

Craig A. Wilson, AICP

VICE PRESIDENT / PLANNER

BACKGROUND

Planning is a second career for Craig, having previously served in inner-city ministry for 9 years and as a denominational administrator for 18 years. He holds a Master's in Urban and Regional Planning from VCU. Craig focuses on economic development, downtown restructuring and revitalization, community branding, market and demographic analysis, and public participation/facilitation.

PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Project Manager – Housing Development Blueprint

Brunswick County Industrial Development Authority, Brunswick County, VA.

After performing an analysis of the real estate market data for the County and surrounding communities, field surveys of the County and relevant markets in the region were conducted. Input was sought from real estate concerns active in the County to identify successful models and determine potential areas of opportunity. Three development scenarios and site plans were created that build on existing or planned community assets (water & sewer in the County's small towns, numerous small ponds and lakes, and the development of new trails). The final report included all of the background data, the site plans for potential new development, implementation strategies, and a timetable.

Project Manager – Downtown Revitalization Projects

City of Galax and Town of Pulaski, VA.

Planning studies associated with each project identified façade improvements, alley improvements including telecommunications infrastructure, streetscape amenities, and enhanced visitor amenities including parking improvements as key activities to revitalizing the downtown economy. CDBG applications were submitted, funded, and implementation measures are currently underway. In Galax, ARC funding was secured for the adaptive reuse of a bank building as the Chestnut Creek School of the Arts.

Project Manager – Alleghany Highlands Economic Trends & Local Government Reorganization Studies

Alleghany Foundation, Alleghany County, VA.

An examination was conducted of the toughest trends that must be turned around and the greatest challenges that must be tackled in order to make the Alleghany Highlands a more desirable place to start and/or relocate a business. A second phase of the study researched the restructuring of local government including any potential savings that could be redirected to economic development.

EDUCATION

Master of Urban and Regional Planning, Virginia Commonwealth University, 1995

Master of Theology, New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, 1979

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, University of South Florida, 1976

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Planning Association, National & Virginia Chapters

American Institute of Certified Planners

