


JIM LENNER

NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGIES, LLC

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 New Concord, Ohio

 LinkedIn/jameswlenner

ABOUT

Local, state and federal government professional with 20 years' experience. Obtained \$20,000,000 in non-local revenue and grant monies in 12 years.

Areas of Expertise:

Strategic Community Planning
Zoning Ordinance Audit and Rewrite
Economic Development Planning
Grant Writing & Administration
Mobility Planning
Downtown Devalitalization
Local Government Policy
Capital Infrastructure Planning

SKILLS

10 / 10

Government Administration

9 / 10

Community Planning

9 / 10

Zoning Text and Mapping

10 / 10

Economic Development

9 / 10

Public Engagement

EDUCATION

M.A. / Public Affairs

Park University

2010 – 2011

B.A. / Political Science

Muskingum University

1999 - 2003

Graduate Certificate / G.I.S.

Penn State University

2005 – 2007

EXPERIENCE

City Manager / Johnstown, Ohio / 2010 - 2021

Serve as the chief executive of the city overseeing five appointed department or division directors, including Assistant City Manager, Law, Finance, Police, Service and Planning. Responsible to City Council for the administration of all municipal affairs placed in the Manager's charge by Council. Submit to Council and make available to the public complete records of the finances and administrative activities of the city. Served as Economic Development Director leading all aspects of business retention and attraction.

City Planner / Johnstown, Ohio / 2009 - 2019

Performed professional, administrative, and technical support on land use issues for the city, primarily through the Planning Commission. Managed the Planning Department and provides technical assistance on all planning issues; reviewed and coordinated all aspects of site plan review, subdivision review, special permits, and zoning ordinance changes.

Owner / Neighborhood Strategies, LLC / 2018 - Present

Founder and owner of boutique planning consultancy focused on bringing value to clients by reducing unneeded expenses with tangible results.

Planner / Licking County Planning Commission / 2005 - 2009

Provided technical assistance on all planning issues; reviewed and coordinated all aspects of site plan review, subdivision review, special permits, and zoning ordinance change for zoned Townships in Licking County

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PROJECT EXPERIENCE

- Created innovative rural mobility program involving seven municipalities, three counties and many local partners including OSU-N, CTEC, JFS, private, financial and health care institutions.
 - Led submission \$4,000,000 ITS4US grant application
 - Led submission of \$500,000 Build Back Better Regional Challenge grant application
 - Coordinated public/private partnership with Johnstown businesses, state agencies and local stakeholders
 - Secured \$250,000 LCATS grant to fund pilot phase of trip planning and optimization technology development
 - Secured \$900,000 US Senator Brown recommendation for full development of trip planning and optimization technology
- Served as the CEO of the City managing 30 employees and a \$8,000,000 annual budget.
- Managed transition from Village to City
- Created, monitored and implemented the City's \$8,700,000 water and wastewater utility expansion program
 - New 500,000 water tower
 - Water plant expansion from 1.0MGD to 2.0MGD
 - Wastewater plan expansion from 1.2MGD to 2.4MGD
- Oversaw creation of City's first Active Transportation Plan
- Oversaw creation of 2020 Comprehensive Plan
- Created the City's medical marijuana program; the first municipal program in the state of Ohio leading to three new businesses and 75 new jobs
- Created the Johnstown Enterprise Center business park; the second manufacturing business park in the City.
 - Public private partnership with the Heath-Newark-Licking-County Port Authority
- Oversaw the planning, financing and construction of three largest road infrastructure project in City history
 - \$4,700,000 - US 62 Two Way Left Turn Lane Safety Improvements
 - \$2,500,000 - Concord Road Improvements
 - \$2,000,000 - E. Jersey Street Improvements
- Oversaw the Trailhead Park improvements
- Renovated three (3) city parks through public private partnerships
 - \$250,000 - Hannahs Park equipment and shelter house
 - \$100,000 - Rolling Meadows Park equipment and shelter house
 - \$750,000 - Trailhead Park parking lot, restroom, shelter house, land clearing, historic mastodon heritage area, and dog park
- Attained Tree City USA designation for first time in City history

CITY OF
JOHNSTOWN

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PROJECT EXPERIENCE

NEIGHBORHOOD STRATEGIES, LLC

- Served as special project manager for Village of New Concord (OH)
 - Created stormwater and erosion control program
 - Update various zoning ordinance sections
 - Served as lead economic development representative
- Created Downtown Redevelopment Plan for City of Zanesville (OH)
- Assist clients navigating complex governmental processes to achieve land use application approvals
 - Variances
 - Conditional Use Permits
 - Zoning Permits

LICKING COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

- Created comprehensive plans for
 - Village of Hanover
 - Village of Buckeye Lake
 - Jersey Township
- Assist applicants and township with various county processes including:
 - Variances
 - Conditional Use Permits
 - Zoning Text amendments
 - Zoning Map amendments

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

- Past member of Licking County Area Transportation Study (2-term Chair)
- Member of the Licking County Transit Development and Coordinated Plan Steering Committee
- Founding and past Board of Director for Licking County Transportation Improvement District (past Chair)
- Founding and past Board of Director for GROW Licking County Community Improvement Corporation (past chair).
- Past Licking County United Way Board Member
- Past Licking Memorial Hospital Development Council Member
- Past Explore Licking County Board Member
- Past Licking County Tax Incentive Review Council Board Member
- Recognition as *Newark Advocate* 20 Under 40