

Karen C. Dettmer

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CREDENTIALS

Licensed Professional Engineer, Wisconsin #40129-06

40 Hour Hazardous Waste Operator Trained

EDUCATION

Milwaukee School of Engineering

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Master of Science in Environmental Engineering

Milwaukee School of Engineering

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Bachelor of Science in Architectural Engineering

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Department of Public Works, City of Milwaukee

Coordination Manager

June 2016 – Present

- Manages and coordinates all engineering and related services and activities required by Public Works Divisions needed to successfully plan and complete major development projects.
- Serves as the Department's point of contact for Common Council members, developers, Public Works personnel, community groups, the public, and all others regarding these projects and programs. Initiates planning meetings and consultations with all interested and affected parties. Represents the Commissioner of Public Works at these and other meetings.
- Investigates, reviews, and solves complex and/or politically sensitive issues and problems regarding the planning and implementation of these projects and programs; prepares reports and implements directives regarding these issues; represents the Commissioner of Public Works before the Common Council, the Board of Zoning Appeals, the City Plan Commission, and other official bodies
- Serves as transportation planning liaison with outside agencies such as DCD, BIDs, and various, city, county, state and regional planning agencies.
- Provides administration and coordination services between the City and land developers for out-of-program sewer, water, and paving improvements.
- Supervise the processing and approval of DPW permits, building permits, special event permits, special privileges, subterranean and airspace leases, outdoor cafes, and parklets.

Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee

Senior Environmental Project Engineer

April 2011 – June 2016

- Manage complex environmental projects, including building demolition, stormwater planning, closed landfill management, and infrastructure projects
- Interface with local, state and federal officials and community stakeholders as well as other city departments to advise on environmental and development projects
- Manage grant funding from various private, state, and federal sources
- Coordinate and manage environmental consultant contracts to ensure technical competence, institute cost management practices, and review compliance with regulatory requirements
- Manage tax foreclosure deferral process for environmentally impacted property
- Manage financial incentive programs for brownfield assessment and redevelopment
- Maintain compliance with environmental health and safety training for various department staff

Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee

Senior Environmental Project Coordinator

January 2007 – April 2011

- Facilitate environmental planning and development activities for various city departments and agencies

- Conduct environmental impact assessments and Phase I environmental site assessments
- Manage Phase II environmental activities and remediation projects
- Manage environmental consultant contracts
- Prepare federal and state grant applications and manage grant compliance

GZA GeoEnvironmental, Inc.

Architectural/Environmental Engineer

July 2003 – January 2007

- Conduct environmental site assessments to assist clients with due diligence, including remediation design feasibility studies
- Conduct property condition assessment and prepare building maintenance schedules and plans
- Analyze building components and materials with consideration to code compliance
- Evaluate industrial work places for environmental health and safety compliance and prepare worker safety manuals
- Conduct toxicological assessments and provide litigation support
- Evaluate indoor air quality and heating, ventilating, and air conditioning (HVAC) design performance
- Investigate microbial contamination and provide litigation support

APPOINTMENTS

Wisconsin Brownfield Study Group

Chair, Technical Subcommittee for the 2015 Brownfield Study Group Report - Investing in Wisconsin

Contaminated Materials External Advisory Group

Invited by Cathy Stepp, Secretary of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Contaminated Sediments External Advisory Group

Invited by Cathy Stepp, Secretary of Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

Transform Stigma into Opportunity: Partnerships to Spur Redevelopment

National Brownfields Training Conference, Chicago, IL

September 4, 2015

Public Financing Strategies

Conference on Sustainable Property Transactions and
National Association of Local Government Environmental Professionals
Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA

October 8, 2014

26th Annual Environmental Law Update

State Bar of Wisconsin/Pinnacle, Madison, WI

September 17, 2014

Understanding the Demolition and Decommissioning Process

Federation of Environmental Technologists Demolition Seminar, Brookfield, WI
Federation of Environmental Technologists, Kimberly, WI

December 12, 2013

September 18, 2014

Redevelopment Authority of the City of Milwaukee Revolving Loan Program

National Brownfield Conference, Philadelphia, PA

April 5, 2011

Strategies for Bringing Green Jobs to Older Urban Centers

National Brownfield Conference, Philadelphia, PA
New Partners for Smart Growth Conference, Charlotte, NC

April 4, 2011

February 5, 2011

Activating Vacant Land

Reclaiming Vacant Properties Conference, Cleveland, OH

October 15, 2010

Policy Making for the Prevention of Brownfields

National Brownfield Conference, New Orleans, LA

November 18, 2009