

RACHAEL A. TANNER

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