

# RACHAEL A. TANNER

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## CAREER ACCOMPLISHMENTS & WORK HISTORY

### **City of Palo Alto**

*Assistant Director, Planning and Development Services*

**Palo Alto, CA**

June 2019 - present

- Directly oversee current and long-range planning, building inspections and permitting, and code enforcement
- Ensure the thorough and efficient processing of applications for planning entitlements and building permits
- Lead a community-based area planning process in the North Ventura Coordinated Area Plan
- Advance innovative policies to address the community's needs and adapt to changing conditions

### **City of Palo Alto**

*Assistant to the City Manager*

**Palo Alto, CA**

August 2018 – June 2019

- Serve as an ombudsperson for the business community
- Manage a \$1 million + federal grant aimed at reducing single occupancy vehicle commuting

### **City of County of San Francisco**

*Senior Planner, Citywide Division, Planning Department*

**San Francisco, CA**

July 2016 – July 2018

- Project manager for Excelsior & Outer Mission Neighborhood Strategy; including defining the project scope, timeline, and budget; leading outreach efforts with the public; leading interdepartmental cooperation
- Developed a public narrative regarding displacement and gentrification of the City of San Francisco as part of the Advancing Equity in a Changing City Initiative
- Created community curriculum to better help community members understand and discuss the role housing can play in the neighborhood, the origins of the regional housing crisis, and potential solutions.
- Engage community in discussing the role new housing can play in the future of the neighborhood and the success of the commercial corridor

### **City of County of San Francisco**

*Legislative Aide, Board of Supervisors San Francisco, District 11*  
For 3 months, I worked for District 11 Supervisor Ahsha Safai

**San Francisco, CA**

March 2018 – May 2018

- Co-authored, researched, and prepared for introduction 3 piece of legislation: (1) streamline permitting for small businesses, (2) amending a density bonus program to increase the feasibility of building affordable housing in outer neighborhoods, (3) amending the Planning Code to ease restrictions on catering kitchens

### **City of Long Beach, Office of the City Manager**

*Program Specialist; Management Assistant Fellow*

**Long Beach, CA**

July 2013 – July 2016

- **Capital Project Management: Planning, Design, & Construction** - Managed multi-million-dollar construction projects including a \$12 million seawall replacement, planning for new pool, and trail project Completed the \$5 million Belmont Temporary Pool; duties included managing contractors and budget.
- Managed outreach, stakeholder engagement, and building community compromise.
- **City Manager Policy Initiatives** - Led a diverse group of stakeholders to revise and amend ordinance on entertainment policy in downtown Long Beach to support a mix of residential, commercial, and entertainment
- **Communications** – Key member of Public Affairs Division in City Manager's Office, leading strategic initiatives, serving as PIO during emergencies, and leading city branding initiative.
- Analyzed the opportunities and impacts of a variety of policy decisions and reported to the City Manager.

### **ISAAC**

*Executive Director*

**Kalamazoo, MI**

September 2007- July 2011; assumed directorship in 2009

*ISAAC is a grass-roots coalition of congregations that advocates for policy changes in local and state public policies*

- Developed and implemented a strategic plan to achieve significant victories on early childhood education, development of a youth program, adoption and implementation of housing a first homeless policy and program
- Raised and managed annual budget of \$220,000; Expanded staff from 0 to 2 full time organizers & 2 part-time
- Developed a signature effort to diminish religious and racial segregation

## EDUCATION & TRAINING

### Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Dept. of Urban Studies & Planning

**Award:** AICP Student of the Year Award

**Cambridge, MA**

Awarded Master's Degree in City Planning in 2013

**Concentration:** Housing, Community, & Economic Development

#### Relevant Completed Coursework

- **Urban Design Skills**
- **Economic Development Planning**
- **Master's Thesis: Worker Owned Cooperatives & the Ecosystems that Support Them** – Conducted case study on the support system for worker-owned cooperatives in Quebec and recommended strategy for NYC
- **Financing Economic Development**
- **Affordable Housing Development**

### University of Michigan

Residential College

**Award:** 4-Year Full Scholarship

**Ann Arbor, MI**

Awarded Bachelor's Degree in 2007

**Major:** Political Science | **Minors:** Urban Studies | Spanish

## CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

- **Emerge Bootcamp 2020** Emerge prepares Democratic women to run for office.
- **San Francisco Board of Appeals** Quasi-judicial body that considers appeals to most city-issued permits.
- **YMCA's Reach & Rise Mentorship Mentor** Spend 1+ year mentoring a local middle school girl.
- **101 Valencia Homeowners Association** Board president January 2019 – December 2020.
- **Glide Methodist Church** Member and volunteer since 2018.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

### Officially Hitched

*Founder, Owner, & Operator*

**San Francisco, CA**

March 2017 - Present

Officially Hitched provides wedding officiating services to couples throughout Northern California. Since inception, I have officiated weddings for over 120 couples. Officially Hitched has expanded to a collective of 6 diverse officiants.

Find out more at <https://officiallyhitched.com/>

## INTERCULTURAL EXPERIENCES

- **Spanish Language**, *Dominican Republic, Caribbean*, September 2015 at 5 days Instituto Intercultural.
- **Spanish Language**, *Guatemala, Central America*, January 2012, 2 weeks language & cultural school.
- **Organizers' Forum Gamaliel Foundation** *Nominee and Dialogue Participant* September 2008, Representative of the Gamaliel Foundation on an exchange trip to Sydney and Melbourne, Australia.
- **Spanish Language Immersion**, *Salamanca, Spain*, 6 weeks, 2006 Studied Spanish Language