

SHAWNIKA JOHNSON, MURP, AICP

EDUCATION

- 2019 – Present: PhD in Politics and Government/ Master of Science in Gender Studies
Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA
- Major/Concentration: Public Policy and Comparative Politics
Research Interests: Environmental Justice; Women in Public Policy
- Fellowships/Awards Lincoln Land and Policy Institute Fellow
Applied Women Studies Fellow
Department of Politics and Economics Scholar
Blaisdell Fellow
- 2004 – 2011: Master of Science in Urban and Regional Planning, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona
- Major: Urban and Regional Planning; Concentration: Community Development and Environmental Policy
- Master's Thesis: The Demographic and Socioeconomic Development of Inglewood, California, 1950-2010A socioeconomic and demographic analysis of the City of Inglewood, California post World War II. Research includes an analysis of Chamber of Commerce documents, and the City's economic development programs and policies, budgets, and disposition development agreements, to determine economic growth and decline decennials and factors contributing to the economic triumph and descent in order to develop recommendations for economic revitalization and sustainability.
- 1996 – 2001 Bachelor of Science in Health Science – California State University, Long Beach, CA
- Major(s): Health Science – Community Health Education; and, Health Science – School Health Education
- 2000-2001 Ronald E. McNair Scholar, California State University, Long Beach, CA
- 2013 American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), Certification No. 026360

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

- 2019 - 2020 Lecturer, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Pomona, CA
URP 5370: Environmental Policy & Planning (Fall 2019) – Graduate Students
URP 4870: Environmental Planning (Fall 2019) – Undergraduate Students
URP 3350: Plan Making: History and Future (Fall 2019) - Undergraduate Students

- 2019 Adjunct Professor, Los Angeles Community College District, Los Angeles, CA
Com Plan 106: Elections, Community, Power and Systems Reform in Community Development
- 2018 Teaching Assistant, Los Angeles Trade Technical College, Los Angeles, CA
Community Planning 6: Managing Non-Profit and Public Organizations
- 2013 Guest Lecturer: Urban and Regional Planning Studio, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

WORKING PAPERS

Environmental Pollutants: The Majority Minority Imbalance

Abstract: Environmental pollutants are an integral and unavoidable part of human existence. This norm is so much accepted that little thought is given to, and consistent study is not conducted to illuminate those impacted most by environmental pollutants. It is assumed that each of us equally bear the brunt of environmental pollutants or that foul odors, contaminated drinking water, lead poisoning, and respiratory problems caused by environmental pollutants are experienced afar off in third world countries rife with poverty, despair and illiteracy. However, the truth is that in American society, some of our most vulnerable communities – those riddled with poverty, unemployment, dilapidated housing, underfunded public education and unimaginable social ills which happen to be inhabited by minorities (i.e. African Americans, Asians, Latinos, and Native Americans), and low-income populations - are additionally overburdened with environmental pollutants generated both by themselves and other populations located outside of their locality. It is not the aim of this paper to prove that locally unwanted land uses (LULUs), in this case waste-treatment facilities, hazardous waste incinerators, hazardous waste landfills, trash dumps and other environmentally toxic land uses are primarily located in minority communities. This fact has been documented by scholars since the 1970s. However, this paper does demonstrate the historical existence of egregious land uses located in vulnerable (i.e. minority and lower socioeconomic) communities. In particular, this paper, analyzes whether existing laws adequately protect vulnerable communities from the disproportional siting of egregious land uses. In addition, recommendations are presented to prevent disparate placement of new noxious land uses in low income and minority communities in order to encourage the equal distribution of such land uses across communities irrespective of race and socioeconomic status.

African American Female Descriptive and Substantive Representation in the California State Legislature

Abstract: African American women have been involved in American politics since the 19th century. However, their political contributions have often been in non-traditional political settings – religious groups, schools, and civil rights and social movements; and are unknown to many. African American women did not begin to hold mainstream political positions (i.e. mayor, assembly member, etc.) until the 1960's; and little research has been conducted to document their roles in non-traditional and mainstream political positions. Furthermore, research has not been conducted on the salient policy issues authored by African American females in the California State Legislature. This paper is an exploratory case study not only provides background information for three of four existing California State Legislators – Holly J. Mitchell, Autumn R. Burke, and Shirley N. Weber – but also reveals their policy priorities by analyzing policy

issues authored by them. Previous research on the policy priorities of African American female state legislators indicate that education, health care, economic development and employment are their primary policy issues (Barrett, 1995). Others assert that African American female legislators are primarily concerned with policy issues which address race and gender (Darcy and Hadley, 1988). The results of this study show that the most salient policy priorities for African American women who serve in the California legislature include those which support women, provide social services and address social justice issues. However, a closer look at the top five policy priorities of the studied women prove that African American women legislators are diverse in the policy issues that matter most to them.

SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- 2015 American Planning Association (APA) State Conference, “Resume Clinic” Moderator
- 2014 American Planning Association (APA) State Conference, “Get Real Session” Panelist
- 2012 Invited Speaker: Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation, Southwest Industrial Park Specific Plan: Creating Development Opportunities for Industrial Uses
- 2012 American Planning Association California Chapter Conference, The Demographic and Socioeconomic Development ¹¹¹ of Inglewood, California, 1950-2010
- 2000 National Ronald E. McNair Symposium, African-American Infant Care Feeding and Practices

PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

- American Planning Association, Economic Development Division, Member
- American Planning Association, Women and Planning Division, Member
- California Planning Foundation Executive Board, Scholarship Committee and Fund Procurement
- California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Urban and Regional Planning Alumni Chapter Executive Board, President
- American Planning Association, Planning and the Black Community Division (PBCD) Executive Board and Scholarship Committee Member
- African American Parent Advisory Education Committee, Etiwanda School District

PROPOSALS

- 2008 Fontana Downtown Redevelopment Project
- 2008 Downtown Los Angeles Redevelopment and Mixed-Use Project
- 2007 Inland Empire Economic Development and Sustainability Project

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- Develop curriculum, student learning outcomes and assignment rubrics; teach course curriculum, provide academic and professional resources to students, collaborate with faculty to implement student learning outcomes, grade assignments, create and implement group learning activities, and evaluate student development.
- Collect HIV/AIDS epidemiologic data and educate low income, and disadvantaged communities on the effects of compromised health and health policy.
- Monitor, review and/or respond to various state, federal and local general plan, housing and economic development policies.

- Utilize various sources including the U.S. Census, the Journal of the American Planning Association (JAPA), the Department of Finance, Planning Magazine, electronic journals, and municipal databases to research, analyze and interpret economic, social, demographic, geographic, population and land use data and trends, conduct policy analysis, and write and implement ordinances and policies.
- Facilitate community meetings to solicit stakeholder feedback and participation in land use proposals and policies.
- Manage, supervise and direct, complex current and long-range planning projects and studies with multiple and/or concurrent timelines. Such projects include grants, vision plans, general plan updates, EIRs, addendums, general plan amendments, specific plan amendments, development agreements, zone changes, tract maps, parcel maps, plot plans, conditional use permits, and design reviews for residential, commercial, and industrial projects. Following project approval review construction plans and visit site to ensure adherence to city/county regulations.
- Supervise staff and assign current and long-range planning projects, and monitor project progress to ensure successful and timely completion
- Apprise staff of professional development opportunities
- Manage the Community Development Department in the absence of the Community Development Director
- Attend City executive team meetings and respond to City Manager inquiries and assignments.
- Represent the City at various professional meetings including COG and TAC meetings.
- Facilitate meetings between City officials and business owners.
- Collaborate with attorneys and author land use ordinances and prepare zoning/municipal code interpretation correspondence regarding sensitive land uses.
- Participate in the development and implementation of department goals, objectives, policies, priorities, budgets and work programs.
- Negotiate, analyze, select, and manage consultant environmental and planning service proposals and contracts. Ensure contractual services are performed and project remains on schedule.
- Author staff reports, resolutions, development agreements, environmental documents (e.g. initial studies, negative declarations, mitigated negative declarations, mitigation monitoring report programs, etc.); and provide oral presentations of such documents with recommendations to city departments, boards, committees and deciding bodies (i.e. planning commission, city council).
- Draft project schedules to ensure efficient processing and exemplary customer service; facilitate development meetings and offer design and regulatory alternatives to eliminate barriers to development.
- Participate in project development and design interdisciplinary team meetings and provide technical direction to planning staff and development professionals (e.g. engineers, building and safety, etc.).
- Utilize GIS, the United States Census Bureau, SPSS, and Microsoft Office (i.e. Word, Publisher, Excel, PowerPoint) for data analysis and presentation. Develop graphs, charts, maps, spreadsheets, brochures, mailers, etc.
- Represent the City at various regional and national meetings and conferences.
- Provide oral presentations and workshops to commissions, development boards, deciding bodies, and the community on proposed land use developments, and City policies, programs and ordinances.
- Administer various land use regulations including municipal code, zoning code, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), Permit Streamlining Act, Brown Act, Subdivision Map Act; and various land use assembly and senate bills.

- Communicate various City, state and federal development, housing, economic development, and workforce development programs and policies, to residents, developers, property owners, the business community, city departments and outside agencies.
- Knowledgeable of various economic development resources including enterprise zones (EZ), business improvement districts (BID), development disposition agreements (DDA), and community development block grants (CDBG).
- Reviews appurtenant applicants such as business permits, special use permits, temporary use permits, business license applications and zoning letters.
- Prepare operating pro forma for real estate projects and develop project proposals.
- Facilitate meetings with and respond to inquiries of developers, brokers and property owners for site selection development, project financial feasibility, and business development.
- Develop and maintains a contact information database of brokers, developers, and property/business owners.
- Create communication tools to promote City programs, projects and development incentives such as newspaper and magazine articles, public hearing notices, project brochures, and language for the City's social media.

WORK HISTORY

2014- Present	Innovative Planning Consulting Firm, Principal, Rancho Cucamonga, CA
2020 – Present	Research Assistant, Claremont Graduate University, Claremont, CA
2019 – Present	Lecturer, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Pomona, CA
2019 – Present	Adjunct Professor, Los Angeles Community College District, Los Angeles, CA
2018	Teaching Assistant, Los Angeles Community College District (LACCD), Los Angeles Trade Technical College (LATTTC), Los Angeles, CA
2014 – 2015	City of Yorba Linda, Associate Planner, Yorba Linda, CA, Full Time
2006 - 2014	City of Fontana, Assistant Planner, Fontana, CA, Full Time
2005 – 2006	Hogle-Ireland, Assistant Project Manager II, Riverside, CA, Full Time
2005 – 2005	Ion Communities, Project Management Intern, Pomona, CA, Part-Time
2005 – 2005	City of Fontana, Planning Intern III, Fontana, CA, Part-Time
2001 – 2005	Public Health Investigator, County of Los Angeles, Los Angeles, CA, Full Time
2001 - 2001	Workforce Center Assistant, City of Anaheim, Anaheim, CA, Part Time
2000 – 2001	Research Assistant, Kaiser Permanente/Partners in Care, Downey, CA, Part-Time
1999 – 2000	Project Assistant, City of Torrance, Torrance, CA, Part-Time