

Katherine K. Cornwell, LEED-AP

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

Katherine is an energetic leader with experience in strategic planning, development programming, proforma and market analysis, green building, operations management, economic development, transportation system design and sustainable food system development. She has experience working in a variety of city settings from small towns to metropolitan areas with a population of more than two million. Katherine has proven success developing precedent-setting land-use regulations and multi-modal transportation solutions, designing innovative programs, cultivating strong professional relationships and implementing community focused, sustainable solutions. Katherine is passionate about creating urban environments that are resilient in the face of peak oil and which support the health and happiness of generations to come.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

K. Cornwell Designs, Denver, CO

Oct 2009 – Present

Principal

K. Cornwell Designs is a private strategic planning consulting practice that provides development programming, proforma and market analysis, sustainable development planning, campaign management, non-profit development and zoning entitlements services.

- Managed Discover Denver, a technology assisted citywide historic resource survey for Historic Denver, Inc.
- Prepared the City Kitchen Urban Food Hub feasibility study including case studies, site plan, market analysis, development program and proforma for Denver Community Planning & Development.
- Facilitated the permitting process for the GrowHaus, a non-profit aquaponics and greenhouse facility.
- Managed the Shepherd for NW Denver campaign, a City Council race, including platform development, debate preparation and website design and management.
- Secured start-up grant funding and developed a business plan for the Gypsy Farm Bus a mobile farmers market.

Environmental Health, Denver, CO

Jun 2010 – Nov 2011

Healthy Eating Active Living Program Manager/Sustainable Food Policy Council Director

The Department of Environmental Health – Community Health Division leads Denver's health and the built environment initiatives with particular focus on green building, sustainable food systems planning and active living initiatives that promote walking and biking.

- Developed the Denver FRESH program (Food Retail Expansion to Support Health), which identified needed incentives (such as zoning amendments, expedited permitting, tax credits and fee waivers) and a strategic marketing plan to accelerate the development of grocery stores in underserved communities. Secured five years of program implementation funding from the Centers for Disease Control.
- Created and directed the city's 30-member Sustainable Food Policy Council.
- Served as lead staff on the Healthy Food Access Initiative.
- Administered the Park Hill Thriving Communities program, a multi-million dollar LiveWell Colorado grant to improve health in the built environment and managed the work of three staff members.

Planning & Development (City Green Building), Seattle, WA

Dec 2008 – Oct 2009

Sustainable Communities Strategic Advisor

The Department of Planning & Development - City Green Building Team leads sustainable development initiatives that reduce Seattle's carbon footprint, improve health in the built environment and improve the city's resilience in the face of peak oil.

- Served as a policy advisor to senior management and elected officials on high profile projects including Yessler Terrace Public Housing Redevelopment and the Central Link Light Rail.
- Managed the South Lake Union LEED-ND (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design – Neighborhood Development) Pilot Project. Served as the city's liaison to the US Green Building Council.
- Created the city's Sustainable Communities Planning Framework.

Community Planning & Development (Comprehensive Planning), Denver, CO

Nov 2000 - Oct 2008

Principal City Planner

The Department of Community Planning & Development - Comprehensive Planning Division leads Denver's long-range planning initiatives to promote integrated land-use and transportation systems, sustainable community development and high quality urban design.

- Served on the Comprehensive Planning Leadership Team. Managed the city's Neighborhood, Corridor & Citywide Planning Program and oversaw the work of up to 15 staff members. Orchestrated interdisciplinary project teams and large stakeholder groups comprised of community and private sector partners.
- Co-authored and served as lead planner for Blueprint Denver (the city's integrated land use and transportation plan) and the Parks & Recreation Game Plan.
- Developed the legal precedent setting zoning and legislative rezoning process that led to Denver's new zoning code.

- Created Denver's first form-based zone district for Main Streets and managed the legislative rezoning of Colfax Ave. that rezoned 300 parcels of land in a single application with no public opposition and unanimous City Council support.
- Served as Project Manager and authored numerous plans and studies including the East Colfax Plan, the West Colfax Plan, the University Park Plan and the Mayfair Neighborhood Assessment. Created the Denver Living Streets Initiative.
- Crafted small area planning protocols to improve community engagement, process consistency/predictability, and plan production, review and adoption efficiency.
- Created and managed the Mayor's Design Awards which honored the unique contributions of local businesses and residents to the built environment.
- Maintained Denver's Comprehensive Plan 2000 as a living document through annual updates and implementation progress tracking through an extensive indicators report.
- Managed the Strategic Parking Plan Request for Proposals process and administered the Parking Policy Council and the Denver Parking Commission (reorganized the Commission and crafted bylaws to improve operations).

Black Hawk Planning Dept. (Comprehensive Planning), Black Hawk, CO

Mar 2000 - Nov 2000

City Planner

The Black Hawk Planning Department oversees all comprehensive planning, historic preservation and development review for the city.

- Managed the city's Comprehensive Planning program, Historic & Architectural Review Commission and the Development Review program.
- Authored the Black Hawk Sign Code.
- Successfully negotiated the design of the Ameristar Casino, a multi-million dollar casino and hotel development to bring it into compliance with the city's National Historic District design standards.
- Lead staff for the city's Regional Transportation Plan and the Mountain City design charrette.

Planning & Development Services (Comprehensive Planning), Louisville, KY

Mar 1998 - Jan 2000

Planner I

Planning & Development Services leads all comprehensive planning and development review activities within Jefferson County, KY.

- Served as the city's Bicycle & Pedestrian Coordinator. Created the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee to oversee implementation of the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.
- Secured full funding to implement a bike racks on buses program.
- Authored the city's Outdoor Lighting ordinance to prevent light pollution and preserve the night sky.
- Served as lead staff on the Regional Transportation Plan and the Cornerstone 2020 Form Districts Plan.

Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods, Louisville, KY

Aug 1996 - Mar 1998

Graduate Research Assistant

Housed within the Kentucky Institute for the Environment & Sustainable Development, Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods is an urban community service grant, which provides planning, urban design and economic development technical assistance to Louisville's West End, a predominantly African-American, post-manufacturing historically underutilized business zone.

- Served as a Graduate Research Assistant for urban design and micro-enterprise development programs, and provided grant management.
- Authored the Business Plus Micro-enterprise Development Program Annual Report, the SUN Strategic Plan and the West End Urban Design Framework.

University of Colorado College of Architecture & Planning, Boulder, CO

Aug 1994 - Jan 1995

Teaching Assistant

The University of Colorado, located in Boulder, CO serves a student population of nearly 30,000. On the Boulder campus, the College of Architecture and Planning offers the pre-professional Bachelors of Arts degree in Environmental Design.

- Provided teaching assistance for Dr. Spenser Havlick (former Boulder City Councilman) for a course entitled Environmental Design & Ecology.
- Assisted students with research questions, aided course administration, prepared lecture materials, graded papers.

EDUCATION:

- Bachelor of Arts University of Colorado (1991-1995), major areas of study: urban planning, communication, political science, environmental science/resource conservation, women studies; 122 credit hours (3.28 GPA)
- Master Candidate University of Louisville - Kentucky Institute for the Environment & Sustainable Development (1996-1998), major areas of study: urban planning, environmental planning, sustainable development, biology and public administration; 30 credit hours (3.47 GPA)

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Durr, Marlese, Thomas S. Lyons, and Katherine K. Cornwell. 2000. *Social Cost and Enterprise Development within African-American Communities*, National Journal of Sociology, 12, 1: 57-77. (Juried publication)
- Lyons, Thomas S. and Katherine K. Cornwell. *Micro-enterprise and Sustainable Community Development*, Sustain Magazine, Fall 1998, vol. II

AWARDS & CERTIFICATIONS:

- 2009 LEED-AP (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design – Accredited Professional)
- 2006 Governor's Award for Downtown Excellence (Downtown Redevelopment)
- 2006 Community Planning & Development - Employee of the Quarter Award
- 2005 WTS Project of the Year Award for the East Colfax Plan
- 2005 President's Award (East Colfax Stakeholder Committee) Capitol Hill United Neighbors
- 2005 Good Neighbor Award (Outstanding City Employee) Capitol Hill United Neighbors
- 2005 Community Planning & Development Outstanding Service Award - Main Street Zoning
- 2005 Community Planning & Development Outstanding Service Award – East Colfax Plan
- 2002 Denver Regional Council of Governments MetroVision Award (Blueprint Denver)
- 1998 Sustainable Urban Neighborhoods Grant Writer Certification
- 1998 Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design Certification – National Crime Prevention Institute
- 1997 Fleur de Lis Award for Outstanding Service (Bike Racks on Buses initiative)

PROFESSIONAL & PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES:

- **Conference Speaking Engagements:** 2010 American Public Health Association National Conference; 2009 & 2003 American Planning Association National Conference; 2008 Surface Transportation Policy Partnership/Center for Neighborhood Technology Context Sensitive Streets Workshop; 2007 Colorado Chapter of the American Planning Association Conference; 2006 Natural Resources Law Center Conference: Climate Change and the Future of the American West; 2006 & 2005 Railvolution Conference; 2005 New Partners for Smart Growth; 2004 Women's Transportation Seminar Conference; 2003 International Conference of Mayors; 2003 Historic Hotels of the Rockies Conference (Keynote Speaker); 1999 League of American Bicyclists National Conference
- **Task Force & Commission Appointments:** eGo Carshare Board of Directors; Sunnyside Neighborhood Association Board of Directors; Denver Sustainable Food Policy Council Director; Wonderbound/Ballet Nouveau Colorado Board of Directors; Colfax Streetcar Task Force; Strategic Transportation Plan Technical Advisory Committee; Regional Transportation District FastConnects Technical Advisory Committee; Federal Boulevard Environmental Assessment Advisory Board; Saint Anthony's Hospital Redevelopment Task Force; Mayor's Commission on Creative Spaces; Mayor's Parking Commission; Denver Parking Policy Council; Doors Open Denver Steering Committee; Mayor's Design Awards Chair; 2005-2008 American Institute of Architects Box City Coordinating Committee; 1998-2000 American Planning Association (Kentucky Chapter) - Executive Committee Member, Legislative Sub-Committee, Student Representative; 44th Avenue Redevelopment Committee; Colfax Coalition Co-Chair; Park Hill Neighborhood Association Board Land-use Committee Chair; Young Professionals Association of Louisville - Vice President & Founding Member, Urban Development Chair, Entertainment Chair; University of Louisville Planning Student Organization - Founder/President; Louisville Conservation Roundtable
- **Conference Organizing Activities:** 2009 Congress of the New Urbanism National Conference; 2008 Surface Transportation Policy Partnership & the Center for Neighborhood Technology Context Sensitive Streets Workshop; 2007 Reconnecting America Mega-Region Streetcar Workshop; 2007 Congress for the New Urbanism & Institute of Transportation Engineers Transportation Summit; 2003 American Planning Association National Conference; 1999 American Institute of Architects (Kentucky Chapter) - Russellville Design Assistance Team
- **Professional Organization Memberships:** US Green Building Council; American Planning Association; Urban Land Institute; Women's Transportation Seminar; Congress of the New Urbanism; 2004 Urban Land Institute Young Leadership Group; Filson Club Historic Society; United States Student Association (United States Congress Lobby Delegate); University of Colorado Student Union (Representative-at-Large); Boulder Police Department (Victim Advocate)
- **Computer & Other Technical Skills:** Microsoft Office Suite (expert proficiency); Geographic Information Systems; Google Sketch-up; GPS & topographic map navigation
- **Personal Development Activities:** Denver City Council Candidate (2011); Sunnyside Music Festival Director of Operations (a free neighborhood event, 15,000-20,000 annual attendance); Sunnyside Urban Farm (Farmer/Owner/Beckeeper); 2011 Denver County Fair Blue Ribbon Winner (Sunnyside Urban Farm's Lip Smackin' Sour Cherry Jelly); Greater Denver Urban Homesteaders (organizer of a 1200+ member organization of urban farmers); Denver Urban Gardens Master Composter; Puget Sound Beekeepers Association; Community Roots Neighborhood Supported Agriculture Workshop.

