

# Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

## Schedule of Events

07:30-08:00	<b>Breakfast &amp; Registration</b>	Courtesy of Howard's Market
08:00-08:15	<b>Welcome &amp; Introduction</b>	Yexsy Schomberg Michael Bornstein
08:15-09:15	<b>Opening Keynote: <i>Community Conversations for Powerful Results</i></b>	Daniel Herriges
09:15-09:40	<b>Why is Storytelling Important?</b>	Heidi Siegel, AICP Erin Sita, AICP
9:40-10:00	<b>Lake Worth Beach: <i>Urban Lore &amp; Saving Burl Ives</i></b>	Wes Blackman, AICP
10:00-10:15	<b>BREAK</b>	
10:15-11:45	<b>Roundtable I: <i>Storytelling: It's All about Community</i></b>	Serena Hoermann Caren Schnur Neile, Ph.D. Gisla Augustin Debra Tendrich Julie Seaver
11:45-12:00	<b>Lake Worth Beach: <i>Celebrating Community &amp; Creating Shared Experiences</i></b>	Mark Cassini Matt Shipley
12:00-12:15	<b>BREAK</b>	
12:30-01:15	<b>Luncheon Keynote</b>	Tony Garcia
01:15-02:30	<b>Roundtable II: <i>Storytelling: Neighborhoods have stories too</i></b>	Thuy Shutt Ruth Moguillansky Vivian L. Brooks, AICP Bonnie Hodges Leech
02:30-02:45	<b>Lake Worth Beach: <i>Past, Present &amp; Future</i></b>	William Waters
02:45-03:00	<b>BREAK</b>	
03:00-04:00	<b>Sidewalk Talk: <i>Bringing Civility and Unity to the Community</i></b>	Facilitated by: Trina Pulliam Myra Quinn
04:00-04:15	<b>Closing Comments</b>	
04:15	<b><u>Optional: Sidewalk Talk Event/Happy Hour</u></b>	

# Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**June 26, 2019**  
**Lake Worth Beach, Florida**

## AGENDA

<b>Breakfast &amp; Registration</b>	<b>7:30-8:00</b>	Courtesy of Howard's Market	
<b>Welcome &amp; Introduction</b>	<b>8:00-8:15</b>	Yexsy Schomberg, President, Palm Beach County Planning Congress  Michael Bornstein, City Manager, Lake Worth Beach	Overview of Agenda, thanks to sponsors, and other announcements  Background story of Lake Worth Beach Casino
<b>Opening Keynote: Community Conversations for Powerful Results</b>	<b>8:15-9:15</b>	Daniel Herriges, Content Manager & Founding Member, Strong Towns	Strong Towns find ways to connect and empower communities to achieve amazing results
<b>Why is Storytelling Important?</b>	<b>9:15-9:40</b>	<b>Storytellers:</b> Heidi Siegel AICP, Planning Director/Practice Leader, KCI Technologies, Inc.  Erin Sita, Planning Manager, KCI Technologies, Inc.	Storytelling can build a shared future vision for communities and places, and convey shared experiences to create a common understanding around ideas and causes. Our storytellers give us an overview and share examples/case studies of how local governments, community groups, and professionals use this essential tool in a variety of ways.
<b>Lake Worth Beach: Urban Lore &amp; Saving Burl Ives</b>	<b>9:40-10:00</b>	Wes Blackman, AICP, Principal, CWB Associates	Our storyteller shares a unique and compelling tale of Lake Worth Beach's past—a story that encompasses the early history, growth, and many changes of the city between 1968 and 2000's from a local's view. More of this story can be found <a href="#">here</a> .
<b>BREAK</b>	<b>10:00-10:15</b>		

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<p><b>Roundtable I:</b></p> <p><i>Storytelling: It's All about Community</i></p>	<p><b>10:15-11:45</b></p>	<p><b>Storytellers:</b> Serena Hoermann, Outreach Coordinator, Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions at Florida Atlantic University</p> <p>Caren Schnur Neile, Ph.D., M.F.A, Affiliate Professor, Florida Atlantic University, Co-Host of The Public Storyteller on WLRN</p> <p>Gisla Augustin, Founder and CEO, GiGi The Planner LLC</p> <p>Debra Tendrich, Founder and CEO, Eat Better Live Better</p> <p>Julie Seaver, Executive Director, Compass LGBTQ Community Center</p>	<p>Urban planners seek to create more livable communities for everyone. Our panelists will engage us in some thought-provoking dialogue as they share their many and varied stories, their experiences advocating and serving communities, and their thoughts on things such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The meaning of Stonewall for our communities today</li> <li>• Finding ways to bring people forward</li> <li>• Connecting the served, the isolated, and the underserved</li> <li>• Using storytelling for healing, resolving conflicts, and for promoting better citizen participation in urban planning</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lake Worth Beach:</b></p> <p><i>Celebrating Community &amp; Creating Shared Experiences</i></p>	<p><b>11:45-12:00</b></p>	<p><b>Storytellers:</b> Mark Cassini &amp; Matt Shipley, Co-Founders, Community Greening</p>	<p>Storytelling is how this group brings about collective efforts to improve our environment for people and nature. They envision thriving community spaces and neighborhood landscapes that are clean, healthy, and beautiful. They will share with us how they connect, engage, and mobilize individuals, neighborhoods, community groups, and businesses alike; in order to build resilient &amp; sustainable communities—including right here in Lake Worth Beach!</p>
<p><b>BREAK</b></p>	<p><b>12:00-12:15</b></p>		
<p><b>Luncheon Keynote</b></p>	<p><b>12:30-1:15</b></p>	<p>Tony Garcia, Principal, Street Plans Collaborative</p>	<p>Stories of Tactical Urbanism</p>

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<p><b>Roundtable II:</b></p> <p><b><i>Storytelling: Neighborhoods have stories too</i></b></p>	<p><b>1:15-2:30</b></p>	<p><b>Storyteller:</b> Thuy Shutt, Assistant Director, Boynton Beach CRA</p> <p><b>Storytellers:</b> Ruth Mognuillansky, M.Arch/MCP, OCR Principal Planner</p> <p>Vivian L. Brooks, AICP, OCR Senior Planner and ACI Coordinator</p> <p>Bonnie Hodges Leech, San Castle Neighborhood Connector</p>	<p>How history, community character, storytelling and branding make or break revitalization efforts, community projects, events and other innovative initiatives.</p> <p>Stronger cities start with building stronger neighborhoods– places of belonging, education, recreation &amp; support. Learn about &amp; embrace an exciting initiative that can turn residents into neighbors, members of warm, welcoming communities, right down to the block level. We will also learn:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Importance and need to shift government focus from addressing needs &amp; deficiencies to promoting community engagement &amp; creating space for empowered residents</li> <li>• Universal properties existing within communities of abundance</li> <li>• Steps to tap into unique assets of individuals, while empowering &amp; supporting them</li> <li>• How to build on existing neighborhood assets can be used to strengthen a community</li> </ul>
<p><b>Lake Worth Beach: <i>Past, Present &amp; Future</i></b></p>	<p><b>2:30-2:45</b></p>	<p>William Waters, LEED AP BD+C, Director of Community Sustainability, Lake Worth Beach</p>	<p>Preservation of Place and the Future of Lake Worth Beach</p>
<p><b>Break</b></p>	<p><b>2:45-3:00</b></p>		

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<p><b>Sidewalk Talk: Bringing Civility and Unity to the Community</b></p>	<p><b>3:00-4:00</b></p>	<p><b>Facilitators:</b> Sidewalk Talk Listening Project- Palm Beach County Chapter</p> <p>Trina Pulliam, President, Trainnovations,</p> <p>Myra Quinn and the Trainnovations Team.</p>	<p>“We need a way to hear stories of the people really different than we are. The more people we get to know the wider our embrace of humanity becomes”</p> <p>Sidewalk talk is a way to nurture human connection by teaching &amp; practicing heart centered listening in public spaces. By engaging a diverse and inclusive community of volunteers, our culture, relationships and the world are transformed. In other words, community building is a reason for being, while listening is the tool. We gather out in public places within the community to simply listen. This is an ongoing practice of wellbeing as we bond with others. All chapters are led by people who are qualified to handle crises on the street. We are committed to this project to practice and be an example of world-changing connection in communities.</p> <p>“In a world so divided there is no greater form of activism than to stand for connection rather than disconnection.”</p> <p>In this presentation, we will get:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An overview of Sidewalk Talk by our local community chapter</li> <li>• A handle on the “issue of incivility in the community” as established by experts &amp; controlled studies</li> <li>• Brief training on effective listening</li> <li>• Other takeaways &amp; a link to volunteer!</li> </ul>
<p><b>Closing Comments</b></p>	<p><b>4:00-4:15</b></p>		
<p><b><u>Optional:</u> Sidewalk Talk Event/Happy Hour</b></p>	<p><b>4:15</b></p>		

## Speaker Bios

**Daniel Herriges**  
*Content Manager,  
Strong Towns*



**Daniel Herriges** is *Content Manager* for *Strong Towns* where he has been a regular contributor since 2015. He is also a founding member of the organization. His obsession with maps began before he could read. His budding environmentalism can be traced back to age 4, when he yelled at his parents for stepping on weeds growing in sidewalk cracks. His love of great urban design and human-scaled, livable places has also been lifelong. Daniel has a B.A. from Stanford University in Human Biology with a concentration in Conservation and Sustainable Development and a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Minnesota. After college, he worked as an environmental activist for several years, in support of indigenous people's rights and conservation in the Amazon rainforest. He can often be found hiking or cycling. Daniel is from St. Paul, Minnesota.

**Website Link**

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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

### **Heidi Siegel, AICP**

*Director of Planning/Practice Leader,  
KCI Technologies, Inc.*



**Heidi Siegel** is Director of KCI Technologies' Planning Practice. Ms. Siegel is an AICP certified planner with over 20 years of professional experience in the planning and development field, in both the public and private sectors. Her involvement in historic preservation planning, municipal operations, legislative matters, and public speaking have given her a broad background in public outreach and using stories to convey information to both large and small groups. Prior to joining KCI Technologies, Ms. Siegel also served as the City Manager for the Village of Biscayne Park in Miami-Dade County.

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### **Erin Sita, AICP**

*Planning Manager,  
KCI Technologies, Inc.*



**Erin Sita** serves as Planning Manager at KCI Technologies, Inc. Ms. Sita has a MSP in Urban and Regional Planning with over 17 years of professional experience in the planning and development field, in both the public and private sectors. Ms. Sita is an AICP certified planner with planning related skills that include experience in comprehensive, current, long-range and neighborhood planning, planning division management/operations, project management, water supply planning and Florida resiliency planning. Ms. Sita has used storytelling in her career in both the private and public sectors from public outreach and neighborhood meetings to working with applicants in her development review coordinator roles.

#### **Website Link**

[www.kci.com](http://www.kci.com)

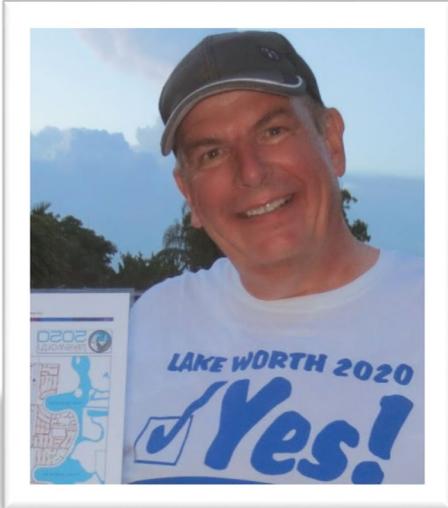
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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Wes Blackman, AICP**  
*Principal,  
CWB Associates*



**Wes Blackman** is *Principal* of the *CWB Associates*, a local *Lake Worth Beach* firm, which he founded in 2004. Wes Blackman advises private and public sector clients regarding land use, zoning, development review procedures, and applications. Mr. Blackman also advises clients on code development and research, comprehensive planning, historic preservation issues or projects, due diligence review, expert witness work, public relations, and communications using a variety of social media platforms, work on large mixed-use urban redevelopment projects.

**Website Link**

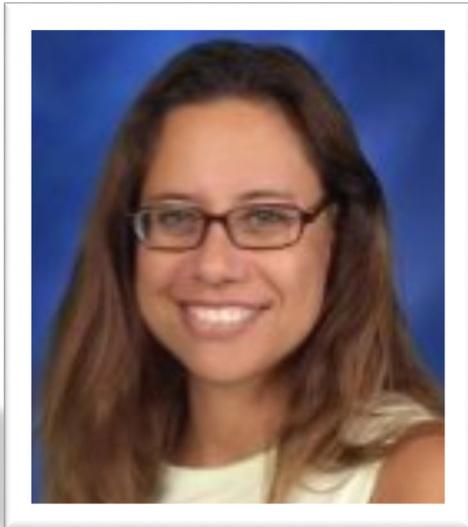
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**Serena Hoermann**  
*Outreach Coordinator,  
Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions  
at Florida Atlantic University*



**Serena Hoermann** is *Program Manager* for the *FAU Partnership for Sustainable Communities* and manages outreach efforts for the *Center for Urban and Environmental Solutions (CUES)* within *FAU's School of Urban and Regional Planning*. In 2014-2017, she supported *FAU's Florida Center for Environmental Studies (CES)* as coordinator for the *Florida Climate Institute*, lending support to conference and outreach efforts and supporting community engagement and communications. Serena is also the creator and organizer of another current project, the *Urban Stories Festival*, uses storytelling to build community.

Serena received both a Bachelor of Science Cum Laude in Systems and Information Science and an MBA in Marketing and International Business from Syracuse University. Besides her work for FAU, Serena writes short stories and children's books. She also organizes events for authors and youth through her non-profit organization.

**Website Link**

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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Caren Schnur Neile, Ph.D., MF,**  
**Affiliate Professor,**  
**Florida Atlantic University**



**Caren Schnur Neile, Ph.D., MF** is an *affiliate professor* at *Florida Atlantic University*, specializing in storytelling studies. Dr. Neile performs, teaches and produces storytelling events in the US. and abroad, including as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Jerusalem and Vienna.

She is former chair of the National Storytelling Network and a co-founding editor of the academic journal *Storytelling, Self, Society*. Among her numerous publications are *The Great American Story* (Lambert) and *Hidden: A Sister and Brother in Nazi Poland* (University of Wisconsin Press).

Dr. Neile also co-hosts *The Public Storyteller* every Sunday at four p.m. on public radio WLRN 91.3 FM and writes a bi-weekly storytelling column for the *Florida Jewish Journal*. Her biggest claim to fame, however, is having been featured in the April, 2005 issue of *Cosmopolitan* magazine! (But not on the cover....) She has also presented at two Toastmaster International conventions.

Dr. Neile's repertoire ranges from Anansi and Bouki tales to personal stories, Florida history and made-to-order programs. A graduate of the Jewish Theological Seminary, she also presents performance-lectures including *A Celebration of Jewish Storytelling*, *Tikkun Olam: The Case of Jewish-American Heroes*, and *Beyond the Bubbe Mayse: A Celebration of Jewish Women in Story*.

As a former Board member of the Healing Story Alliance, Dr. Neile also offers programs on storytelling for peace and conflict resolution and specializes in storytelling work with veterans and the elderly.

### **Website Link**

<http://thepublicstoryteller.org>

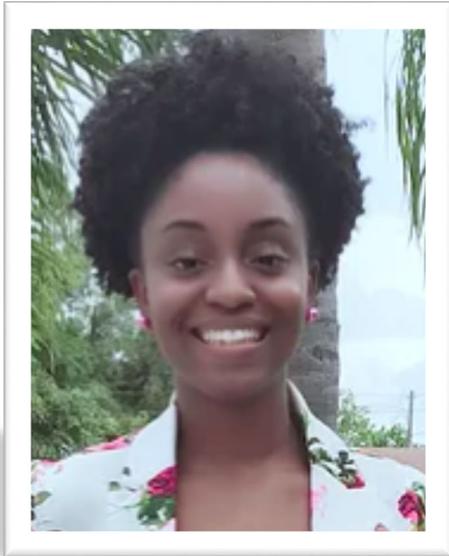
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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Gisla Augustin,**  
**Founder/CEO,**  
**GiGi The Planner LLC**



**Gisla Augustin**, BUD, MURP, CPTED Certified, is the *Founder/CEO* of *GiGi The Planner LLC*. Gisla is a native of South Florida, where she currently resides in the City of West Park. She is an alumna of Florida Atlantic University with a Bachelors' degree in Urban Design with a minor in Geographic Information Systems and a Master's degree in Urban and Regional Planning at the age of 21. Gisla is deemed one of the 100 most outstanding women in the history of FAU and was included in a book, *Legacy-makers: 100 Women of Distinction at Florida Atlantic University*.

*GiGi The Planner LLC* is an organization whose mission is to increase the number of black planners in America. The vision for this organization was birthed in the summer of 2017 to motivate and teach future black urban planners. Black planners make up a very small percentage of the professionals in the urban planning field, and it is *GiGi The Planner's* aim to change that. In fact, *GiGi's* goal is to increase Black Urban Planners - One Planner at a Time! As a result, one of the goals of the organization is to expose, engage, and empower youth of African descent to pursue a degree in urban planning. The other goal is to mentor black college students who are pursuing degrees in urban planning to assist them with making the transition from college to the workforce, as well as assist new planning professionals who are looking to advance their career.

In addition to being *GiGi The Planner*, Gisla currently works at the City of Pompano Beach as a planner. Outside of work, she is very active in the community and abroad. She is a division officer of the Planning and the Black Community Division of the American Planning Association. Gisla serves as the chair of both the Planning and Zoning Board, and the Education Advisory Committee at the City of West Park. She is also serves on the Youth Council Advisory Committee as well. Also, in an effort to give back to the community, she and her two sisters have begun a math tutoring program for school-aged children called GB 3 Literati. In her free time, Gisla enjoys reading, crocheting, performing the piano with her family's musical ensemble *BG Harmonies*, and, most importantly, spending time with family and friends.

### **Website Link**

[www.gigitheplanner.com/](http://www.gigitheplanner.com/)

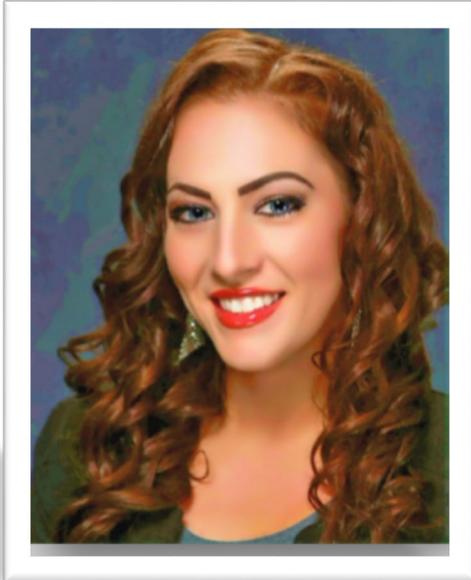
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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Debra Tendrich**  
*Founder and CEO,  
Eat Better Live Better*



**Debra Tendrich** is the *Founder and CEO* of a non-profit organization called *Eat Better Live Better (EBLB)*. The mission of Eat Better Live Better is to combat and control childhood obesity by creating nutritional programs that create permanent change within families and communities.

Since 2014, she has dedicated her time volunteering at schools and providing a tremendous amount of community outreach and service. She donated over 600 backpacks and school supplies throughout the Palm Beach County Schools, volunteers for Career Days, helps organize anti-bullying pep-rallies and speaks to students and teachers about fitness and nutrition. She also implements a program that transitions children, families and communities into a healthy lifestyle. Debra is dedicated to making a huge impact in the community and thrives to become a community leader to create a positive and permanent change in the overall health of the community.

Eat Better Live Better was founded by Tendrich in 2016. Since its inception, Debra has worked with approximately 5000 youth, parents and teachers. Due to the exponential growth of EBLB, she is designing a certification course that will allow schools and other community-based organizations to teach her effective and hands-on curriculum to the youth that they serve on a national level.

**Website Link**  
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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Julie Seaver**  
*Executive Director,*  
*Compass LGBTQ Community Center*



**Julie Seaver** serves as *Executive Director* of *Compass LGBTQ Community Center* and has been with the organization since 2007. Compass has an impressive 30-year legacy providing direct services and advocacy for people living with HIV/AIDS and the LGBTQ community. Compass aims to diminish stereotypes by challenging long-standing misconceptions about the character of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community. They embody the youth, promote pride in the community and act as an educator, advocate, health service provider and focal point for community organizing. Compass promotes awareness of the caring nature of this diverse community.

**Website Link**

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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

### **Mark Cassini & Matt Shipley** Co-Founders, Community Greening



*Mark*



*Matt*

**Mark Cassini** is Co-Founder of *Community Greening*, an urban forestry non-profit. He is from Indianapolis, Indiana and has worked in non-profits for 15 years including a time in Nairobi, Kenya at a refugee processing entity funded by the State Department's Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration. Mark has an M.A. in International Studies from the University of the Pacific. He graduated from Indiana University with a B.A., majoring in Cultural Anthropology. He lives in Delray Beach, Florida with his wife and four children.

**Matt Shipley**, also Co-Founder of *Community Greening*, is a third-generation South Floridian and was surfing by the time he could stand. His father, John Shipley III, was always taking his 3 sons, Johnny, Walker and Matt, out into nature, especially the beach. Matt was always inspired by nature which drove him to study environmental issues at the University of San Diego. After receiving his BA in Spanish and Environmental Studies, Matt joined the Peace Corps. He served in Paraguay as an environmental educator where he started an environmental group that focused on reforestation. Upon completing his service, Matt went back to California to receive a MA in International Environmental Policy at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies.

#### **Website Link**

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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Tony Garcia**  
*Principal,  
Street Plans Collaborative*



**Tony Garcia** is a Principal of Street Plans Collaborative, and leads the firm's Miami office. Anthony is a nationally recognized architect, writer, speaker and advocate in the in the field of transit, pedestrian and bicycle infrastructure.

As a writer and advocate, Tony's work has appeared in or been featured by The Daily Business Review, Atlantic Cities, Next American City Magazine, New Urban News, The Real Deal, Momentum Magazine, Streetsblog, the Miami Herald, the El Paso Times, and The Miami New Times, among other publications. Tony is a coauthor of the globally acclaimed series Tactical Urbanism: Short-Term Action, Long-Term Change Vol. 1-4, and together with Mike Lydon is the recipient of the 2017 Seaside Prize and co-author of Tactical Urbanism, published by Island Press in March 2015. Tony was also awarded with the 2017-2018 CINTAS Foundation Fellowship for Architecture & Design.

He is a part-time adjunct faculty member at the University of Miami School of Architecture, and is the past Chairman of the Green Mobility Network, the largest bicycle pedestrian advocacy organization in South Florida. He co-founded the Ludlam Trail project, which will result in the addition of over 50 acres of new park space in Miami-Dade County. Among the many professional organizations he is active with are the Association of Bicycle and Pedestrian Professionals, the Congress for the New Urbanism, the Dade Heritage Trust, and the Urban Environment League. He lectures and leads workshops on the topics of architecture, urban design, smart growth, tactical urbanism, and complete streets/active transportation.

Prior to launching the firm's Miami office, Tony was Project Director for six years at the Dover Kohl & Partners affiliated architecture firm Chael Cooper & Associates, and from 2008 to 2012 he was the Publisher and Managing editor of the transportation blog TransitMiami.com, an award winning web journal dedicated to public participation and discourse in South Florida.

Tony holds a Bachelor of Arts in Architecture and Urban Design from New York University and a Masters in Architecture from the University of Miami.

### **Website Link**

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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Thuy T. Shutt**  
*Assistant Director,  
Boynton Beach CRA*



**Thuy (“Twee”) T. Shutt** serves as *Assistant Director* at the *Boynton Beach CRA*. Thuy is a licensed architect and a certified FRA Redevelopment Administrator with more than 23 years of professional experience in the public and private sectors. Originally from Vietnam, she grew up in the D.C. metropolitan area and graduated from the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech. Shutt began her career in the D.C. area and then moved to South Florida. She served as Principal Planner for Palm Beach County Zoning Division and progressed to community redevelopment as the City of Delray Beach’s first Urban Designer and later as a Senior Land Entitlement Manager for Centex Homes and Assistant Director of Palm Beach County’s Westgate/Belvedere Homes CRA. Most recently she was the Assistant Director of the City of Delray Beach CRA and is currently a member of the Palm Beach AIA Women in Architecture.

**Website Link**

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**Contact Info**

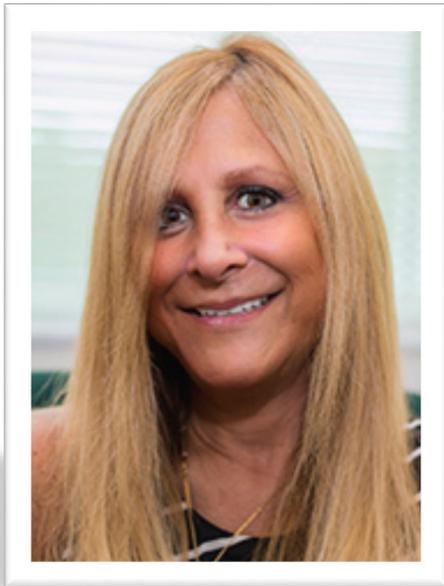
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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

### **Ruth Moguillansky**

*Principal Planner,  
PBC Office of Community Revitalization*



**Ruth Moguillansky** serves as *Principal Planner* in the *Palm Beach County Office of Community Revitalization (OCR)*. Ruth, a native from Argentina, has served Palm Beach County since 1990, and has been with the since its creation in 2003. Ruth's experience in the planning field covers more than twenty five years, with a particular expertise in community revitalization obtained during the last 20 years.

As the Principal Planner for OCR, Ruth is the backbone of the organization, offering support to the Director in the overall management and operation of the department, responding to County Administration and Board of County Commissioners' directives, writing grants, helping residents access the appropriate services, facilitating problem-solving for neighborhood-identified issues, and developing as well as implementing new programs and initiatives. Under her leadership, the Countywide Community Revitalization Team (CCRT) was created to coordinate stabilization/revitalization activities for designated residential neighborhoods throughout unincorporated Palm Beach County.

Ruth is passionate about community building and engagement, and provides an energy and focus that inspires others. She is recognized for her extensive knowledge and experience in community revitalization and comprehensive planning, and for her "we can do it attitude," as she always strives for finding creative ways to serve the greater community. Ruth has volunteered for the last 15 years to lend a helping hand to seniors with disabilities, local veterans, families in need, and community groups with exterior painting, home repairs, landscaping improvements, neighborhood cleanups, and other community projects, along with Paint Your Heart Out Palm Beach County and Rebuilding Together of the Palm Beaches.

Ruth has received over the years several national and local awards for her accomplishments, dedication and service to others. She has a six year professional degree in Architecture and Urban Planning from the University of Buenos Aires, as well as a Master's Degree in Community Planning with an area of concentration in international development, from the University of Cincinnati. Ruth is one the founding members of the Asset Based Neighborhood Organizing Network formed by neighborhood builders across the United States and Canada working to develop a national model for community engagement. Ruth serves on both, the Women's Foundation of Palm Beach County Giving Circle, which provides local micro-grants to empower women and girls in Palm Beach County, and the Hispanic Education Coalition of Palm Beach County. She also serves on her HOA's Board of Directors.

#### **Website Link**

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## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**Vivian L. Brooks, AICP**  
*Senior Planner and ACI Coordinator,  
PBC Office of Community Revitalization*



**Vivian L. Brooks** serves as *Senior Planner and is also ACI Coordinator* in the *PBC Office of Community Revitalization*. Vivian is a highly accomplished certified planner having led many public engagement and strategic planning efforts. Her experience is wide-ranging and she has been responsible for all aspects of urban redevelopment area plans, including drafting land use policies that enable the implementation of Community Redevelopment Area plans. As ACI Coordinator, she supports grassroots efforts to increase neighborhood wellness by focusing on developing communities from the inside out, identifying and mobilizing assets from within (their skills, abilities and gifts), and connecting them with one another. The overall goal of the program is to help communities to be places where people know their neighbors, watch out for each other, take pride in their community, and enjoy many opportunities for social, educational and recreational interaction.

**Website Link**

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**Bonnie Hodges Leech**  
*San Castle Neighbor Connector*

**Bonnie Hodges Leech** is the *Neighborhood Connector* for the *San Castle Neighborhood*. Neighborhood Connectors are responsible for organizing the community by identifying, recruiting and mobilizing a significant number of Block Connectors, facilitating and encouraging the Block Connector's conversation process and entering information from resident conversations into a database that facilitates the formation of new groups of residents based on their skills and interests.

## Planning Challenges 2019: City Stories

**William Waters, LEED AP BD+C**  
*Director of Community Sustainability,  
Lake Worth Beach*



**William Waters** serves as *Director for Community Sustainability* for *Lake Worth Beach*. His education includes Masters Degrees from the University of Virginia and the University of Miami in Urban Planning and Architecture as well as a Bachelor's in City Planning and a Historic Preservation Certificate. He is a Florida licensed architect and interior designer, has received National Council of Architectural Board certification, has been recognized as a LEED Accredited Professional by the U.S. Green Building Council and received a SEED certificate from the Harvard Graduate School of Design. His twenty plus year professional career includes both public and private sector work in North Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, Florida, the Bahamas and United Kingdom.

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**Trina Pulliam**  
*President,  
Trainnovations*



**Trina Pulliam** serves as *President of Trainnovations* a boutique consulting firm specializing in local government partnering with the Florida Institutes of Government since 1995. Trainnovations provides a multitude of diverse training, culture shifting, strategic planning and efficiency projects for over 4 dozen public agencies.

Along with 12 years' experience as a Florida Sterling Examiner and National Malcolm Baldrige Examiner, the Trainnovations team of consultants are also qualified in MBSR, Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction. In 2018 they were certified in Comprehensive Wellness from the Center for Mind Body Medicine and received certifications in Safe Conversations.

Trainnovations has incorporated mindfulness and other centering practices in their professional programming and personal lives. This began the journey helping agencies shift to environments that are less reactive and more present allowing people in local government to be fully engaged, effective and more efficient and productive at work.

Most recently, Trainnovations became the Palm Beach Chapter Leaders for Sidewalk Talk, a non-profit community project changing the world one heart-centered conversation at a time who teach and practice listening in public spaces.

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