

BREYONNE GOLDING

URBAN PLANNER & DESIGNER

CONTACT

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EDUCATION

**Masters of Science in
Ecological Design**
The Conway School, 2016

**Masters of Arts in
Regional & City Planning**
Ohio State University, 2010

**Bachelor of Arts in
Urban & Community Studies**
University of Connecticut, 2007

Study Abroad in South Africa
University of Cape Town, 2006

Fieldwork at Treatment Action
Campaign (TAC) in Cape Town, ZA

PROFILE

An urbanist devoted to helping people understand, plan and develop their communities.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

City of Minneapolis - Community Planning & Economic Development
Minneapolis, MN | April 2019 - Present

Senior City Planner

I perform professional planning work in the Community Planning Division and implementation of the nationally recognized - Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan through facilitating the planning processes involving **strategic planning, urban design, heritage preservation, and community engagement**. In addition, I analyze and make recommendations on all elements of planning using knowledge of urban design, information systems, land use control and transportation. While assisting boards, commissions and committees as required and work with neighborhood and business groups on planning projects.

- Project manager for the 2021 APA Minnesota Planning in Context Award' 38th Street THRIVE Strategic Development Plan. Coordinating the planning effort behind establishing 38th Street and George Floyd Square as a flourishing cultural district with a strong black economic core
- Lead planner for the city's Cultural District Program, developing the program's criteria, structure and implementation strategy. Managing coordination efforts with the Mayor's Office, Public Works, CPED, Communications and Neighborhood & Community Relations
- Created the Built Form Overlay District Handbook with the Code Development Division
- Prepare technical, physical, economic, social or statistical data to aid in planning activities

City of Minneapolis - Community Planning & Economic Development
Minneapolis, MN | August 2017 - April 2019

City Planner

I served as an integral part of the Community Planning Division's National Award Winning **Minneapolis 2040 Comprehensive Plan and civic engagement**. In addition, I interpreted and explained the Comprehensive Plan, Zoning Code and Building Code requirements, policies, and procedures to persons making inquiries, **pursuing land-use plan approval and while conducting grant reviews**. Responded to requests for information from the public, consultants, coworkers and decision-makers about planning projects.

- Drafted action steps with the Director of Housing for the affordable and accessible housing section of Minneapolis 2040. Wrote narrative for the environmental systems section to strengthen the city's protection of natural resources and infrastructure, created a Benefits of Green Architecture document in which parts were incorporated into the plan
- Co-designed the online parallax used for our civic engagement, co-led our community engagement outreach with underrepresented populations in Minneapolis and organized a large-scale community outreach effort during the Winter, Spring and Summer of 2018
- Researched the appropriate bulk and scale for grocery stores on commercial corridors, minimum lot sizes for production area, created informational graphics to explain land use policies and developed model visualizations in commercial and production zones for the Land Use and Built Form section

AREAS OF INTEREST

Project Management
Urban & Ecological Design
Community Engagement
Strategic Planning
Fiscal Management & Budget
Grant Administration & Technical Assistance
Analysis of Construction Plans
Research & Investigation
Analysis of Statistical Data
Public Policy & Administration
Site Planning & Placemaking
Green Infrastructure

TECHNICAL SKILLS

Microsoft Office Suite

Adobe Photoshop

Adobe Illustrator

Adobe InDesign

ArcGIS

AutoCAD Civil 3D

Revit

SketchUp

Social Media

Graphic Design

Hand-Drawn Renderings

EXPERIENCE [Continued]

MOSAIC. Design Studio, LLC | November 2015 - Present

Principal - Urban Planner + Designer

I consult and **produce high quality designs** for clients throughout the country. Creating site maps, urban design plans for resilience, planting palettes, action and management plans. In addition to **facilitating public engagements and developing graphic designs**.

- For Project for Public Spaces, I provided placemaking design assistance for the Harvard Commons Spaces project at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA. This included benchmark research, concept plans, creation of graphic materials and visual presentations.
- For Ebony Horsewomen Incorporated in Hartford, CT, I produced a site plan for their Connecticut Horseshow in Keney Park which displayed a viewing area, jumper and hunter rings, VIP tent area, main stage along with horse stables facilities.
- For the Middletown Garden Club, I presented an implementation guidance on park programming, branding, marketing and fundraising for the club to continue their efforts to reconstruct Harbor Park in Middletown, CT.
- For the Campaign For Black Men, I created the web content and website for the organization that offers free therapy services to black men in Twin Cities, MN.
mosaicdesignstudio.org

NYC Department of City Planning | New York City, NY | October 2016 - July 2017

City Planner I

I provided **planning oversight and project management** which impacted the growth and development of the Queens borough along with performing **research and conduct analysis** activities for planning studies. I offered **technical assistance on land use and zoning matters** in Queens Community District 9 and 10, to the City Planning Commission (CPC), elected officials, community boards and public.

- Researched and wrote a technical parking study on R7A districts outside New York City's transit zones to address limited parking availability and transportation concerns
- Conducted development reviews and processed Uniform Land Use Review Procedure (ULURP) and non-ULURP applications to ensure New Yorkers had access to quality housing options and economic development opportunities

Project for Public Spaces | New York City, NY | September - October 2016

Urban Design Intern

Supported **placemaking projects** throughout the United States by **organizing community engagement information, facilitating workshops and developing program matrixes and diagrams**.

- Researched and developed conceptual designs with graphic materials for public spaces in the City of Eugene, OR and the Commons at Harvard University in Cambridge, MA in order to activate the vibrancy of their public spaces
- Reviewed materials on the "Context Sensitive Solutions" website for the Federal Highway Administration (information on interdisciplinary approaches to transportation planning)

City of Hartford | Hartford, CT | December 2011 - September 2015

Assistant to the Chief Operating Officer

Led three code inspectors from License and Inspections in the strategic enforcement of the city's **Anti-Blight Ordinance**. **Developed and managed a neighborhood revitalization program**, the Hartford Restoration Project (HRP), in Development Services. Served as staff support for the appointed Fire Department Task Force, in addition to **managing the Livable & Sustainable Neighborhood Initiative (LSNI) budget** of \$2.5 million.

- Generated revenue from blight citations, property abatement invoices and vacancy assessments to fund community revitalization efforts

AFFILIATIONS

American Planning Association
*National Member,
2006-2011, 2016-Present*

American Planning Association
APA-MN Mentor Program
Mentee, 2020

Urban Land Institute
Minnesota Chapter, 2018-2020

American Planning Association
NYC Metro Mentor Program
Mentee, 2017

Ecological Landscape Alliance
Member, 2015-2016

RECOGNITIONS

APA Minnesota Chapter
Planning in Context Award, 2021

Real Estate Diversity Institute
MN Urban Land Institute (ULI), 2019

Communities Fellowship
The Conway School, 2015

LEED Green Associate
*Leadership in Energy and
Environmental Design, 2009-2011*

Graduate Tuition and Fee Award
*Knowlton School of Architecture
Ohio State University, 2008-2010*

Urban and Community Studies
Bastow-Bonnie Scholarship Award
University of Connecticut, 2007

Honors Program Catherine
Dudley Study Abroad Scholarship
University of Connecticut, 2006

EXPERIENCE [Continued]

- Developed a standard operating procedure for private property abatement resulting in an interdepartmental program alignment
- Abated 175+ properties from January 2012 to September 2015
- Fully rehabilitated 25 blighted owner-occupied houses through the Hartford Restoration Project
- Saved the city \$130,000+ in yearly property maintenance contracts
- Double the productivity of a seven (7) person public work crew
- Initiated a green streetscapes improvement program which beautified and gave a sense of pride to 15 blighted locations throughout the city
- Created an anti-graffiti project that granted local artists space to paint small public murals
- Installed 100+ Big Belly Solar Trash Receptacles reducing trash collection by 35%
- Prepared LSNI reports and budgets presenting before the Mayor, city council, city department heads, civic organizations, neighborhood community groups (NRZs) and other stakeholders
- Responsible for grant seeking, preparation of grant proposals, grant administration and grant financial management.

Wallick Companies | Reynoldsburg, OH | June 2010 - December 2010

Property Management Apprentice

Managed **residential relocation** for Wallick's low-income housing renovation projects and **reduced the financial constraints** for all relocation efforts.

- Implemented a competitive bidding process for moving services and negotiated short-term leasing contracts with local housing agencies
- Coordinated community outreach meetings with the effective residents and provided technical assistance for housing management staff
- Created relocation plans for federally funded projects (LIHTC, Section 8)
- Monitored reporting files for compliance
- Established financial budgets and other administration structures

Ohio Development Services Agency - Office of Community Development Columbus, OH | September 2008 - June 2010

Residential Revitalization Section Graduate Intern

Reviewed Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) development proposals and **supported grantees with technical assistance**. Monitored grantees' administration files and inspected Community Housing Improvement Program (CHIP) funded housing projects.

- Multiplied energy efficiency and cost-savings for funded homeowners through the development and adoption of the energy conservation regulations for CHIP
- Wrote the green building standards for Ohio's NSP II program
- Re-structured the state's allocation formula criteria which increased the annual number of awarded NSP I applicants
- Increased the number of completed housing projects under the CHIP
- Created an assessment tool reducing the review process by seven (7) days

AmeriCorps* National Community Civilian Corps Sacramento, CA | October 2007 - July 2008

Corps Member

Led volunteers to rehabilitate damaged homes affected by Hurricane Katrina with the St. Bernard Project in New Orleans. **Prefabricated and constructed houses** ten (10) for the Jimmy Carter Build with Habitat for Humanity in Mobile, AL. Served as a construction manager on new housing developments with the Grey Hut in Pass Christian, MS.



PASSIONS + INTERESTS

Campaign for Black Men, Inc. | Minneapolis, MN | June 2020 - Present

Founder + Coordinator

After the murder of George Floyd, I founded the Campaign for Black Men MN, Incorporated - a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization - that **provides free access to therapy services for Black Men in the Twin Cities, Minnesota**. We connect Black Men in need of mental health services to culturally relatable therapists who can meet their needs. Therapy is a vital yet often forgotten form of justice and reform of our mental health system.

- We have served fifteen (15) black men with 116+ hours of free therapy sessions, totalling \$12,295. We partner with thirteen (13) Minnesota-licensed therapists, in which nine (9) or 69% are African, American-American or Multi-Racial with African descent to provide services.

campaignforblackmen.com

Goffe & Laing Properties, LLC | Minneapolis, MN + Altadena, CA | December 2018 - Present

Owner + Property Manager

We provide **safe, affordable and comforting** places for people to call home. Located in the Twin Cities, Minnesota and Los Angeles County, California, we offer a variety of housing opportunities that can fit different lifestyles. As the **development manager**, I strategically enhance my family's investment portfolio through site selection and acquisition, project coordination, capital funding and renovation construction. In addition to, **servicing as the property manager** in screening and retaining residents of the housing units, along with managing all maintenance needs.

mosaicdesignstudio.org/goffe-laing-properties

Creative.Church | Fridley & Maple Grove, MN | November 2017 - November 2021

Volunteer Team Lead + Former Church Intern

I provided **leadership and ministry** in several mid-level church positions at Creative Church. I was responsible for the operations of each team I was assigned to and the spiritual growth of the children and volunteers. Being an mentor of faithfully serving & tithing, leading, supporting and discipling others as an example of Christ's love and leadership.

- I lead the littleKIDS class at our Maple Grove campus. I lead our team as we guide children's curiosity through Bible-based, interactive activities to help them discover who Jesus is. Also, we help children (3-5 years old) transition more easily to their elementary years.
- I ministered quarterly to the women at our church during our weekly Women's Conference Calls and I co-lead a women's small group.
- I led the Connections Crew at our Fridley campus. I lead our team as we ensured each prayer request was accounted for and every first-time visitor was welcomed by a staff in senior leadership or a dedicated volunteer in our church, through a call or letter.
- I led the Hospitality Crew at our Fridley campus. I lead our team as we got the opportunity to love on and interact with people by providing them with a smile and something good to drink.