

Avni Jamdar



Professional Experience

Emerald Cities San Francisco Bay Area, San Francisco, CA

Regional Director, May 2011 – Present

Avni directs the Northern California region for Emerald Cities and advances zero carbon project opportunities, facilitates community workforce agreement negotiations and implementation, and leads community engagement efforts to center equity in environmental policies. Works closely with community-based organizations, the building trades, small/minority contractors, workforce training orgs, city/county departments to advance high-road jobs and procurement for disadvantaged communities.

- Deployed economic inclusion strategies to launch and implement an E-Contractor Academy for small/minority contractors to access public works and energy and water sector projects.
- Managing programs focused in San Francisco and across California for equitable community engagement around building decarbonization.
- Leads community engagement for climate action plans across the SF Bay Area and CA in partnership with community and government.
- Advocates to local, regional and state agencies on energy policies and programs with racial and social equity as a lens.
- Directs the Anchors in Resilient Communities program in partnership with Healthcare Without Harm. Address the social, economic, and environmental determinants of health by leveraging the assets and capacities of Bay Area anchor institutions and community-based partners. This work focuses on expanding community wealth and ownership, improving health outcomes, and strengthening the capacity of communities of color and low- and moderate-income residents to be resilient in the face of climate and economic disruption.
- Partnered with community and workforce stakeholders to negotiate a Community Workforce Agreement with SF Building Trades for apprenticeship pipeline into Trades. CWA applies to our energy and water upgrade projects with affordable housing owners.
- Work with contractors and clients for comprehensive monitoring and compliance of CWA to track workforce outcomes.
- Developed and manage RENEW, a program for Multi-family housing solar, energy and water retrofits in the Bay Area, in partnership with the SFPUC, Dept of Environment, labor unions, community organizations and local affordable housing owners.

PolicyLink, Oakland, CA

Consultant, January 2008 – November 2010, Research Associate, September 2003- May 2005

Co-authored a report, *Pathways Out of Poverty for Vulnerable Californians, Policies that Prepare the Workforce for Middle-Skill Infrastructure Jobs*. Undertook a year-long planning process to determine the role of the infrastructure sector in moving the state's under-educated young adults into good paying jobs with career ladder opportunities. Managed a team to design an evaluation model for examining outcomes of Community Building Initiatives across the U.S. Researched and authored policy briefs on US federal and state technology policy as it impacts low-income and marginalized communities in California.

Professional and Community Engagement

Zero Emissions Building Operations Taskforce, SF Dept of the Environment

Member, April 2023-Present

US Green Building Council, Northern California

Advisory Board Member, January 2023- January 2024

San Francisco Energy Efficiency Coordinating Committee, San Francisco, CA

Chair, February 2016 – March 2017

Appointed by the SF Board of Supervisors to advise the Board on planning and decision-making regarding Energy Efficiency projects, and the allocation of new funding towards EE programs. Report from the year-long engagement of the committee is now submitted to the City.

San Francisco Public Utilities Commission Citizens' Advisory Committee, San Francisco, CA

Member, May 2012 – January 2016

Appointed by San Francisco Mayor Lee to the Citizens Advisory Committee of the SFPUC, tasked with providing recommendations to the SFPUC General Manager and the Board of Supervisors regarding the agency's long-term strategic, financial and capital improvement plans around water, wastewater and municipal power services.

Education

University of California, Berkeley, CA

Masters in City and Regional Planning, August 2001-May 2003

Center for Environmental Planning and Technology, Ahmedabad, India

Bachelor of Architecture, August 1994-March 2000