

# Karen Clawson, AICP

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Strategic Visioning | Planning | Project Management | Community Engagement

*With over 17 years at MARC, I have progressed to Climate and Air Quality Programs Manager, overseeing EPA and FHWA grants and regional policy with a ~\$1M budget. I coordinate the Air Quality Forum, manage the Climate & Environment Council and lead public engagement and education campaigns. I have spearheaded initiatives including the Kansas City Regional Climate Action Plan and the Smart Moves Regional Transit and Mobility Plan, showcasing a commitment to sustainability, equity and justice. My career reflects a dedication to collaboration and environmental stewardship, driving transformative change for the Kansas City metropolitan area.*

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## Professional Experience

### ► Climate and Air Quality Programs Manager MARC, Kansas City, MO January 2024 – Present

- Oversee management of EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant for the Kansas City MSA
- Manage regional policy and planning around air quality and a transportation demand management program, with a combined annual budget of over \$965,000
- Manage the Air Quality Forum and coordinate with air quality stakeholders on regulatory issues, air quality events, projects and public education
- Co-manage the Climate and Environment Council, a committee tasked with advising on the equitable and just implementation of the Climate Action Plan
- Oversee implementation of MARC's Clean Air Action Plan
- Coordinate a \$275,000 annual air quality public education campaign
- Conduct regular outreach to community partners including local governments, transportation partners, business and industry
- Supervise and manage a team of five staff

### ► Principal Planner/ Air Quality & Rideshare Program Manager MARC, Kansas City, MO November 2018 – December 2023

- Managed regional policy and strategic planning around air quality and transportation demand management programming, with a combined annual budget of over \$965,000.
- Managed the Air Quality Forum and coordinate with air quality stakeholders on regulatory issues, air quality events, projects and public education
- Oversaw implementation of the Clean Air Action Plan
- Coordinated a \$275,000 annual air quality public education campaign
- Conducted regular outreach to community partners including local governments, transportation partners, business and industry
- Served as co-project manager for the development of the Kansas City Regional Climate Action Plan
- Supervised and managed a team of four staff

▶ **Planner 1 - Senior Planner**  
**MARC, Kansas City, MO**  
**June 2006 - October 2018**

- Managed long-range regional transit policy and planning initiatives
- Co-conceived and managed the Regional Transit Coordinating Council, a committee tasked with transit policy and planning coordination across five transit providers and creating a more seamless experience for transit riders
- Served as project manager for the development of the regional Smart Moves 3.0 Transit and Mobility Plan
- Supported development of the regional Smart Moves plan in 2006 and 2008 as lead planner.
- Led development of MARC's Public Participation Plan in 2008 and 2013
- Served as MARC Transportation Department's Public Participation Coordinator
- Planned and led public participation process for three metropolitan transportation plans
- Supported management of a \$50 million USDOT TIGER 1 grant and multiple Alternatives Analysis transit projects, including the Kansas City Streetcar AA.
- Supervised one staff planner

▶ **Planning Intern**  
**City of Topeka, KS**  
**June 2005 - June 2006**

- Researched and developed staff reports for historic conditional zoning cases
- Inventoried and analyzed property conditions for use in neighborhood planning using ArcGIS software
- Developed a connectivity index for the analysis of existing planned unit developments and surrounding roadway networks
- Assessed impacts of potential contraction of ADA paratransit service boundary on paratransit-dependent communities

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**Education and Credentials**

- ▶ University of Kansas, M.U.P.  
Urban Planning  
Lawrence, KS  
2006
- ▶ University of Kansas, B.F.A.  
Industrial Design  
Lawrence, KS  
2003
- ▶ Certified Public Manager (2021)
- ▶ American Institute of Certified Planners (2011)

**Volunteer Experience**

- ▶ Department of Urban Planning Advisory Board  
University of Kansas  
Board Chair  
2014- Present
- ▶ Metropolitan Energy Center  
Board member  
2020-2022
- ▶ Greater Kansas City Food Policy Coalition  
Steering committee member  
2011-2013 & 2020-2021
- ▶ Missouri Public Transit Association  
Board member  
2017 – 2018
- ▶ Pilgrim Center  
Board member  
2014-2017