



# RACHEL BRIGHT



PLANNER II

## OVERVIEW

Ms. Bright specializes in transportation planning and design with a focus on pedestrian and bicycle facilities. Her expertise includes physical planning and conceptual design, as well as corridor studies, capacity analysis, Geographical Information Systems (GIS) mapping, and public involvement. In addition, she has extensive training in architectural history and experience conducting historic preservation and cultural resources studies. Ms. Bright has utilized a variety of computer programs for design, analysis and presentation of planning projects.

### PEDESTRIAN AND BICYCLE PLANNING AND DESIGN

Ms. Bright has extensive experience in the design and planning of pedestrian and bicycle facilities. She is a skilled designer with strong drawing and rendering skills, rooted in a deep understanding of the needs of pedestrians and cyclists, the fundamentals of roadway design, and the psychology of road users. She has organized and managed various planning and design projects, including data collection and analysis, geometric design, mapping, and public presentation. Ms. Bright is well-versed in computer aided drafting and design (CADD) and various other design and mapping applications such as Adobe Illustrator and ArcGIS.

### TRANSPORTATION PLANNING AND TRAFFIC ENGINEERING

Ms. Bright has extensive experience in traffic simulation, highway capacity analysis, signal timing plans, signs/markings, and data collection. She has conducted capacity analysis and signalization for both corridors and individual intersections and has developed plans for curb reconstruction, signage and pavement markings. Ms Bright has utilized a variety of transportation computer programs including Synchro, Highway Capacity Software, AutoCAD, and ArcGIS.

### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Ms. Bright has experience facilitating stakeholder meetings and workshops, giving public presentations, and explaining planning/engineering projects to a lay audience. She has successfully sheperded many projects through the public review process.

### CULTURAL RESOURCES

Ms. Bright has significant training in the history of architecture, design, and urban development. She has conducted several studies documenting historic architectural resources and identifying potential historic landmark districts. Her experience also includes presentation of findings to Landmarks Commission.

## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### COMPLETE STREETS DESIGN MANUAL | NEW HAVEN, CT | 2009-2010

Ms. Bright served as project planner, editor and graphic designer for the development of the City of New Haven's Complete Streets Design Manual. The City passed legislation requiring local roadway projects to incorporate

### EDUCATION

- M.U.P. Master of Urban Planning, Hunter College, City University of New York, 2004
- B.A. Urban Design and Architecture, New York University, 2001

### PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

- American Planning Association (APA)
- Institute of Transportation Engineers (ITE)
- Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals (APBP)
- Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS)

### YEARS EXPERIENCE

- 4 Years with firm
- 8 Years in industry





Complete Streets principles, specifically to provide for the needs and safety of all road users with priority given to pedestrians, bicyclists and transit users. The manual provides an in-depth explanation of Complete Streets as well as detailed implementation guidelines. Ms. Bright attended steering committee meetings, provided technical expertise, and performed writing and editorial duties, as well as graphic design of the manual.

#### **EAST BROWN STREET TRAFFIC CALMING PLAN | WEST HAVEN, CT | 2009**

Project planner on a study of traffic issues on East Brown Street in West Haven, CT. The purpose of this study was to find solutions to the problems of excessive cut-through traffic and speeding on this residential street. Ms. Bright conducted fieldwork, coordinated with local officials, and formulated recommendations including a conceptual design for an intersection reconfiguration. A key part of this project involved holding several public meetings where Ms. Bright gathered information from local residents, listened to their concerns, and explained to them the pros and cons of various solutions. This led to a set of mutually agreeable solutions as part of the study's recommendations.

#### **REGIONAL BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN PLAN, CT | SOUTH CENTRAL REGION, CT | 2008**

Ms. Bright served as project planner for the Regional Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan for the South Central Regional Council of Governments. This plan focused on improving bicycle and pedestrian access and safety in the municipalities in the Region, as well as on regional connections and routes. Ms. Bright conducted fieldwork, prepared maps, and attended public meetings. In addition, she prepared conceptual design drawings for pedestrian and bicycle improvements and roadway reconfigurations at four specific locations in the region.

#### **ROUTES 6 AND 25 ACCESS MANAGEMENT STUDY | NEWTOWN, CT | 2009**

Project planner on a study of access management along a major thoroughfare in Newtown, CT. Ms. Bright analyzed the corridor and provided specific parcel-by-parcel recommendations for consolidating driveways, providing better access to businesses, and smoothing traffic flow.

#### **SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL PLANS | CAPITOL REGION, CT | 2009**

Ms. Bright served as project planner in the creation of Safe Routes to School Plans for several schools in the greater Hartford region. Safe Routes to School is a program aimed at improving safety and access for children to walk or bike to school. As part of the planning process, Ms. Bright conducted "Walk Audits" at the school, which involved meeting with school officials and parents, observing drop-off and pick-up operations, and doing field analysis of the existing pedestrian and bicycle facilities in the surrounding neighborhood. The Plans then offered recommendations and conceptual design plans for improving safety and access and thereby encouraging more children to walk to school.

#### **ADDITIONAL PROJECT EXPERIENCE**

- Connecticut Statewide Bicycle and Pedestrian Plan Update (2008)
- Downtown Planning Study, New Canaan, CT (2008)
- Comprehensive Plan, North Salem, NY (2008 – ongoing)
- Comprehensive Plan, Greenburgh, NY (2008 – ongoing)
- National Capital Region Evacuation and Sheltering Plan (2006-2007)
- Long Range Transportation Plan, Charlottesville, VA (2007)
- Metropolitan Transit Plan, Fredericksburg, VA (2007)
- Historic Building Survey, Fairfield, CT (2009)
- Historic Building Surveys, Belchertown and Southwick, MA (2008)

