

KENNETH C. STAPLETON

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EXPERIENCE

Urban Revitalization Consultant

1988 – Present

- *Provide variety of strategic planning, real estate, policy research, fundraising, urban safety, and organizational development consulting services to redevelopment agencies, universities, and governments such as the Ohio Board of Regents, Mercer University, Florida International University, Miami DDA, Kent State University, City of Miami Beach, and Lincoln Road Development Corporation.*
- *Regular training presentations at national and regional professional development conferences and seminars – Florida APA, UEDA, Coalition of Urban Serving Universities, International Economic Development Council, American Planning Association, and ULI.*

Senior Economic Development Advisor and

Executive Director, University Park Alliance, Akron, Ohio

Feb 2003 – June 2010

Office of the President, The University of Akron

Reported directly to University President Luis M. Proenza, providing expertise for University's real estate and economic development initiatives. Accomplishments included:

- *Expanding community partnerships in the Alliance to include: Greater Akron Chamber, City of Akron, several Health Systems, the Akron Beacon Journal, and Akron Public Schools.*
- *Attracting and managing more than \$13 million in national and local funding for these land use and revitalization development initiatives, including over \$500,000 for parks.*
- *Representing the University of Akron in National, State, and Regional Economic Development and Urban Policy coalitions, including work in Washington, D.C.*
- *Leading a parks improvement initiative in partnership with the City, Schools, and University students and staff, including a comprehensive analysis and improvements plan for the neighborhood, specific improvements to several parks, and expert advice regarding safety.*
- *Leading highly-successful revitalization efforts for mixed-use neighborhoods in a 50-block area surrounding the University, including managing multi-disciplinary teams composed of members from multiple organizations and governments.*
- *Developing and managing major marketing and Public Relations initiatives that resulted in extensive positive media coverage throughout Ohio and the United States.*

Senior Vice President, Downtown Cleveland Partnership

1995 - 2003

- *Leadership of planning, public realm, and real estate development efforts, including management of multi-disciplinary consultant teams. Served as **organizational spokesperson** for housing and safety initiatives and actively participated in **media management** efforts. Actively participated in multiple **parks and open space initiatives**.*
- *Supervised creation and implementation of district revitalization strategic plan that resulted in over **\$400 million** of investment within **6 years**; investment now exceeds \$2 billion.*
- *Secured & directed the strategic investment of **\$500,000+** in grants & funding for economic and real estate development projects that leveraged over **\$30 million** of private investment in less than **2 years**.*

Executive Director, Brooklyn Centre CDC

1992-1994

- *Managed community-based non-profit in one of Cleveland's most historic and challenged neighborhoods. Coordinated LIHTC/Historic tax credits housing project involvement, created special safety plan, improved marketing and events efforts, and strengthened partnerships with several churches and other non-profit organizations.*

Executive Director, Hollywood Florida CRA

1990-1991

- *Managed major downtown revitalization program, including site acquisition and disposition, innovative marketing and arts/culture programs, and the **transformation of a "nuisance" urban park into a major downtown asset – with only \$20,000 in cash.***

Urban Land Use Planning –Florida

1983 – 1988

West Palm Beach, Palm Beach Gardens, Miami Beach

- *Provided professional guidance on variety of land use issues and projects, including **environmental impacts, open space development, and waterfront development issues**. Managed public discussion and approval processes for major development projects.*

EDUCATION

- **Master's of Urban Planning**, University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign., 1983
- **Bachelor of Arts, Magna Cum Laude**, Thomas More College, Kentucky. 1980
- **Knight Fellow in Community Building**, University of Miami, Class of 2004-2005

AFFILIATIONS

- **Full Member, The Urban Land Institute – Sustainability Committee SE Florida**
- **Member, The Nature Conservancy**
- **Member, Anchor Institutions Task Force**
- **Leadership Akron - Annual Retreat Leader for 4 years**

REFERENCES

Luis M. Proenza, President

The University of Akron

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(330) 972-7074

Beverly Blake, Program Director

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

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(478) 722-0082

Kent O. Bonde, Redevelopment Coordinator

City of Miami Beach

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