

Yale University President's Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2017

City Plan Department #1: Waterfront Access planning: Boathouse and Mill River Trail.

- Organization: **City Plan Department**
- Full street address of organization: **City Hall, 5th Floor, 165 Church Street, New Haven CT 06510**
- Website: **www.cityofnewhaven.com/cityplan**
- Name and title of the Direct Supervisor (*please note: the Direct Supervisor must be available to supervise Fellow on a daily basis*): **Karyn M. Gilvarg, Executive Director**
- Phone number and e-mail address of Direct Supervisor: **203-946-6380, kgilvarg@newhavenct.gov**
- Placement dates (*8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 30 and Friday, August 11, 2017*): **Flexible within that time frame**
- Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe: **Yes, August tends to be very quiet so we prefer to get started as soon as possible.**
- Hours of the program (*placements should be equivalent to full-time*):
Hours of work are generally 9-5. There are occasionally board and commission or public meetings in the evening.

Placement Description

- Organization description (*Mission statement, population served. 150 words or less.*):
 - **The City Plan Department is responsible for policies, plans and regulations concerning the physical development of New Haven and encourages a sustainable land use, economic, cultural and environmental agenda. The Department is responsible for maintaining the Comprehensive Plan of Development as well as other area-and topic specific development plans, and writes reports for the City Plan**
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Commission, the Board of Zoning Appeals; provides staff support for the Historic District Commission as well as administrative support, planning assistance, project management and design review to a number of city programs and projects. It works closely with Economic Development and the Livable City Initiative. It assists residents, neighborhood organizations, businesses and developers in achieving the city's development objectives.

- Please write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting
 - **The City of New Haven seeks a Fellow interested in urban planning, waterfront development, and sustainability & resilience (planning for the effects of climate change) and project management to assist the Executive Director with a number of projects in the City's Coastal Zone, including the on-going construction of the Boathouse at Canal Dock, and the creation of plans to prepare the City for the effects of sea-level rise in low-lying coastal areas, and along the City's rivers. The City is working with a non-profit organization to develop programs for the Boathouse at Canal Dock which is under construction; and with a group of volunteers along the Mill River to realize a waterfront trail along the river**
 - Please write a complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (*Suggested length: one to two pages.*)
 - **The City of New Haven is undertaking the development of a public waterfront recreation center on New Haven Harbor located on Long Wharf Drive between Lenny & Joe's Restaurant and Long Wharf Pier. Known as the Boathouse at Canal Dock this project will provide a venue for water-dependent recreation and education, public access to the water for boating and viewing, and indoor and outdoor spaces for community activities focused on the harbor. The 1 acre platform on which the boathouse will sit has been completed, and the building itself is under construction atop the platform. The new community boathouse will anchor the Canal Dock project and will provide boat storage and boating support facilities, educational exhibits, classrooms, and program and event space. The boathouse deck that will also provide circulation and gathering space. A reconstructed Canal Dock, and various boating ramps and docks that can accommodate a range of vessels for both recreational and competitive rowing and sailing, as well as canoes and kayaks, is also planned.**
 - **Central to the overall purpose of this project is saving architecturally significant elements of the historic Yale Boathouse (formerly located at 74 Forbes Avenue) which was demolished by the Connecticut Department of Transportation to make way for the new Quinnipiac**
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Bridge/I95 crossing. The DOT has provided state and federal funding for the construction of a replica Boathouse incorporating historic architectural elements removed from the Yale Adee Boathouse prior to its demolition. The Canal Dock project will preserve these elements through reuse in a new boathouse and interpretive displays and exhibits. Refining the exhibits which will explain the environment and the project on site both inside and outside of the building will be in final development this summer.

- **The non-profit Canal Dock Boathouse Inc. is working on developing programs and volunteers to use the facility. This is a young organization that is growing quickly, working with local public high schools, veteran's organizations and amateur and master's rowers. The organization sponsored last year's Dragon Boat race in early June and expects to do so again this year.**
 - **The location of the Boathouse at Canal Dock ties together a number of other recreational facilities and opportunities. Adjacent Long Wharf Pier can accommodate larger boats and ships, with a channel dredged to a depth of 25 feet. In addition, the Farmington Canal Greenway will begin at Canal Dock and link the waterfront to central New Haven and the towns to the north. When completed, the Greenway will stretch from New Haven Harbor to North Hampton Massachusetts. Directly south of Canal Dock and Long Wharf lies Long Wharf Veterans Memorial Park, a half mile of public park, joined at its southern end to the New Haven Land Trust preserve. The City has recently completed improvements to Long Wharf Drive and the food truck area. These waterfront projects need to be explained & showcased on the City website.**
 - *Specific skills/experience required for the project (Please list):*
 - **The City Plan Department seeks a Fellow with interest in and knowledge of planning, architecture, civil engineering, and/or landscape architecture to work with the Executive Director. Good writing and drawing or good knowledge of rendering and or imaging software such as Illustrator and Photoshop are desired. Ability to speak Spanish is helpful, though not required.**
 - **Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, please include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement): Some evening meetings.**
 - **Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your agency in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, please describe any work that Yale students have done with your agency.**
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A number of Fellows have worked for the City Plan Department since the program's inception, notably on large development projects and on neighborhood planning as well as analysis and organization of planning and zoning records. Several Fellows have participated in redrafting Inland Wetland Regulations which were adopted and contributed to "Environmental Best Practices" for the City's website. A Fellow assisted in setting up the Canal Dock Corporation, a non-profit entity to manage the Boathouse proposed for Long Wharf – work with this non-profit will continue this summer. Another wrote local legislation necessary to accommodate federal and state mandates to comply with the National Flood Insurance Program and assembled components for a submission to our Board of Aldermen of amendments to the City's Zoning Ordinance. The legislation has since been adopted and is in effect, thus keeping the City in compliance. Another completed an application for the American Planning Associations' Great Public Spaces in America (New Haven Green), which was successful. A fellow began title work and ground-truthing on the Mill River Trail which will continue in design this summer.
