicago iterations and the
Department's chronic disease related grants through various vehicles: IGAs, MOUs, Coalitions and Contracts

Professional Development

- Present at national conferences, webinars and panels
- Serve and represent CDPH on national, state, and local committees, task forces, and at professional conferences: serve in leadership within NACCHO's Big Cities Chronic Disease Steering Committee, Co-Chair of the NIPHC Chronic Disease Committee and the IL Alliance to Prevent Obesity's Steering Committee and Physical Activity Workgroup Co-Chair, Chair of American Cancer Society's Community Outreach, Advocacy and Policy Workgroup and CDPH's Healthy Hearts Collaborative
- Collaborate and co-author on several peer-reviewed chronic disease journal manuscripts
- Research, assess and advise City, State and Federal Chronic Disease legislation, regulations, systems development, policies, and related economic trend data
- Monitor staff performance and evaluation
- Develop, evaluate and monitor budget (\$17.4m), including resource reallocation when necessary
- Develop communications for internal and external audiences to respond to any inquiries and to develop marketing program and policy collateral
- Prepare testimony and briefing materials for Commissioner and Board of Health President for City Council hearings, press conferences and other speaking engagements
- Manage the Inter-departmental Task Force on Childhood Obesity, an eleven member multi-disciplinary member Task Force, to develop and advance multi-sector approaches
- Collaborate with CDPH Directors and City Agency Leaders to advance cross- sectoral initiatives, including most recently Health in All Policies and CDOT's *Vision Zero*

American Dental Association, Chicago, IL

Legal Assistant (Legal Affairs Division)

- Conducted general legal research assignments, report writing, and the monitoring case law and other regulatory issues of the health care industry
- Managed large IT conversion project for Division
- Managed legal and project assistants
- Assisted ADA members with legal concerns, issue spotting and guidance
- Served as Board liaison to the ADA Holding Co. and performed corporate compliance support activities to the ADA Holding Co. and its related subsidiaries
- Coordinated various legal division activities: trademark registration filings, litigation assistance, contracts and IT projects

Jenner & Block, Chicago, IL

Jones Day Reavis & Pogue, Chicago, IL

Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom, Chicago, IL

Legal Assistant/Paralegal for each of the above esteemed law firms

EDUCATION

DePaul University, Chicago, IL
Master of Health Law and Policy

Roosevelt University, Chicago, IL
Lawyer's Assistant Program
Master Certificate in Corporate & Securities Law, with honors

Ball State University, Muncie, IN
Bachelor of Science in Political Science

PUBLICATIONS & HONORS

Honors

Katherine Kaufer Christoffel Founder & Leadership Award
Lurie Children's Hospital/Consortium to Lower Obesity in Chicago Children (2018)

Greater Chicago Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration (ASPA)
Model Administrator Award (2003)

Appointment to the University of Chicago's Community Advisory Board, Steering Committee
and Adult Work Group Member (2017- current)

Publications

Public Health Law Center. (2014). *Using Local Authority to Create Healthier Child Care Settings: Chicago*

Bozlak, C.B., Becker, A.B., Herd, J., Teitelman, A., Viola, J., Olson, B., & Choucair, B. (2014). An inter-governmental approach to childhood obesity.

Caron, R.M., & Merrick, J. (Eds.) *Public Health: Improving Health Via Inter-professional Collaborations*. New York, NY: Nova Science

Bozlak, C.T., Becker, A.B., Herd, J., Teitelman, A., Viola, J., Olson, B., Choucair, B. (2015). An Inter-governmental Approach to Childhood Obesity in Chicago, Illinois. *International Public Health Journal*, 7(1)

Cerrano, C., Browning, T., Becker, A.B., Herd, J. (2015). Illinois Obesity Prevention Standards Case Study Strengthening Obesity Prevention Standards in Child Care Through State Partnerships. (Publication submission pending)

Ricardo Magallon

132 E Burlington Street, Riverside, IL 60546

rmagallon@luc.edu - (708) 703-0179

<http://www.linkedin.com/in/ricardomagallon>

SUMMARY:

Ricardo is a well-rounded Systems Thinker that has extensive experience with sustainable management practices, programs, and policies in local government, LEED green building practices, and sustainability data analysis, strategy implementation and reporting. Ricardo was honored by GreenBiz and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development as one of the [2018 30 Under 30](#) working in Sustainable Business and is a University of Chicago [2022 Civic Leadership Academy fellow alum](#) at the Center for Effective Government. He currently works as the Air Inspection Division Manager for Cook County's Department of Environment and Sustainability.

WORK EXPERIENCE:

Manager, Air Inspection Division

October 2020 – Present

Cook County Government, Department of Environment & Sustainability – Chicago, IL

- Supervised and coordinated a team of 9 environmental engineers and technical support personnel responsible for identifying, permitting, and inspecting over 9,000 stationary sources of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) emissions and Criteria Pollutants across Suburban Cook County.
- Advised Department Head regarding policies and ordinances related to air quality and pollution based on current and emerging science, regulation, and standards. Drafted ordinance and policy language that supported County-wide pollution prevention, GHG emission reduction, waste diversion from landfill, and other environmental issues.
- Established and directed Cook County's Businesses Reducing Impact on the Environment (BRITE) Program, a \$10 million American Rescue Plan funded voluntary Pollution Prevention assessment and grant program for businesses operating within Suburban Cook County.

Green Operations Specialist

December 2017 – October 2020

San Francisco International Airport – San Francisco, CA

- Developed data collection methodologies to capture and quantify environmental attributes (ie waste and GHG emission tonnages) from Airport tenant business practices. Information was used to develop major environmental regulations such as the Airport's nationally recognized compostable foodware ordinance, [ban on plastic water bottles](#), and further supported the Airport's annual [Climate Action Plan](#).
- Managed SFO's Construction & Demolition (C&D) Debris Management Program for over 16 capital construction projects at the airport to ensure each project achieves San Francisco's minimum 75% diversion rate from landfill. SFO diverted over 30,000 tons of debris in FY 17/18 with a total debris diversion rate from landfill of 96.8%.
- Co-authored SFO's Green Cleaning Policy which mandates that 85% of all cleaning products purchased must be environmentally certified by a third party (ie EPA Safer Choice, SF Approved, etc.).

Sustainability Specialist

January 2017 – September 2017

San Francisco International Airport – San Francisco, CA

- Developed and implemented SFO's Green Business Program for the Airport's 180+ tenants and generated program metrics/environmental attributes to determine water and energy savings, greenhouse gas inventory and/or Life cycle assessments (ie carbon dioxide equivalent reductions), and solid waste diverted from landfill.
- Conducted waste survey throughout SFO's terminal Material Recovery Areas that determined 65% of waste material surveyed going into SFO's landfill compactors contained compostable products. This information was published in SFO's [2018 Zero Solid Waste Plan](#).

Laboratory Manager/Sustainability Consultant

April 2014 – August 2015

UDM Medical Services – Oklahoma City, OK & San Francisco, CA

- Identified, researched, and recommended the implementation of an Environmental Management System (EMS) using ISO 14001 criteria standards with the goal of reducing medical waste by 20%
- Conducted QA/QC procedures on laboratory equipment daily to monitor consistency of chemical testing.

- Wrote and edited summaries of scientific articles for the Museum's bimonthly newsletter related to global climate issues such as deforestation, industrial pollution, and endangered species as well as climate solutions such as advances in renewable energy, decarbonization practices and technologies, and climate policies.
- Engaged with local stakeholders, such as NGO's and government entities, on Chicago area environmental initiatives that developed nature-based solutions to sequester carbon.

EDUCATION:

MS in Environmental Management

May 2016

University of San Francisco - San Francisco, CA

Master's Project – *Water Conservation Techniques in Agriculture: Application to California's Agricultural Cotton Industry.*

- Conducted a comparative analysis of agricultural water conservation methods to determine how California farmers could save water and money when growing cotton – a California cash crop industry worth \$2 billion.
- Discovered drip irrigation to be the best conversation practice as it reduces water usage to grow cotton by 70%.

BS in Biology, BS in Environmental Science, Minor in Bioethics

May 2013

Loyola University Chicago - Chicago, IL

Aquatic Research Fellowship - *Abundance of Invasive Asian Clams (*Corbicula fluminea*) in an urban and rural watershed.*

- Quantified the abundance and health of *C. fluminea* (Invasive Asian Clams) throughout urban and rural freshwater rivers and streams and extensively developed and analyzed field and laboratory data to reveal that *C. fluminea* is most dominant in urban watersheds over rural watersheds
- Theorized that *C. fluminea* is spreading further north due to the warming effects of climate change in the Midwestern region of the United States.

ADDITIONAL SKILLS/KNOWLEDGE:

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Environmental Economics | • Environmental Chemistry & Engineering |
| • Environmental Law & Policy | • LEED Green Associate Credential |
| • Geographic Information Systems (ArcGIS) | • Emotional Intelligence/Crucial Conversations/Behavior Change |

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH, TRAINING, AND HONORS:

2022 Civic Leadership Academy Fellow

2022

- *The Civic Leadership Academy (CLA) is an interdisciplinary leadership development program for emerging and high-potential leaders in nonprofit organizations and local government agencies within the City of Chicago and Cook County.*

2018 GreenBiz 30 Under 30 Honoree

2018

- *Honored internationally by the GreenBiz and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development for developing and implementing a terminal-wide waste study at SFO that revealed 65% of landfill generated at the airport is compostable.*

Walmart 2025 Sustainability Panel

2016

- *Brainstormed, developed, and recommended environmental sustainability plans for Walmart Labs in San Bruno, CA with various Bay Area environmental professionals and critiqued the company's current and future sustainability goals (ie Carbon reduction goals, food waste prevention, sustainable packaging).*

Principles of Sustainable Management Course at Presidio Graduate School

2015

- *Educated on the United Nations Sustainable Development goals and how to apply the concept of "systems thinking" to discover leverage points in organizations that would allow for the successful implementation of sustainable management programs and practices.*

Marine Observer Training in Kodiak, AK

2013

- *Received biological identification, compliance, and survival training as a marine observer by the Alaska Department of Fish & Game.*

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EDUCATION

HARVARD LAW SCHOOL

J.D. *cum laude*, May 2011

Dean's Scholar in First Amendment Law and Race Relations Law: 1776-1876

Activities: *Harvard Environmental Law Review*, Senior Editor (Article Editor, 2009-2010)

Harvard Mississippi Delta Project, Co-Chair (Co-Vice Chair, 2009-2010)

Harvard Mediation Program, Small Claims Court Mediator

Case Comment: Stop the Beach Renourishment, *Harvard ELR* (Spring 2011)

Appointed Lecturer in Law, Boston College University Course in Environmental Law (Spring 2011)

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE, Lancaster, PA

B.A. *summa cum laude* in Government and Sociology, May 2005

Honors: Phi Beta Kappa

Rouse Scholar (full scholarship awarded for leadership and achievements)

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES

State Bar of Illinois, 2011

EXPERIENCE

CITY OF CHICAGO, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT

Jan. 2023 – present

Deputy Commissioner and Deputy Chief Sustainability Officer

Department was known as Office of Climate and Environmental Equity from Jan. 2023 – Dec. 2023

Advise and assist the Commissioner and Chief Sustainability Officer in all aspects of managing the Department and in implementing the Mayor's environmental policy goals. As the second-ranking member of management in the Department, support the CSO/Commissioner in hiring, budgeting, space and resource allocation, grants strategy and staff development. Develop and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation policies in collaboration with other Department staff and community stakeholders. Represent the City as directed by the Commissioner at public events.

In addition, cover, individually or through collaboration, policy development and project management for the following: clean energy, community solar and DER deployment in Chicago, utility affordability and clean energy access advocacy, federal Inflation Reduction Act implementation.

CITY OF CHICAGO, MAYOR'S OFFICE

Oct. 2020 – Jan. 2023

Deputy Director of Policy

Detailee reporting to Chief of Policy from Oct. 2020- Nov. 2021

Advise the Mayor, Chief of Policy, First Deputy of Policy, Chief Sustainability Officer and other senior staff on strategic legal and policy initiatives, as directed.

CITY OF CHICAGO, DEPARTMENT OF LAW

April 2013 – October 2020

Supervising Assistant Corporation Counsel, Aviation, Environmental, Regulatory and Contracts Division (2017-2020)

Assistant Corporation Counsel, AERC Division (2013-2017)

Provided counseling to Chicago Mayor's Office and operating departments on legal authorities and jurisdiction for enforcement activities, administrative proceedings, and City policy initiatives. Reviewed proposed laws and rules as well as other regulatory substantive areas and functions. Researched and drafted legal memoranda for senior attorneys in Division. Represented Law Department at intra-governmental meetings. Drafted general litigation documents such as motions and briefs as well as City administrative decisions issued under local and state administrative law. Substantive areas focused on include environmental, utilities, and energy, as well as aviation, railroads, telecommunications, procurement, and commercial disputes.

Since May 2015, I was the Department of Law's primary in-house attorney covering energy, utility, and telecommunications issues, including before the state public utility commission. I also served as the Department of Law's point of contact for the City's Chief Sustainability Officer.

ENVIRONMENTAL LAW & POLICY CENTER, Chicago, IL Sep. 2011 – March 2013
Environmental Law Fellow
Two-year legal fellowship position responsible for legal and policy advocacy on the following topics: air pollution law, off-shore wind power, water pollution law. Prepare legal memorandum, draft legal motions, briefs, and rulemaking comments. Represent ELPC at meetings and public events.

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, Washington, D.C. Summer 2010
Law Clerk, Environment and Natural Resources Division, Environmental Enforcement Section
Conducted legal research and wrote legal memoranda for trial attorneys engaged in civil enforcement actions against coal-fired electric generating units. Drafted preliminary injunction motion for recently filed Clean Air Act enforcement action. Carried out regulatory history project involving examination of archived primary legal documents.

CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT PANEL FOR TARP, Washington, D.C. Summer 2009
Legal Intern
Analyzed programs, legislation, and statutes related to the federal government's financial crisis interventions. Wrote, researched, and edited portions of the following oversight reports: June report on bank stress tests, July special report on farm credit conditions, and August report on troubled assets. Attended Treasury Department briefings and assisted with congressional committee hearing testimony preparation of Chair Elizabeth Warren.

FRANKLIN & MARSHALL COLLEGE, Lancaster, PA 2007-2008
Alumni Fellow, Alumni Programs Office

F&M IN PARIS, Paris, France 2006
Program Assistant

CRAVATH, SWAINE & MOORE LLP, New York, NY 2005-2006
Corporate Legal Assistant, Banking Practice Area
Managed the administrative aspects of secured lending transactions including: Preparation of government filings, communication with opposing counsel, preparation of post-deal closing documentation and assisting lawyers during deal closing.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS Chicago Bar Association
Illinois State Bar Association
American Bar Association

INTERESTS Proficient in French

CHRISTOPHER P. SAUVE

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STRENGTHS

- Results-oriented executive with deep experience leading and implementing large-scale and complex public programs and initiatives.
 - Proven track record in program development, strategic operations, government relations, financial planning and management, vendor management and community relations.
 - High performer with a strong sense of collaboration, cooperation and execution.
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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

City of Chicago *Department of Streets & Sanitation, Deputy Commissioner of Policy & Sustainability*

February 2016 – Present

- Partner with multiple internal and external agencies to coordinate many city services
- Led the strategy and implementation of a refuse collection billing system for over 620,000 residential households, launched in 2016 and resulting in \$60 million in new annual revenue
- Provide oversight and direction of the research and analysis of the city and community sustainability policy to determine program direction and goals
- Work directly with the departmental public information officer to develop educational programs for residents to embrace sustainability practices
- Oversee the department's recycling program, managed by the program director, including the operations, policy, vendor contracts and relations, quality control and community relations

City of Chicago *Department of Streets & Sanitation, Commissioner's Office*
Program Director, Recycling

January 2004 – January 2016

- Responsible for creating, implementation, and oversight of all recycling programs for over 600,000 residential households
- Supervised municipal & privately contracted recycling collection service for all small residential properties city-wide – resulted in over \$10 million annual savings
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- Responsible for an \$8 million grant with the State/DCEO for capital purchases of recycling containers
- Managed the department's \$20 million dollar recycling budget
- Directed research of various recycling and refuse practices
- Developed the grid-based routing for all residential garbage service resulting in 62 fewer collection crews or \$18 million in personnel & capital expense
- Created recycling reports and other evaluation material for the department and the Budget Office
- Responsible for coordination of information at City Council committee hearings
- Assisted with waste & recycling media inquiries and public information
- Generated new residential recycling initiatives
- Assisted with departmental supervision during snow operations
- Managed the education/awareness effort through a marketing vendor

- Administered recycling grants program for non-profit organizations
- Developed contract for the sale of recyclables
- Developed the waste transfer contracts for Streets & Sanitation refuse operations
- Developed the contracts for the residential collection of recyclables
- Assisted with emergency management during 2008 flood and 2011 blizzard

City of Chicago *Department of Streets & Sanitation, Administration*
Coordinator of Research & Evaluation
 June 2003 - December 2004

- Communicated departmental initiatives with the Office of Intergovernmental affairs
- Generated ideas/concepts for the annual Federal & State Agendas
- Evaluated potential impact of any new or amended city ordinances on the department
- Worked with bureaus on creation of new ordinances

City of Chicago *Department of Streets & Sanitation, Administration*
Administrative Service Officer I
 March 2000 - June 2003

- Implemented and maintained several databases including the Oracle application and reporting system
- Coordinated Summer Interns and Job Shadowing programs
- Generated ideas/concepts to stimulate to streamline employee intake and processing

City of Chicago *Department of Streets & Sanitation, Administration*
Administrative Assistant III
 April 1997 - March 2000

- Organized, coordinated employee related issues for a workforce exceeding four thousand
- Coordinated employee indebtedness program which was successful in collecting over 3 million dollars citywide
- Kept administrators updated on transfer and EEO reports

Maryville Academy *Main Campus, Samuelson Home*
Family Educator
 June 1995 - March 1997

- Responsibilities included the day-to-day guidance, and treatment of the youths in a residential setting
- Implemented individualized treatment plans or specialized treatment strategies.
- Assisted with the management of the living environment of the youth and promoted the learning of desirable behaviors
- Conducted youth group activities/outings on and off campus
- Assisted with teaching and counseling to behaviors of the youths on campus
- Administered medication and maintained a log on a daily basis

EDUCATION

University of Michigan, Bachelor of Arts, General Studies

COMPUTER SKILLS

Microsoft Office: Access, Excel, Power Point, Teams, Word, OrgPlus, Outlook 365, Citrix, Salesforce

CURRENT POSITION

Chicago Public Schools – Energy & Sustainability Program Manager *9/2022 – present*

Program manager within the department of Capital Planning and Facilities Operations focused on strategy and implementation of energy efficiency, renewable energy and sustainability initiatives.

- Directing the formulation, and on-going implementation, of an energy performance service contract.
- Lead on training for, and participation in, utility incentive programs for efficiency upgrades.
- Initiating a phased, multi-year, district-wide LED lighting upgrade effort.

PAST EXPERIENCE

Archdiocese of Chicago – Energy & Sustainability Manager *9/2016 – 9/2022*

- Managed retail energy procurement contracts worth + \$25 million annually.
 - Supplier oversight, and utility & account support for 250 individually billed locations encompassing +1,000 natural gas & +600 electric accounts.
- Reduced monthly A/R liability more than 80% (>\$150k to <\$25k) through various support efforts.
- Generated +\$1m of annual savings by exposing fraud committed by 3rd-party consultant.
- Advanced renewable energy adoption across multiple locations.
 - Installed a 300kW ground mounted system under a power purchase agreement at local university.
 - Awarded funding for two 100-200kW rooftop systems through Illinois Solar for All program.

Environmental Defense Fund – 2016 Climate Corps Fellowship *6/2016 – 9/2016*

Hosted by the Archdiocese of Chicago to increase energy efficiency & sustainability efforts.

Landscape Architectural Design & Consulting *8/2014 – Present*

Sole-proprietor Landscape Architect providing design and construction management services for homeowners.

Landscape Contracting & Design/Build *2/2006 – 8/2014*

Landscape Architect & Project Manager responsible for turn-key site and landscape projects for high-end residential, and small to medium sized commercial, projects ranging from \$10k to over \$500k in price.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES & CERTIFICATES

- Professional Landscape Architect State of Illinois #157.001318 (2008)
- LEED Accredited Professional (New Construction 2.2) GBCI #10356836 (2009)

EDUCATION

Master of Science in Environmental Management and Sustainability *May 2016*

Illinois Institute of Technology – Stuart School of Business (Beta Gamma Sigma)

Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architecture – University of Kentucky *May 2004*

ADDITIONAL SKILLS & EXPERIENCE

Forensic accounting, financial life-cycle and savings analysis, AutoCAD, Energy Star Portfolio

DEBORAH C. STONE

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@STONECHGO

November 2023

Policy and program leader in environment, energy, natural areas, water, solid waste, infrastructure, finance. Skilled in planning, management, budgeting, performance metrics and transparency, civic engagement. **Internal and external change agent**, build organizations' impact, skills, visibility, credibility and funding.

COOK COUNTY, Chief Sustainability Officer and Director, Dept. of Environment and Sustainability (2011-present). Created County's first Sustainability Plan, oversaw Clean Energy Plan. Manage air quality, solid waste monitoring and inspection programs.

- Better-than-target results (44% greenhouse gas reduction since 2010) towards goal of carbon neutral by 2050 for County buildings.
- Department managing \$100m in federal projects for community sustainability, including green infrastructure, home energy efficiency and solar, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, business pollution prevention, many others.
- Created programs in solid waste, bringing new funding and exceeding 90% recycling/reuse of building materials from demolition debris.
- Successful \$1.2m U.S. Dept. of Energy grant to jumpstart community solar.
- Revived Brownfield program; successful site redevelopment and 400+ jobs; grantee with largest dollar amount of U.S. EPA funding in 2018.
- Increased revenues 50% and grants by 100% in 5 years.
- Recipient, Environmental Leadership Award, Illinois Environmental Council; Emerald Award, IL Green Alliance.

IL Nature Preserves Commission, Gubernatorial appointment (2015-2022), Consultant to Commission 2023 - present.

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY Adjunct, Public Policy Studies. Urban and Environmental Economics. Waste and Cities.

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO Adjunct, Urban Policy and Planning. Recycling Cities: Reuse of Building Material. Environmental Planning and Policy.

ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES, Deputy Director (2006-2011). Responsible for Offices of Water Resources, Realty and Environmental Planning, and Architecture, Engineering and Grants.

- Developed first community water supply planning program. Led dam safety/removal initiative, and trails, parks and open space grant programs.
- Initiated and led Department-wide public communications program Conservation Congress.

- Represented Department on Illinois Clean Energy Community Foundation Board; Governor's Energy Policy and Planning Group.
- **Nature Preserves Commission, Executive Director, 2006-2011.** Leadership in protecting, managing and defending natural lands.

IL OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, Planning Director. Developed first capital budget format, increasing transparency, and oversaw operating budgets for Transportation, Environment, Natural Resources, Commerce and Economic Development.

- Developed strategic planning and performance management for state agencies.
- Initiated capital facility condition assessment.

COOK COUNTY BOARD PRESIDENT'S OFFICE, Intergovernmental Affairs Coordinator. Legislative liaison to federal, state and local governments.

- Staffed City/County Welfare Reform Task Force, Revenue Study.
- Created new outreach programs to local governments.

METROPOLITAN PLANNING COUNCIL, Executive Director. Chicago's premier civic group in planning and policy. Responsible for program; housing, transportation, health care, tax policy, urban and regional development. Staffed 60-member Board; fundraising, media, government relations. Created new programs in regional development, fiscal policy.

EDUCATION

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO HARRIS SCHOOL OF PUBLIC POLICY STUDIES, Chicago, IL Master of Arts in Public Policy Studies

BELOIT COLLEGE, Beloit, WI Bachelor of Arts, *summa cum laude*

Phi Beta Kappa. Sociology, Philosophy (departmental honors). Internship St. Paul City Planning. **Chicago Urban Studies Semester**, Associated Colleges of the Midwest.

Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy, Institute for Sustainable Communities, 2011.

Chicago Center for Green Technology Certificates: Building & Construction Management, Green Business, and others, 2012.

Leadership Greater Chicago 1992-1993.

SELECTED HONORS / ACTIVITIES

Environmental Leadership Award, Illinois Environmental Council.

Emerald Award, IL Green Alliance.

Vice Chair, Climate Committee, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning.

Mentor, Harris School of Public Policy Studies.

Advisory Committee, Prairie Research Institute, University of Illinois.

Lambda Alpha honorary land economics society.

Great Lakes Commission Energy/Water Nexus study group.

Chicago Wilderness Steering Committee.

Crains Chicago Business **40 Under 40.**

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

Cook County: Dept. of Environment & Sustainability; (Chicago, IL)
Solid Waste Coordinator

July 2022- Present

Duties: Regulator of the solid waste industry in suburban Cook County. Manages all internal and external waste, recycling and diversion plans, projects, and initiatives for the Cook County Dept. of Environment & Sustainability.

1. Created the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funded Cook County “Recycling, Composting & Circular Economy (RCCES) Initiative”:
 - a) Created the first [Center for Hard to Recycle Materials](#) Facility (recycling drop-off station) in Illinois.
 - Awarded the [2023 Outstanding Public Sector Award](#) from the IL Recycling Foundation.
 - Successfully wrote and awarded \$50K grant from the [Foam Recycling Coalition](#).
 - Successfully wrote and awarded \$32K grant from the [Recycling Partnership](#).
 - b) Designed municipal grant program for environmental justice/cumulative impacted municipalities to provide curbside recycling services for their residents.
 - c) Created and funded the Sustainability Coordinator position, Sustainability Program Specialist position, and Sustainability Internship Program at the South Suburban College.
 - d) Created partnership with Illinois Medical District hospitals to expand their recycling programs.
 - e) Assist in the creation of a new suburban Household Hazardous Waste Facility.
 - f) Managed efforts to host a Household Hazardous Waste collection event, funded by the IL EPA, in April 2023.
2. Manages the solid waste division & internal and external recycling and diversion efforts:
 - a) Manages efforts to comply with the IL Delegation Agreement with the IL EPA.
 - b) Manages efforts to reduce illegal dumping in coordination with the IL EPA, City of Chicago, Forest Preserves of Cook County and the MWRD.
 - c) Manages efforts to update the County Solid Waste Management Plan.
 - d) Managed efforts to apply for U.S. EPA solid waste related grants.
 - e) Staff coordinator of the Cook County Solid Waste Advisory Committee.
 - f) Coordinated efforts to update division standard operating procedures.
3. Supervisor: Environmental Control Engineers & Inspectors, and consultants from the Illinois Sustainable Technology Center (ISTC).

Forest Preserve District of Cook County; (Chicago, IL)
Policy & Sustainability Manager

June 2013- July 2022

Duties: Managed the policy, sustainability, and climate resiliency agenda and activities for the 70,000-acre public land management agency. Staff Coordinator of the Next Century Conservation Plan’s (NCCP) Leadership & Economic Committees. Managed other institutional projects for the General Superintendent.

1. Drafted all Districtwide [policies](#).
2. Principal Author of the [Sustainability & Climate Resiliency Master Plan](#).
3. Principal Author of the [Clean Energy Framework](#).
4. Principal Author of the Sustainability & Climate Resiliency Master Plan [Progress Report \(2018-2021\)](#).
5. Winner of the [2019 Best Green Practices Award](#) from the Illinois Association of Park Districts.
6. Directed all efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and advance climate resiliency initiatives.
7. Directed all efforts that secured the Palos Preserves receiving the “[Urban Night Sky Place](#)” designation by the International Dark Sky Association. Winner of the 2022 National Association of County Park and Recreation Officials (NACPRO) [Award in the Park & Recreation Facility](#) - Class IV category.
8. Coordinated efforts securing \$13,875,000 million in American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the Forest Preserves-Conservation Corps Program, Riparian Restoration Program, and Implementation of the Southeast Cook County Land Acquisition Plan.
9. Directed the 2022 [Lunch & Learn: Climate Change On-line Series](#).

10. Provided operational support to the Deputy General Superintendent in the: (1) staffing of [Conservation & Policy Council](#) meetings, (2) staffing of the Building of Community Support Initiative, and (3) engagement with other twenty partner groups.
11. Coordinated all presentations to city and village board meetings.
12. Responded to legislation that would adversely impact the mission or policies of the District.
13. Trained all employees (*in-person and on-line*) on District policies.
14. Assisted coordinating efforts to launch the Conservation & Policy Council.
15. Assisted coordinating efforts for the re-launching of the Forest Preserves Foundation.
16. Assisted coordinating efforts to align the budget with the [Next Century Conservation Plan](#) (NCCP).
17. Managed the creation of the Economic Impact Study and the Ecosystem Service Values Study.
18. Production Assistant: Midwest Emmy Award [winning](#) WYCC PBS Documentary Film “[Chicago’s True Nature: The Forest Preserve of Cook County](#).”
19. Coordinated efforts to have the Forest Preserves shown and promoted in the WTTW PBS “[A City at War: Chicago](#)” Documentary Film, and subsequent screenings and press briefings.
20. Supervisor: Sustainability Fellow, Policy Fellow, Policy Interns, Office of the General Superintendent Interns, and Consultants at the University of Illinois- Prairie Research Institute.
21. Policy Advisor: (1) Incident Review Board; (2) Permanent Naming Committee; (3) Development Committee; (4) Racial Equity Diversity & Inclusion (REDI) Committee, and (5) Chief of Police’s General Orders Working Group.
22. Chief liaison to the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA), National Park Service (NPS), the IL EPA- Environmental Justice division, and local colleges and universities.
23. Core Team Member of the 2020 [Green Town: Climate Crises Conference](#).

ADDITIONAL POSITIONS: [Francis W. Parker School](#), Assistant Director of Development (March 2012-June 2013); [University of Chicago](#), Prospect Management Analyst (May 2011-February 2012); [Lawyers Committee for Better Housing](#), Personnel & Operations Manager (October 2010-May 2011); [Carson Delloso Publishing: High Reach Learning, Inc.](#), Government Relations Coordinator (January 2007-December 2008); [Daniel Stowe Botanical Garden](#), Assistant Director of Development (September 2005-September 2006)

EDUCATION:

DePaul University (Chicago, IL) **June 2010**
Master of Public Administration Degree

Johnson C. Smith University (Charlotte, NC) **May 2005**
Bachelor of Arts in Political Science Degree

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS:

Illinois Recycling Foundation: Secretary, Board of Directors **2022-Present**

Union of Concerned Scientists: Member, National Advisory Board **2015-Present**

Illinois Dept. of Natural Resources: Vice Chair, Advisory Board **2019- 2022**

Chicago Urban League: Class of 2020 Impact Fellow **2020**

Chicago United for Equity: Class of 2018 Fellow (*Inaugural*) **2018**

Mecklenburg County Air Quality Commission: Commission Member **2006-2007**

COMPUTER SKILLS:

OnBase, Tableau, Griffin Database, Raisers Edge, Donor Perfect, and Microsoft Office Suite (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Visio, Outlook, Access, Teams, and Share Point)

ANGELA TOVAR

312.285.6418 | angelatovar1@gmail.com

SUMMARY

Accomplished and highly skilled senior-level administrator with over 17 years' experience in nonprofit management, urban sustainability, public policy, environmental and climate justice advocacy and community-centered policy development.

EXPERIENCE

Chief Sustainability Officer, City of Chicago Office of the Mayor **Commissioner, City of Chicago Department of Environment**

June 2020 – Dec 2023

Jan 2024 – Present

Chicago, IL

- Oversaw the development of the 2022 Climate Action plan, a strategic document that outlines strategies and actions to drastically reduce carbon emissions while delivering equitable co-benefits for Chicagoans.
- Served as chief architect for the 2021 Chicago Recovery Plan allocating \$188 million dollars to climate and environmental justice priorities city-wide.
- Provide ongoing strategic leadership for various clean energy initiatives including the Chicago Municipal Energy Supply Agreement, which will allow the City of Chicago to achieve 100% renewable by 2025 for its municipal load, the ongoing Chicago energy utility franchise negotiations, and the City's decarbonization policy development.
- Co-created the City's Cumulative Impacts Assessment to advance land use, public health and zoning policies aimed at improving air quality, promoting environmental justice and alleviating environmental burden, particularly for vulnerable communities.
- Represent the Office of the Mayor in various governmental proceedings, meetings, conferences, delegation trips and in the media.
- Develop and execute multi-year strategic planning and budgeting to ensure the department establishes priorities and implementation strategies, in coordination with departments and sister agencies, to equitably catalyze the green economy in Chicago.
- Facilitate processes to engage community leaders, technical advisors, business leaders and other stakeholders to inform the City's environmental justice and climate agenda.

Program Manager, Cook County Dept. of Environment and Sustainability

Sep. 2019 – June 2020

Chicago, IL

- Supported the launch of the Cook County Commercial PACE program including the finalization of program materials, draft of board resolution and development of work scope.
- Managed the Cook County Schools Solar Initiative to advance small solar arrays for underserved public schools in order to drive clean energy priorities and bolster STEM curriculum.
- Contributed to Cook County's five-year Policy Roadmap by leading the Sustainable Communities working group and liaising with colleagues cross-departmentally to advance environmental justice and climate priorities throughout County operations.
- Managed the creation of an environmental justice screening tool, in coordination with University of IL, Cook County GIS, Cook County Public Health and other stakeholders, to analyze and develop key priority areas in the County to redirect financial and technical resources and advance new projects.

Director of Community Development, THE POINT CDC

Aug. 2015 – Sep. 2019

Bronx, New York

- Led policy and advocacy for local and state campaigns to advance environmental justice, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, bolster resilience and drive new economic investments and community co-benefits for communities in the South Bronx.
- Oversaw the South Bronx Community Resiliency Agenda - a comprehensive, community-led climate change initiative that included the development of two community-led infrastructure projects – Hunts Point Community Solar and Free Hunts Point Community Wi-Fi.
- Acted as the primary liaison on behalf of THE POINT for governmental agencies, elected officials, community representatives, and the media.
- Oversaw THE POINT's development strategy related to its community development and environmental justice programs including grant writing, grant management and oversight of an annual department budget.

Director of Policy and Research, Sustainable South Bronx

Dec. 2011 – Aug. 2015

Bronx, New York

- Advanced the implementation of various community initiatives including the South Bronx Greenway Master Plan, the campaign to decommission the Sheridan Expressway and the Solid Waste Management Plan .
- Served as Program Director of Bronx Energy Efficiency (Be2), a home energy efficiency program serving local low-to-moderate income households in the South Bronx.
- Researched and collected data for various research projects including the Aircasting Pilot Project – a community-led air quality monitoring study.
- Oversaw the day-to-day operations of the Policy and Community Greening Department including staff supervision, grant writing, data analysis, program reporting, and budgeting.

Research Fellow, Center for Community Planning and Development,

Jan. 2011 – Dec. 2011

New York, New York

- Developed and implemented a research methodology to conduct the 2011 NYC Vacancy Survey – a census of vacant lots and buildings in all 5 boroughs, utilizing various city government data sources and citizen surveying.
- Collected survey results, analyzed, interpreted and created corresponding GIS maps from the vacancy survey for the *Banking on Vacancy* Report by Picture the Homeless.

Senior Manager, Corporate Volunteerism, Chicago Cares, Inc.

Oct. 2005 – Jun. 2010

Chicago, IL

- Coordinated logistics for large-scale annual events attended by thousands of volunteers, including supply procurement and distribution, transportation to volunteer sites and day-of-event logistics.
- Developed, implemented and provided on-site management for numerous corporate service events ranging from 30-3000 volunteers.

EDUCATION**College of Charleston – Charleston, SC – Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies**

- Graduation May 2005, Minor in Sociology

City University of New York, Hunter College – New York, New York – Master of Urban Planning

- Graduation in May 2011, Concentration in Community-based Planning

ACTIVITIES

- Co Author, New York City Panel on Climate Change 2019 Report Chapter 6: Community Based Assessments of Adaptation and Equity, 2019
- Appointed Member, Office Of New York State Governor's Working Group for Environmental Justice and Just Transition, August 2017-September 2019
- Honoree and Recipient of the Environmental Leadership Award, Bronx River Alliance 2020 Gala
- Board Member, Bronx River Alliance, January 2013 – March 2020
- Board Member, Bronx Cooperative Development Initiative, December 2015 – June 2020
- Board Member / Board Chair, New York City Environmental Justice Alliance, August 2015 – August 2017; August 2019-June 2020
- Co-Chair, Cook County Racial Equity Implementation Working Group, February 2020 – June 2020
- Co-Chair of the Environmental Pillar, We Will Chicago Citywide Plan – June 2021-Present
- Head of special delegation for energy efficiency partnership building from Chicago, IL USA to Sonderborg, Denmark, June 2022
- Member of Chicago delegation for economic recovery and special partnerships to Mexico City, Mexico, September 2022
- Award Recipient, 2023 Community Leadership Award, IL Environmental Council
- Award Recipient, 2024 Inspiring Energy Efficiency Leadership Award, Midwest Energy Efficiency Alliance
- Board Member, Clean Energy Group December 2023- Present

GABY WAGENER-SOBRERO

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MANAGER

PROFILE

Environmental Justice Program Manager with seven years of project management experience, specializing in policy strategy and development, program design, and stakeholder engagement in environmental justice and public health. Process oriented systems change thinker who approaches challenges using contextual solution development that drive just and equitable outcomes. Successful at engaging diverse stakeholders through collective leadership that advances holistic policy and political agendas.

CONTACT

✉ (773) 835-3438

☎ gaby.wagener@gmail.com

📍 Chicago, IL

CITY OF CHICAGO PROJECTS

[Chicago's Cumulative Impact Assessment](#)

[Materials Management Strategies](#)

[Our Roots Chicago](#)

[2022 Chicago Climate Action Plan](#)

[Protect Chicago Plus](#)

EDUCATION

MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Community-Oriented Public Health Practice

University of Washington | 2017-2019

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Political Science

University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana | 2009-2013

SOFT SKILLS

Project Management

Team Leadership

Stakeholder Engagement

Meeting Facilitation and Design

Strategy Development

Issue Analysis

Communications

HARD SKILLS

Spanish (Written and Verbal)

Microsoft Office

Google Drive

Grant Writing

Public Speaking

Canva

EXPERIENCE

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE MANAGER

City of Chicago Department of Environment | June 2021 - Present

- Cultivate and manage relationships with environmental justice community leaders and leverage relationships to work together towards equitable and inclusive policymaking
- Manage the City's first Environmental Equity Working Group, comprised of frontline environmental justice leaders, environmental organizations and non-profits to build power on environmental justice issues on water, land use, climate and energy
- Engage and work with government agencies and officials, environmental justice advocates, frontline leaders, and subject matter experts to solve challenges and advance environmental justice and sustainability goals for the City of Chicago
- Design and facilitate meetings with city departments and environmental justice stakeholder groups to co-develop the city's first cumulative impact assessment and ordinance
- Lead the creation of the City's first Environmental Justice Action Plan by collaborating with departments and working with a technical team of consultants to advance the City's environmental justice goal
- Serve as key representative of the Department and advise the Commissioner on strategy that advances initiatives in land use, air quality, waste and circularity, and climate action and resiliency
- Assess and provide policy solutions to improve environmental equity outcomes, and facilitate feedback on how to strengthen initiatives
- Assist with implementation of the EPA's Pollution Prevention Technical Assistance Grant, in collaboration with UIC's Energy Resource Center, to bring no-cost technical assistance and energy assessment for industrial facilities

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT MANAGER

Office of Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot | August 2020 - June 2021

- Served as lead Community Engagement Manager for the Mayor's Office on environmental issues and collaborated with the Chief Sustainability Officer on effective engagement practices surrounding land-use decisions
- Delivered strategic guidance to the Chicago Department of Water Management's lead service line replacement program on best practices in engagement and outreach
- Managed a portfolio of grassroots leaders, non-profit organizations, and knowledge experts and activated inclusive engagement practices that empowered Chicago residents to be part of government decision making
- Translated complex policies and technical information on government processes for broader audiences and considered language accessibility needs

DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATE

People's Action | September 2015 - August 2017

- Managed a grant portfolio of over thirty philanthropic grants to support movement building and political educational campaigns on climate justice, housing justice and economic reform
- Led sub-granting processes to provide money to small community-based organizations for their local campaigns and serve as lead point person for grantees
- Researched and stayed abreast of national issues concerning climate change and housing to help with grant writing

highlights of skills & qualifications

strong community/government relationships across region • equity-centered planning and policy development
stakeholder engagement expert • consensus building • meeting design and facilitation
neighborhood planning • energy/sustainability/climate policy and planning

experience

City of Chicago, Chicago, IL

07/2022 – present

Director of Climate and Environmental Justice Initiatives

Department of Environment

- Oversee \$188M portfolio of community and municipal climate and environmental justice projects within the Chicago Recovery Plan including equitable tree canopy expansion, green stormwater infrastructure, energy, and community climate projects
- Coordinate implementation with multiple departments including Public Health, Planning & Development, Housing, Transportation, Street & Sanitation, and Fleet & Facility Management, along with external community partners
- Support other planning and policy work in the Department of Environment

Elevate (formerly Elevate Energy), Chicago, IL

2004 – 2022

Associate Director, Community Planning (2020-2022)

Senior Manager, Public Sector Programs (2012 – 2020)

Senior Planner (2006 – 2012)

Project Coordinator (2004 – 2006)

- Developed organization's initial sustainability/climate planning workstream, serving as lead for energy, climate and sustainability planning projects at municipal, county, regional and state levels
- Grew community planning team from team of one to four staff; project work over time also led to development of broader public sector team within organization
- Built and maintained relationships with government agencies, community-based organizations and key leadership across the Chicago region and in other midwestern cities including Iowa City and Madison
- Developed proposals in response to private, federal, state and local grant/contract opportunities
- Selection of Projects
 - Chicago Building Decarbonization Strategy + Working Group Led research on strategic building decarbonization approaches in 12 North American cities; developed/implemented 6-month community stakeholder engagement plan; designed/facilitated 54-person task force to deliver equity-center building decarbonization recommendations to City of Chicago; report being finalized now. (Partners: City of Chicago, Natural Resources Defense Council)
 - Chicago Retrofit Roadmap/Technical Demonstration Three year, federally-funded technical demonstration project that is characterized by a robust research phase, installation of whole-building electrification retrofits, and monitoring and evaluation, resulting in a residential "retrofit roadmap" that aligns with City's climate goals (Partners: US DOE, National Renewable Energy Laboratory, City of Chicago, ComEd)
 - Selection of Other Projects: Detroit Climate Strategy, Chicago Energy Benchmarking, American Cities Climate Challenge local partner/advisory role in nine cities, Evanston Municipal Operations Zero Emissions Strategy, Flint Water Affordability

City of Aurora, Planning Division, Aurora, IL

1999 – 2004

Planner (2001 – 2004)

Associate Planner (1999 – 2001)

- Served as lead staff in neighborhood planning initiative: developed planning process; worked with consultant to design/conduct large-scale meetings and focus group discussions; led recruitment of neighborhood

stakeholders, organizations and institutions, resulting in meetings ranging from 50 to 200 participants; selected appropriate planning tools/methods for neighborhood interaction; prepared neighborhood plans

- Proposed, then assisted Mayor's Office in creation of "Aurora Neighborhood Council," a consortium of department chairpersons and appointed neighborhood representatives that meets monthly to address general neighborhood issues and concerns in a multi-disciplinary approach
- During period of rapid growth for Aurora, responsible for reviews of planning documents, gathered required public input, and prepared recommendations for consideration by Plan Commission and City Council; included planned developments, annexations, special use permits and re-zonings

Southwest Alliance for Neighborhoods Nonprofit Housing Corporation, Detroit, MI 1997 – 1999

Housing and Community Development Coordinator

- Cultivated community development ventures including community garden and playground renovation
- Responsible for all marketing and outreach, homebuyer education, newsletter, stakeholder engagement
- Organized three community meetings, hosting total of 400 residents to discuss and prioritize issues

The Enterprise Foundation (now Enterprise Community Partners) New York, NY 1996 – 1997

Research Assistant (HUD Community Development Fellow via Hunter College)

- Served as liaison between Enterprise and The Community League of West 159th Street, Inc.
- Facilitated weekly meetings and various workshops/seminars with neighborhood-based action committee
- Assisted in vacant land acquisition from City of New York, acquiring funding, assisted in planning and development of community garden; created Adopt-a-Tree for Citibank tree donation program; designed user-friendly land use/site condition survey to document dangerous buildings with local city councilman's office

education

Master of Urban Planning, Hunter College of the City University of New York

Bachelor of Arts in History, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

professional affiliations & certifications

- Adjunct Lecturer, University of Illinois at Chicago, College of Urban Planning and Public Affairs (Since 2014)
- Charrette Leader by Neighborhood Charrette Institute, certified in 2014
- American Planning Association (membership-based professional organization)
 - American Institute of Certified Planners, certified since 2008
 - Chair, Leadership Development Committee of the APA Board of Directors, 2024
 - Chair, Environment, Natural Resources and Energy Division of the American Planning Association (APA), Terms: 2013-2015; 2015-2017
 - Co-Chair, APA Water Task Force, 2014-2015; recommendations led to development of "Planners and Water," Planning Advisory Service Report #588
 - Illinois Chapter-APA, State Planning Awards, 2014; 2015 - Jury
 - APA National Planning Awards, 2013 - Jury
 - Co-Chair, Pro Bono Committee, Illinois Chapter-APA, Term: 2013-15
 - APA Policy Guide on Energy, 2012 – research/writing/final recommendation to APA Board of Directors
 - Member, Planning in the Black Community Division (APA), since 1999

references

Available upon request