Yale University President’s Public Service Fellowship

Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2018

City Plan Department: Long Wharf Responsible Growth Plan & Census 2020

- 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): Michael Piscitelli, AICP, Deputy Economic Development Administrator

- Phone number and e-mail address of Direct Supervisor: 203-946-6380, mpiscite@newhavenct.gov

- Placement dates (8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 29 and Friday, August 10, 2018): Flexible within that time frame

- Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe: Yes, we would prefer a start early in June, but will be flexible to accommodate the right candidate.

- Hours of the program (placements should be equivalent to full-time):
  
  Hours of work are generally 9-5. There will be 3-5 community meetings during the summer concerning the Long Wharf project.

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 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 and project management to assist the department with two important projects. The first is the Long Wharf Responsible Growth Plan. The second is the local “complete count” effort for the 2020 US Census.

- 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.)

Project #1 – Long Wharf Responsible Growth Plan: The City received a $950,000 state grant to conduct an extensive planning and construction effort along the Long Wharf. The Fellow would assist the supervisor with project management and consultant work product review (economic development, urban design, park, traffic, etc) as well as program logistics. Some individual research will be required to facilitate this effort including a management study of the pier at Long Wharf in light of new users at Canal Dock and the Infocenter. 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 Northampton 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 and will further evolve through the 2018 planning process.
Project #2 – US Census Complete Count. The 2020 US Census is fast approaching. As part of this effort, the City will participate in the local land use analysis program to make sure the Census Bureau has all of the updated information and addresses in order to achieve a complete count of New Haven residents. New for 2020, the City will also work with the South Central Regional Council of Governments to undertake parallel efforts throughout our region. The Fellow will work with department staff to assemble materials, organize deliverables to the Census Bureau, convene relevant meetings and track progress. Individual research efforts include the development of the updated address and new residential unit lists for New Haven as well as a handbook with schedule for City work on the Census project through the balance of 2018 and into 2019.

- 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.

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.