



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

## **Churchill Borough**

Alexander Graziani, Manager, Churchill Borough  
2300 William Penn Highway  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15235

### **Community Development Specialist**

With the approval of one of the largest private development projects in Allegheny County history, Churchill Borough will experience a significant community change. The redevelopment of the George Westinghouse Research and Technology Park to an Amazon Distribution Center brings a projected revenue increase of 75%, but the project has presented challenges for the borough.

The Intern selected for the community development specialist position will assist municipal staff to prepare a 5-year Budget Plan to best steward this revenue to align with Borough values and desired outcomes. Unlike some larger municipalities, the entirety of the Borough administration consists of three persons. These three professionals oversee all the Borough's efforts of public works, community development, recreation, and the administrative responsibilities to support the entire Borough, including police, which falls under the Mayor to manage. With such a small staff, the Intern will work closely with the Manager, gaining valuable work experience.

The 5-Year Budget Plan will recommend specific ways to best spend additional revenue to represent the values of the Borough:

- People matter and local government exists to protect and serve.
- All reasonable efforts are to be made to promote safe roads, neighborhoods, schools, as well as commercial business and recreational areas.
- Long-term decision making is the best way to steward the taxpayer's purse in the present and the future.
- With limited resources, local government seeks to do the most good for the most people of the Churchill Borough community.
- Meaningful and inclusive public participation is essential for good decision making.
- All the Borough does must be fair, equitable, and just.
- Actions taken by the Borough should seek to enhance the wellbeing of residents, the land, water, and air of the Borough.



## 2022 Municipal Intern Program Project Descriptions

### **Dormont Borough**

Benjamin Estell, Manager  
1444 Hillsdale Ave  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15216

### **Safe Mobility Plan Internship**

Dormont Borough is at an exciting moment with major demographic shifts, rising home prices, energetic leadership, a revitalizing business district, and a community mandate to ensure we evolve as a community that supports all residents. This internship is a great opportunity to dive into a critical municipal process and play a key hands-on role in the development of actionable policy, while learning to interface in a variety of ways with a diverse group of stakeholders. There are numerous critical skills to learn and implement throughout this process, along with the active leadership and engaged community members to make it enjoyable and educational.

Through the Borough's recently completed Strategic Planning process, residents identified walkability as an important community asset. Despite that, safety of walking – particularly crossing West Liberty Avenue – was identified as a concern of many residents. Though the Borough is the densest community in the region, many of our residents choose to travel by car rather than walk to get around town.

The internship to support the creation of Dormont's Safe Mobility Plan will have an impact on the health and livelihood of residents and visitors. We know that safer mobility welcomes people into our streets, on our sidewalks, and to our public common areas, and increases the common spaces where connections between neighbors are built and community is made.

Dormont's Safe Mobility Plan will guide the Borough toward:

- Enhancing walkability in two disparate business districts, including the West Liberty Avenue corridor and Potomac Avenue
- Promoting ease of mobility by non-vehicle modes such as walking, biking, and scooting
- Increasing accessibility for all residents, including consideration of special groups: children, people with disabilities, seniors, and those who do not own vehicles

Learning Outcomes:

- Organizing and analyzing large sets of data
- Determining additional information needed and conducting research
- Synthesizing data, community input, and research to write policy
- Cooperate with neighboring municipalities to build toward a regional plan
- Engaging with residents in traditional and digital formats to share progress and elicit feedback



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

### **Elizabeth Township**

Greg Butler, Manager  
522 Rock Run Rd  
Elizabeth, Pennsylvania 15037

### **Elizabeth Township Housing Market Analysis**

Elizabeth Township lies between the shores of the Youghiogheny and Monongahela Rivers with a population of roughly thirteen thousand people, encompassing nearly twenty-three square miles in the southeastern section of Allegheny County. Home to the Great Allegheny Passage Trail, the Township's picturesque settings and community amenities have spurred development interest.

Taking a proactive approach to development pressures, the Township recently completed and adopted a Comprehensive Plan to help it flourish and grow in the coming years. One of the primary municipal actions suggested in the plan is to broaden housing choices under the larger concept of attracting future residential development. The goal is to "foster the provision of diverse housing opportunities that complement and/or enhance existing neighborhood character as well as attract new residents and accommodate existing residents of all ages".

The Intern will work under the guidance of the Township's management and Board of Commissioners to identify strategies to help leadership respond to developers to meet housing needs and demands. The outcome of this internship will have long-lasting benefits for planners and Township management, as the plan will support sound land use decisions and future zoning amendments.

The proposed intern would complete the following task toward completion of this action item in the Comprehensive Plan.

- Conduct a regional housing market analysis based on the latest demographic data/trends in partnership with local real estate experts and housing developers to help identify key demographic groups and housing types that best fit with the community's goals and character.
- Build upon discussions and background analysis completed through the Comprehensive Plan and coordinate tasks needed to complete a regional housing market analysis.
- Continue and expand engagement with real estate agents/experts and housing developers to gather insights related to the housing market and construction patterns.
- Utilize the results of the study to identify target housing types that the Township seeks to promote and share findings with local housing developers.
- Create a comprehensive database containing critical information about the existing housing stock within Elizabeth Township.



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- Assess recent residential developments in neighboring, and similar demographic, municipalities to determine factors related to housing type, construction method, occupancy rate, sales timeline, and community acceptance.
- Consider the current inventory of blighted structures within the Township and assess major contributing factors to blighted areas and trends.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**Glassport Borough**

Andrea Foster, Borough Financial Secretary  
440 Monongahela Ave  
Glassport, Pennsylvania 15045

**Municipal Special Projects Manager in Training**

Glassport Borough is a compact municipality nestled along the Monongahela River about 10 miles southeast of the City of Pittsburgh. The Borough is a member of the Steel Rivers Council of Governments and is in the process of modernizing financial management and documentation practices as it prepares for a unique recreational opportunity with the development of an urban off-road vehicle park. Glassport Borough is seeking an Intern interested in gaining significant hands-on experiences in public administration, community engagement, and grant management.

The Municipal Special Projects Manager in Training will support the implementation of Glassport's recently completed Community Financial Health Assessment, which outlines key actions that should be taken to strengthen the resiliency of Glassport Borough.

This internship will support the Borough's capital improvement planning process, and the Intern will include significant interaction with Borough Leadership and administration. Anticipated tasks include: conducting interviews with Borough key staff and department directors; complete an inventory of capital infrastructure, vehicles, and equipment; research and develop financial policies; review accounting practices, system structure, and software with the intent of enhancing and upgrading financial management through installation of governmental software; and create a cost/analysis process for staff that will assist them in hiring decisions relative to current and future legacy costs.

Finally, working under the guidance and mentorship of an experienced local government policy consultant, the Intern's work is sure to have significant and positive long-lasting community impact.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**The Town of Greenville, Mercer County**

Jasson Urey, Town Manager  
125 Main Street  
Greenville, PA 16125

**Environmental Remediation Internship**

The Town of Greenville is a small, tightknit community in Mercer County, approximately 80 miles north of the City of Pittsburgh and home to Thiel College. The Town has worked diligently to recover from deindustrialization and out-migration and is seeking an Intern to assist in the completion of environmental permitting process required to restore a 34-acre brownfield industrial site in the center of Town.

This site has been in the process of environmental remediation since 2006. The property owner is very close to completing this environmental closeout (ACT 2 clearance) but needs assistance from the Town to achieve the final process of accomplishing this closeout. The property owner is interested in pursuing a Non-Use Aquifer (NUA) Determination from the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) to facilitate the remediation of the site and a relief of liability through Land Recycling and Remediation Standards Act (Act 2). There are tasks that the remediator must accomplish, and the Town can assist the property owner in moving these tasks closer to the Land Recycling Program (Act 2) closure and position it for future redevelopment.

The Intern will play a vital role in helping acquire the needed information from residents to help the Town establish a Non-Use Aquifer to assist the with the ACT 2 closeout. The Town Manager will assist the Intern with setting a records acquisition system for the needed information. The Intern, the Town Manager, and the Town's consulting team will compile this information that will then be used to establish this Non-Use Aquifer. The Intern will then draft an Ordinance along with assistance from the Town Manager. The Intern selected for this project will gain valuable knowledge in research, administrative functions of a municipality, and drafting ordinances. As the Intern progresses with this project, the Town Manager will provide weekly goals and meet periodically to go over the results. This will help the Intern better understand what is needed from the Town. This project will be extremely valuable for any graduate or undergraduate student interested in a municipal government and environmental sciences career.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**Local Government Academy**

Joy M. Ruff, AICP, Executive Director  
1501 Preble Ave., Suite 202  
Pittsburgh, PA 15233

**Municipal Intern Program Coordinator**

The Municipal Intern Program (MIP) is an incredibly important workforce development initiative that increases awareness of the myriad of careers available in local government. Each year, without fail, several of the placement sites will keep their interns working through the school year hoping to bring them on full-time once graduated. It truly is a win-win situation for both the placement sites and students.

The MIP Coordinator is an important position that requires a self-starter who can work well both independently and as a team. The Coordinator will have the following duties: Oversee interaction with the Interns and Placement Sites to include managing the MIP Facebook Page, promoting the program through social media strategies, and regular virtual meetings; Conduct site visits to meet with the Interns and Supervisors to observe the workplace, discuss project status, and increase understanding of Local Government Academy; Serve as a support to the Intern during the internship; Support successful completion of Intern and Placement Site meetings including Municipal Orientation, Intern Orientation, Intern Development sessions, and a Recognition Luncheon at the end of the program; Working closely with the Marketing Manager, develop and deliver social media strategies to support the Municipal Intern Program; Support the development and delivery of educational programs and training events related to the functions of local government.

Must have a valid driver's license and reliable transportation and willingness to travel.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**Marshall Township**

Julie Bastianini, Township Manager  
525 Pleasant Hill Rd  
Wexford, PA 15090

**Marshall Township Water Quality Screening & GIS Internship**

Marshall Township is a short 20-minute drive north of Pittsburgh in the thriving northwest corner of Allegheny County. The Marshall Township Water Quality Screening & GIS Intern will work with the Township's GIS Coordinator and Township Engineer to update the Township's existing stormwater outfall database and mapping.

The Intern will assess each of the Township's stormwater outfalls to determine if any pollutants are being directed or conveyed to the Township's stormwater management system. The work will involve a significant amount of field work in and along roads, meadows, and wooded areas. The Intern will visit each of the outfalls to determine if there are any dry weather flows in the system. If dry weather flows are noted, testing will be conducted to determine if the flow is due to an illegal/illicit connection to the system. The visits and assessment will be documented using a handheld tablet and working with the Township GIS Coordinator to update existing storm sewer and other map sets that are maintained by the Township.

This project represents an integral component of the Township's Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program. Documentation and outfall screening provides the basis for the Township's decisions and plan to address illicit discharge and achieve cleaner and healthier waterways while providing better, more accurate information to the public.



## 2022 Municipal Intern Program Project Descriptions

### **Quaker Valley Council of Governments**

Patrick Conners, Executive Director  
343 Eicher Rd  
Pittsburgh, PA 15237

### **COG Member Community Liaison**

Quaker Valley COG is a network of 15 communities along the Ohio River as it heads north from its confluence in downtown Pittsburgh. Starting at the City of Pittsburgh boundary, the Quaker Valley COG municipalities form an uninterrupted string of boroughs and townships until it reaches the Allegheny County – Beaver County line. All 15 members of the Quaker Valley COG are full members, and the COG's total population is approximately 31,000 people.

The COG Member Community Liaison will provide the QVCOG with a template to further develop its existing structure and services. The resources anticipated to be provided by this proposed Project will allow the organization to better understand its objects and best serve its member communities in the year 2022 and beyond. The outcomes are anticipated to be both strategic and analytical, allowing for implementation even at the conclusion of the Intern's experience.

The COG Member Community Liaison will interact closely with the Executive Director and engage with member communities and organizations/institutions both within and outside the COG service area. The Intern will receive a comprehensive onboarding highlighting the function of Councils of Governments and other regional intergovernmental collaboration efforts.

The Intern will work under the direct supervision of the Executive Director, who was a former MIP Intern, and will have frequent interactions with staff and officials within a number of the COG's member communities. The work of the Intern will support current programming and strategically plan for future collaborative opportunities through an internal strategic analysis. Specifically, by engaging with other COGs and like-minded organizations within the region to benchmark existing organizational structures, identify efficiencies, and outline opportunities for the COG to better serve its communities.

#### Project Objectives:

- Build upon member community engagement efforts (existing and prospective members);
- Increase awareness of existing services and programming;
- Develop a Strategic Plan to evaluate existing and prospective programming and services;
- Use Qualitative/Quantitative analytics to develop an Internal Organizational Report for the Board of Directors; and
- Assist Executive Director in additional capacities (i.e. digital outreach, brand promotion, etc.).



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**Reserve Township**

Natalie Thiess, Manager  
33 Lonsdale St  
Pittsburgh, PA 15229

**Capital Improvement Plan and Future Economic Outlook Strategy Intern**

Reserve Township is chiefly a residential community conveniently located close to the City of Pittsburgh that offers stunning views of the city skyline. Proactive leadership over the years have made targeted financial investments to improve quality of life and services in the Township. Officials continue to strive for community enhancements, but also recognize the negative impacts unwise spending will have on its residents. The Township receives its revenue from property and earned income taxes and has limited physical space for further development.

The Intern will support the completion of a Capital Improvement Plan and Future Economic Outlook strategy that will allocate scarce resources toward capital improvement projects while preserving municipal operational capacity. To achieve this, the Township is proposing to implement its initial Five- or Ten-Year Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). This will serve as a critical guide to this small community, which faces numerous fiscal challenges, including aging infrastructure, substantial unfunded state and federal mandates, and limited physical space for development. Upon completion, the plan will be presented to the Board of Commissioners as the official Capital Improvement Plan for the Township.

The development of a Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) and Future Economic Outlook will fundamentally improve the nature of asset acquisition in the community. The CIP will widen the focus of elected officials and Township administration to include both immediate needs as well as long-term strategic and sustainable investments/improvements for the community. This project will also convey to Township taxpayers that budget allocations have a rationale routed in policy and are not the result of reactive political decisions. The CIP will also function as a living, practical, and flexible document that will be referred to during the next 5-10 years. The document will provide an important baseline, which will aid the Township in providing responsible fiscal management. It will also prevent the Township from restarting the planning process each time there is a newly elected official or a changeover in Township personnel. In addition to producing an immediate positive impact by increasing efficiency of the budgeting process, it will also maximize the effectiveness of financial allocations long term.

By developing a Capital Improvement Plan for the Township, the Intern will obtain experience in applying methods from academic courses to concrete, real-life projects. This project will afford training in the financial aspects of public management and policy. This exercise will provide a thorough lesson in budgeting, forecasting, and cash flow management. The Intern will be challenged to further develop research skills and to improve knowledge and understanding of public sector best.



2022 Municipal Intern  
Program Project Descriptions

**The Borough of Sewickley**

Donna Kaib, Borough Manager  
601 Thorn St  
Sewickley, PA 15143

**Borough Manager Junior Assistant**

The Borough of Sewickley is a charming small town with a vibrant main street and quaint walkable neighborhoods. The word Sewickley is a Native American word for "Sweet Water" and the community has a history that dates back to the mid-1700s. The Borough offers a welcoming environment and is seeking an Intern who wants a wide range of opportunities to experience the day-to-day activities of local government administration.

The selected Intern will work under the guidance of the Borough Manager and participate in problem solving and identifying solutions with other staff members to achieve the best outcome for the community. Working with the Right to Know officer, the Intern will understand the steps local governments take to ensure transparency and accountability.

This internship will expand the Intern's knowledge of governments' role to protect the environment. With the Public Works Department, the Intern will support compliance with clean water requirements through community outreach and development of policies as they have direct interaction with current projects.

The Intern will learn the legislative side as well as the municipal operations, as daily activities will span municipal departments, including Administration, Public Works, and Code Enforcement.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**South Strabane, Washington County**

Jim Sutter, Assistant to the Township Manager  
550 Washington Rd  
Washington, PA 15301

**Dynamic Growth Management Intern**

South Strabane is a rapidly growing community of 9,613 residents situated in the rolling hills of Southwestern Pennsylvania that prides itself on being the dining and shopping hub of Washington County. The Township is and will likely continue to experience dynamic growth in the foreseeable future. Further, this dynamic growth also challenges the Township as a public service agency in how it continues to provide effective, efficient, economic, and equitable services.

The Intern will be involved in an ambitious program with an immersive experience in the world of local government. The Township leadership is committed to providing a practical and multi-faceted atmosphere that will provide quality professional development and pre-career experiences. This internship will be wide-ranging but focused on four core areas.

First, the Intern will provide assistance in the Township's upcoming challenge of the 2020 Census results via the official Count Question Resolution program. Working on this project would provide a unique opportunity to work on a process that relies on intergovernmental cooperation with insight into the relationship between local and federal government.

The next facet of this project will involve assisting the Finance/HR Analyst with a long overdue update of the Township's Employee Policy Manual. This project will provide the Intern with a tangible experience in personnel matters and policy formulation, which can be hard to come by in an academic setting.

The Intern will also, at the direction of the Township Manager and Assistant to the Township Manager, create a Board Orientation Program. This project, once complete, will be used to familiarize all newly elected and appointed officials of the Township with basic information related to their respective position, and state laws and local regulations with which they will come into contact frequently. This will also provide an opportunity for the Intern to research and learn in more detail about local government operations.

Finally, the Intern will be tasked with generating recommendations on the Township initiating a performance measurement program. This ambitious component will allow the Intern to spend time with each department in the Township in order to familiarize themselves with and collect data on their operations. Following this, the Intern will be tasked with reporting on their findings to the Board of Supervisors and implementing this tool in the annual budget process.



## 2022 Municipal Intern Program Project Descriptions

### **The Steel Rivers Council of Governments**

An Lewis, Executive Director  
1705 Maple Street, Suite 100  
Homestead, PA 15120

### **Community Engagement within SRCOG and TCLB communities**

The Steel Rivers Council of Governments (SRCOG) is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization that assists its nineteen member municipalities in addressing regional problems in the Mon Valley. SRCOG has worked for 45 years to improve conditions in a region that has most severely felt the negative effects of post-industrial disinvestment. Programs and services are developed based on community need.

Tri-COG Land Bank (TCLB) was founded in 2017 by SRCOG and Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments after years of research and advocacy seeking to address the prevalent problem of vacant and abandoned properties. It is a multi-jurisdictional land bank operating in Allegheny County and representing 33 members. TCLB's central goal is to transfer vacant, abandoned properties back to productive uses that benefit communities. Strategic decisions are made to ensure the highest impact properties are pursued and placed into productive use and taxpaying status. TCLB is driven by a plan for the place and the data to support strategic decisions. Not all communities have the same priorities. Land banks are flexible for communities' plans and responsive enough for new opportunities.

The SRCOG and its partner organization Tri-COG Land Bank collectively work in 37 municipalities in 8 school districts in the Mon Valley, Allegheny Valley, and Eastern Suburbs. As SRCOG's previous projects have demonstrated, <http://steelriverscog.org/the-cost-of-blight/> and <http://steelriverscog.org/land-banking/>, these communities are struggling with an overabundance of vacant, blighted, and abandoned properties. However, they also have come together to develop programs to address these challenging issues. With the challenge comes opportunity. The engagement work at the center of this position is key to ensuring that the actions of each organization are in line with the community goals.

The work of both organizations should be shaped and informed by community input – both from the elected and appointed official within the local governments, as well as the residents. The Intern will be a part of a team who will develop a plan for this engagement and decide how to best share and present the feedback received. SRCOG anticipates that the Intern will help develop, distribute, and analyze surveys to each constituent group. There may also be opportunities for follow-up interviews with stakeholders. Additionally, the TCLB plans to host 12-15 community engagement events in 2022. Some will occur during the summer internship. The Intern will attend and support the events with TCLB staff.



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The SRCOG/TCLB work environment is very supportive for interns. They encourage students to dive in and become a part of the team for the summer. There will be many opportunities for the Intern to explore areas of interest within the scope of this work.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**The Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments**

Natalie Merola, Special Projects Coordinator  
2700 Monroeville Blvd  
Monroeville, PA 15146

**Mitigating Blight through Technology, Code Administration and Workforce Development**

The Turtle Creek Valley Council of Governments (TCVCOG) is a non-profit organization founded in 1971 when eleven municipalities decided to work cooperatively to implement efficient, cost-effective programs that improve the communities they served. Today, that number has doubled, and TCVCOG now serves a total population of approximately 177,286 residents across the East Hills suburbs.

The TCVCOG internship offers a dynamic working environment, and this project will have real-world implications to build equity through modernized code enforcement technology. The Intern will work directly with senior staff and leadership to assist in the implementation of a software solution currently in development to support a full-service, regional, strategic code enforcement program. The importance of this project is underscored by the positive impact it will have on numerous communities that simply do not have capacity to address the pervasive and regional issue of deteriorated and abandoned properties.

The Intern will have an opportunity to gain a broader perspective of how local governments work, and the benefits of intergovernmental cooperation while they receive an enriching intern experience through immersion into departmental operations to perform the following work:

- Experience working through the software development process with the TCVCOG team, which will include updating information in the system, testing the system in the field, and providing feedback.
- Experience working with parcel level data in the Utility Billing department, and investigating ways utility billing data can be incorporated into codeNforce.
- Working with senior staff to create a Workforce Development plan around code enforcement.
- Working with other interns on strategies to enhance outreach and communication to member towns.
- Field work related to code enforcement.
- Grant management.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**The Borough of Verona**

Christine DeRunk, Borough Secretary  
736 East Railroad Ave  
Verona, PA 15147

**Vacant Property Mapping/Database and Comprehensive Plan Elements**

The Borough of Verona, situated along the Allegheny River, has a welcoming small-town appeal and a proactive governing council taking steps to an exciting future full of potentials. The community is known for its affordable housing, great recreational facilities, riverfront development, an award-winning school district and a business district strategically located in a high traffic area. The Intern will work directly with the Borough Secretary/Manager, who worked as a planning consultant in her prior role.

The Intern will assist in data analysis and mapping of vacant properties, which will serve as a basis for the demographics and housing elements of an updated comprehensive plan, which dates back to the 1970s. With limited resources, the Intern will provide essential capacity to the Borough and will be truly integrated into the work environment.

Working closely with the Code Enforcement Officer as well, the Intern will support the creation of vacant properties database through data analysis and mapping. This involves using data available through the tax collector's office and the Allegheny County Real Estate office as well as other sources to catalogue vacant properties in the Borough. Pertinent information includes but is not limited to address, owner of record and whether the owner of record is living or deceased, status as vacant parcel versus vacant building, whether the building appears to be rehab-able or is in need of demolition, delinquent tax amounts levied by which taxing bodies, zoning designation, and any other information of note that may be obtained by coordinating with the code enforcement officer, Borough engineer, the Public Works foremen, or other Borough employees. The parcels will be mapped and symbolized to geographically illustrate the level of severity of vacant parcels located throughout the Borough.

The Intern's data analysis will support the development of the Demographics and Housing Elements of an updated Comprehensive Plan. The existing 1975 Plan is obsolete but at only a half square mile in size, the Borough lacks the tax base to afford to hire consultants to write the entire plan at this time. Working with the Borough Secretary/Manager, the Intern will conduct data analysis and mapping of current and historical trends for key demographic data. Additionally, and related to the vacant properties portion of the scope of work, the project involves analysis and mapping of key housing data.



2022 Municipal Intern Program  
Project Descriptions

**City of Washington's Citywide Development Corp, Washington County**

Christy Rowing, Executive Director  
273 South Main Street  
Washington, PA 15301

**Community Engagement and Blight Strategist**

The City of Washington is a picturesque small town that is not only the County Seat of the County of Washington, but also home to Thomas and Jefferson College. While the City's historic legacy is a source of pride, outmigration and age has made its mark in some neighborhoods. The Citywide Development Corp is a grant-funded, 501(c)(3) organization, created by the City of Washington, with the mission to promote the economic growth, neighborhood revitalization, and improve the quality of life for residents. The Citywide Development Corp spearheads numerous events and is leading a very important blight remediation initiative as a component of a Neighborhood Partnership Program (PPP), which is a long-term collaboration (five years or more) of business, government, and community leaders to produce a comprehensive, asset-based and relationship-driven approach to community development.

The Community Engagement and Blight Strategist Intern will receive a holistic perspective to local government and community development. The Intern will work with a multi-faceted team under the direction of the Executive Director. Team efforts will provide firsthand experience to see how different aspects of the community are interconnected and find resources to address pervasive regional issues such as blight. Specific activities will utilize REGrid (GIS) for data collection of blight within the City of Washington, research and draft fact sheet and press releases, attend meetings and working groups as required with other community and municipal organizations, and assist with volunteer coordination.

Activities will include supporting the work of a blight inventory working group. The Intern will learn analytical skills while examining blight inventory data and hone their expertise to convey technical information in a visual manner more accessible to community residents. This position will be exposed to a range of issues including blight issues, economic development, fair housing, fair lending, grass roots organizing, and advocacy. The Intern will have the opportunity to attend Board and Council Meetings.