

Sarah K. Kameli

Brooklyn, NY

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Education

Columbia University, New York City
Master of Science in Urban Planning

Aug. 2024 - May 2026
New York, NY

University of California, San Diego
Bachelor of Science in Global Health
Minor: Urban Studies and Planning

Aug. 2019 - June 2023
La Jolla, CA

Work Experience

Assistant Planner, City of Ojai, Ojai, CA
Planning Aide

May 2024 - Current
Dec. 2023 - May 2024

- Researched, drafted, and presented the City's Tiny Home Ordinance to the Planning Commission and City Council, coordinating with county and state agencies to add a composting toilet provision expanding affordability
- Led the transition from paper to digital permitting through GeoCivix, building 55+ online application workflows and managing community outreach during platform launch
- Championed four affordable housing projects through the public hearing process, supporting the city in meeting its Regional Housing Needs Allocation and managing early-phase coordination on the city's first permanent supportive housing project
- Organized community engagement events, including town halls and resident advisory groups, connecting residents with planners on General Plan updates and local policy
- Advised prospective developers on planning and zoning requirements, facilitating entitlements and managing public counter operations

Emergency Room Technician, Adventist Health, Simi Valley, CA

Jan. 2021 – Aug. 2021

- Supported emergency operations through patient intake, vital sign monitoring, and specimen collection
- Assisted nurses in ICU as a certified nursing assistant (CNA) during Covid nursing shortages

Academic Projects

Studio: Planning for Change in Renca, Columbia University, New York, NY

Jan. 2025 - May 2025

- Led a 3-person team on community engagement for a semester-long planning studio examining the impacts of Metro Line 7 expansion on Renca, a historically underserved municipality on the periphery of Santiago, Chile
- Designed and implemented participatory engagement methods, including pop-up activations, surveys, informal interviews, and a bilingual community workshop with 15 participants
- Coordinated with local Chilean university students to address language barriers during engagements
- Collected and cleaned survey and engagement data to build an interactive Mapbox map informing final recommendations
- Co-authored a final report for the Municipality of Renca and developed a presentation

Skills

- Farsi - Bilingual Proficiency
- ArcGIS
- Adobe Creative Suite
- Microsoft and Google Suite
- GeoCivix Permitting Software

Awards & Certifications

- Selected to represent Columbia GSAPP at the APA New York City Metro Chapter Studio Showcase
- EMT-B (Emergency Medical Technician)

Portfolio

- sarahkameli.com