Proposal for In-Person Fellowship Placement • Summer 2022

If conditions allow, PPSF will offer in-person fellowships in the summer of 2022. In the event that in-person summer placements are not approved by Yale University, prospective sites will be notified and asked to modify proposals to reflect remote work.

- **Organization:**
  City of New Haven

- **Organization’s street address:**
  200 Orange Street, New Haven, CT

- **Website:**
  www.NewHavenCt.gov

- **Name and title of person who will be the Fellow’s direct supervisor:**
  Katherine Jacobs, Chief Landscape Architect

- **Phone number and e-mail address of proposed direct supervisor:**
  472-227-1521
  kjacobs@newhavenct.gov

- **Placement dates:**
  11 weeks beginning Tuesday, May 31

- **Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe:**
  Yes, we can modify start and end dates to accommodate fellow's schedule

- **Proposed work schedule:**
  Monday-Friday 9am-5pm (with 1 hour lunch break)

Placement Description

- **Organization description:**
  The City of New Haven provides services to a population of 134,023, with 72% of that population being people of color, and with 53% of the City's households being cost-burdened. The City enjoys a wealth of natural and cultural resources, yet it continues to struggle with the legacy of redlining, white flight, and disinvestment that is undeniably still visible in its public realm. City staff is working hand-in-hand with community advocates to improve the quality of life for everyone in New Haven, with particular attention to areas most impacted by the racist actions of former civic leaders.
• Write a 1-2 sentence summary of the proposed work for a summer 2022 Fellow:
One Park Equity Fellow will coordinate special projects selected to improve park quality in historically underserved neighborhoods.

• Write a more complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow.
Recent analysis generated by a collaboration between the Trust for Public Lands and Urban Resources Initiative found that the vast majority of New Haven residents live within a 10-minute walk of a park, and that park access is not significantly determined by race or income. However, the analysis also found that the parks in New Haven's poorer and less-white neighborhoods tend to be lower quality than parks in wealthier and whiter neighborhoods.

Many of the issues in these parks are relatively simple to fix: a fresh coat of paint, a new layer of gravel, or repairing a fence can make a big difference in making a park feel like it is cared for. These tactical interventions can also have a big impact in sending a message to the community that their neighborhood matters, and the human beings who live there matter.

The Park Equity Fellow will work under the supervision of New Haven's Chief Landscape Architect to carry out 3-4 high-impact, tactical park improvements. Projects will be selected based on input from the community to maximize the impact of limited resources. Possible projects may include:
• Fence and gate repairs
• Path improvements
• Replacing or repainting benches
• Signage improvements

• List specific skills/experience required for the project:
• Ability to work with Word and Excel
• Ability to create and stick with a schedule
• Ability to motivate others
• Task-oriented, self-motivated, and organized individuals will be most successful in this role

• Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):
No car or weekend hours will be required.

• Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your organization in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, describe any work that Yale students have done with your organization.
During the summers of 2018 and 2019, the Engineering Department hosted PPSF fellows that worked on the implementation of the City’s Climate and Sustainability Framework. The Fellows assisted us in achieving certification through the Sustainable CT platform, a voluntary certification program for CT municipalities. The City of New Haven was awarded Silver certification (the highest possible) in December 2019, achieving the most points of any certified community in the state. Building on that success, the Engineering Department worked with a PPSF fellow in 2021 to inventory the City’s greenhouse gas emissions, a critical step toward prioritizing our emissions reduction plans. We were very pleased with the initiative and enthusiasm displayed by our Fellows and look forward to working with another Fellow this summer!