



KAREN WALZ, FAICP

Strategic Community Solutions | Planning / Implementation Strategies

EDUCATION

Harvard University
Master of City and Regional Planning

Stanford University
Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Earth Sciences

MEMBERSHIPS

American Planning Association
President, 2001-2003
Chair, TexasAPA Conference, 2000
Values & Benefits of Planning Task Force

American Institute of Certified Planners
College of Fellows
National Ethics Committee

American Institute of Architects, Dallas Chapter, Honorary Member

American Institute of Architects, Fort Worth Chapter, Honorary Member

Texas Society of Architects, Honorary Member

Urban Land Institute

Greater Dallas Planning Council, 2004-2005

Trinity Commons Foundation, Board Member

The Dallas Assembly

Dallas Institute of Humanities and Culture

Karen Walz brings over 30 years of professional analysis, community involvement and policy recommendation expertise to her projects. This experience means that Karen can assist her clients as they consider alternatives, agree on plans and policies and then implement these decisions to shape their futures. She has served on the staff or as a consultant to cities, counties, regional governments, school districts, non-profit organizations and property owners. Her work experience includes East and West coast communities, as well as Texas, the Midwest and Western U.S.; client communities range from towns with a few thousand people to cities with over one million residents and counties covering 13,000 square miles. This client diversity gives Ms. Walz a wide variety of potential solutions to bring to the issues facing her clients.

RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

Fort Worth Urban Villages

Fort Worth, Texas

Karen, as a part of a team led by HOK, evaluated urban design issues, secured stakeholder input on these issues and drafted recommendations for zoning revisions, new design guidelines, location of a preferred future transit site and design strategies to connect this station to the University/Berry urban village.

Trinity River Urban Design and Transportation Study

Dallas, Texas

This was a unique effort to evaluate and enhance Dallas' plans for the Trinity River Corridor. Karen's responsibilities included oversight and direction for a nationally-recognized consultant team, public involvement and outreach, planning and urban design and negotiation among various public agencies and interested organizations.

Vision North Texas

North Texas

Karen serves as Project Manager for Vision North Texas, a private - public partnership that works to increase awareness about the growth expected in North Texas and to involve people and organizations in initiatives that accommodate that growth successfully and sustainably.

The Dallas Plan

Dallas, Texas

This privately-funded organization developed a strategic plan for Dallas' long-term future. Major initiatives focused on Dallas'

core assets, economic development, neighborhoods, the Center City, the Southern Sector and the Trinity River Corridor. Karen served as Executive Director from 1994 through 2003.

City of Garland Community Visioning Workshop

Garland, Texas

Karen, and subconsultant Jacobs Carter Burgess, designed and conducted a community visioning workshop as part of the City's Envision Garland initiative to create a new comprehensive plan.

City of Allen

City Council Strategic Planning Workshops

Allen, Texas

Karen has conducted strategic planning sessions for the City of Allen in 1999, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009. For each session, she designs and implements an agenda that includes discussion of a particular focus topic as well as agreement on the goals and strategies for the city's annual strategic plan.

North Central Texas Council of Governments - integrated Storm Water Management

Arlington, Texas

Karen is part of a team led by Freese and Nichols, Inc. that is assisting the North Central Texas Council of Governments' Environment & Development Department in an update of this regional program.