

JAMES E. ANASTON-KARAS, MCRP



KEY QUALIFICATIONS

Manager, persuasive communicator and consensus builder with over 25 years professional experience in public administration and advocacy, community planning and environmental sciences, and project management.

EXPERIENCE & SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

- **Planning Team Manager:** Co-managed satellite office, manage community planning projects with multi-disciplinary staff including due diligence, urban design, water resources, redevelopment, and comprehensive planning. Manage staff, workload and budgeting, and business development. MSCW, Inc. (www.mscwinc.com). 2005-current.
- **Legislative Team Leader:** Coordinated and negotiated complex legislative agenda as county lobbying team leader among Florida State Legislative and Executive Branch leaders, 4 years.
- **Ex-Officio Member, South Florida Regional Planning Council:** Gubernatorial Appointee to apply Strategic Regional Policy Plan for land use and water resource planning, 4 years.
- **Satellite Office Director, Project Manager, and Lead Planner:** Managed staff, water resource planning in Broward County, and approximately \$10 million for partnership contracts with local governments and contractors. Composed and managed budgets, secured and administered grant funding. Critiqued comprehensive plans; Managed complex negotiations including Lower East Coast Water Supply Plan. Coordinated Emergency planning and response. Received Productivity Award. South Florida Water Management District, 8 years.
- **Adjunct Professor:** Florida Atlantic University, Environmental Planning, 3 years. Designed and taught new core undergraduate course.
- **Florida Legislative Staff:** Natural Resources and Growth Management Policy Coordinator to Speaker of the House, Growth Management Subcommittee Lead Analyst, and Chief Aide to State Senator, 8 years. Outstanding Service Award, Florida Senator Peter Weinstein, 1985.
- **Energy Section Chief:** Validated utility company forecasts, and published critical energy data using advanced computer forecasting methods, Ohio Department of Energy, 4 years.
- **Effective public speaker,** advanced facilitator, moderator and witness. Served as expert witness in winning administrative law challenge. Managed "Hot Topics" forum.
- **Co-managed fund-raising** and assisted with wide variety of issue and election campaigns.
- **Managed media** and environmental education events including wetland slogs, airboat, canoe, boat, and helicopter tours to examine key issues about Florida's ecology. Published interview on National Public Radio, 1998.

EDUCATION, CERTIFICATIONS & LICENSURE

Certified Charrette Planner, National Charrette Institute, 2007.

Certificate, Advanced Facilitation, Broward County Board of County Commissioners, 2003 and Member, Broward Facilitators Network, 2003-2005. Advanced Conflict Resolution training, Florida Conflict Resolution Consortium, 1997-1999.

Master of Arts, City and Regional Planning, Department of Architecture, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio. Thesis on urban density and energy efficiency (Dr. Jack Nasar). Phi Kappa Phi Academic Honorary, Outstanding Young Men of America. 1980-83.

Certificate, Oxford University, England. Emphasis on **British politics and town planning**. Thesis research on urban density and energy efficiency. Summer study and travel. 1981.

Bachelor of Arts, Political Science, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale, Illinois. Academic honors. Minor concentrations: Urban politics and policy, electronics technology. Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities. City/University Liaison. Sphinx Honorary President. "Greek of the Year" Award. 1976-80.

Licensed Sea Captain, United States Coast Guard No. 1139699, 50 Ton Master. Over 10,000 miles sailed. 1991-current.

PROJECTS AND PUBLICATIONS

- **Project Manager**: Stuart Community Redevelopment Agency Plan - Evaluation and revision, MSCW, Inc. 2007-current.
- **Team Manager for Master Planning Projects**: Site and economic analyses, redevelopment, concept and master planning for over 18,000 acres in the Treasure Coast, FL. MSCW, Inc. 2005-current.
- **Project Manager** for Master Plan and Comprehensive Plan Amendment Applications: Sites in St. Lucie and Palm Beach Counties, FL. Includes mixed land uses, workforce housing, rock mine restoration, and industrial land uses. MSCW, Inc. 2005-2008.
- **Project Team Member**, Best Practices Manual for City and County Capital Improvements Planning, contracted by Florida Department of Community Affairs, MSCW, Inc. 2006.
- **Project Team Coordinator**, Western C-9 Basin Charrette (Broward County, FL): South Florida Water Management District & 1000 Friends of Florida, 1994-95.
- **Project Manager** of Visioning Workshop, Broward Urban River Trails (1994), and Founding Board Member, 6 years.
- **Manager of Water Resource Projects**: Managed over \$10 million in partnership contracts such as industrial park stormwater system retrofit, wetland mitigation, alternative supply for drinking water wells, canal dredging, and hydrologic computer modeling, 7 years.
- **Project Team Member**, Everglades Restoration: Catalyzed real estate acquisition, coordinated land use and permitting decisions, and developed land management plans for critical projects in Broward County, 6 years. Served as Expert Witness for prevailing side in

administrative challenge related to land use planning for Everglades Restoration Project, (Styled as "Non-ECP permit" challenge), 1997.

- Marine and Marina Planning Projects:
 - **Steering Committee Member** - Master Plan for the Marine Industries Association of South Florida, 2 years.
 - **Marine Advisory Committee Member** - Awarded approx. \$1 million annually for Broward County waterway access projects and marine law enforcement, 4 years.
- **Contributing Author**, Lower East Coast Regional Water Supply Plan, 2000.
- **Contributing Author**, Governor's Commission for a Sustainable South Florida Final Report, 1998.
- **Author**, Master's Degree Thesis: Karas, James E., "Resident Attitudes Toward Higher Residential Densities in Columbus, Ohio." The Ohio State University, 1983.

MEMBERSHIPS & AWARDS

- **American Planning Association:** National, Florida (Member, Legislative Policy Committee), Treasure Coast, Ohio and Broward County Chapters, 20 years (current).
- **Florida Redevelopment Association:** Member and conference contributor, 2007-present. Member, East Stuart Mainstreet, 2009-present.
- **Sustainable Treasure Coast, Inc.**, Board Member, 2006 - current.
- **Urban Land Institute**, Executive Committee Member of National and Southeast Florida/Caribbean Chapters, 2006-current.
- **Florida Association of Intergovernmental Relations**, President and member, 2000-present.
- **American Water Resources Association.** Member, Florida Chapter, 7 years (current).
- **Leadership Broward Foundation:** Honoree, Graduate and numerous projects and committees, including Outreach and Membership Vice Presidents, 10 years (current).
- **Extensive Community Service** including Boys and Girls Clubs, STARS Mentoring. Volunteer of the Year Award, 2003. Over \$50,000 charitable fund-raising, 20 years.
- **Alpha Tau Omega Fraternity**, Chapter President and "Resident Scholar" Advisor, Alumni Association Member. Scholarship and Regional Province Leadership/Service Awards. 1977-95.

REFERENCES

Provided upon request.

March 2009