

BERNADETTE GUNN RHODES

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Senior Regional Planner for Partnerships and Grants

SUMMARY

Passionate and effective Regional Planner with over 15 years experience in the public and nonprofit sector. Excellent communicator of concepts and ideas to diverse audiences. Strong relationship and coalition builder among internal and external stakeholders. Highly proficient in comprehensive planning, program management, and grant administration.

EDUCATION

University of Arkansas at Little Rock School of Public Affairs

Master of Public Administration

- Pi Alpha Alpha Honor Society
- 2019 Outstanding MPA Student of the Year

CERTIFICATIONS & MEMBERSHIPS

- **American Planning Association**
 - American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP) Certification 2023
 - Arkansas Chapter Member
- **Women in Transportation (WTS)**
 - Arkansas Chapter Member

PROFESSIONAL STRENGTHS

- 16 Years Experience in Local Government and Non-Profit Administration
- 4 Years Experience in Regional Planning
- Strategic Planning, Program Management, and Grant Administration
- Communications, Outreach, and Public Speaking
- Partnerships and Coalition-Building

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Metroplan: Central Arkansas MPO

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2023 - Present

- Build regional and statewide partnerships to maximize investment in Central Arkansas' transportation system and other quality of life priorities.
- Serve as liaison to regional sustainability partners.
- Develop and coordinate regional applications for federal transportation and environmental grants. Assist with regional grant management as needed.

Community Planner

2020 - 2023

- Provided technical planning assistance to the 26 member jurisdictions of Metroplan, Central Arkansas' Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) and Council of Governments.
- Managed and co-wrote a Unified Development Ordinance for Small Cities, including zoning and subdivision regulations.

City of North Little Rock

Patrick Henry Hays Senior Citizen Center Director

2017 - 2020

- Directed a 60,000 sq. ft. facility with 3,500 active members and a daily attendance of 500.
- Managed fourteen employees and \$1.2 million annual budget.

Fit 2 Live Coordinator

2011 - 2017

- Directed the City of North Little Rock's community health initiative.
- Coordinated committees and wrote/managed grants to pursue health improvement goals, including community gardens, bicycle friendly, built environment, and employee wellness.