



Steven L. Nelson, MCP

Senior Advisor

Steven L. Nelson is a Senior Advisor with Econsult Solutions, Inc. He works as a certified planner and policy maker, and understands the interplay between public policy, innovation and constituency building necessary to achieve strategic and measurable success. His areas of expertise include economic development, open space preservation and trail development, and strategic partnerships. Mr. Nelson has extensive experience in county and local government, serving in several high-profile positions including Director of Policy for Montgomery County, and Acting Director of the Montgomery County Planning Commission.

Areas of Expertise

Economic Development

Open Space Preservation

Trail Development

Strategic Partnerships

Experience

While serving as Director of Policy, a senior level advisor to the County Commissioners, Mr. Nelson helped develop several high-profile programs in Montgomery County, including a \$150M open space program, a \$50M revitalization program, a \$100M economic development program, a first time homebuyers program, the county's first climate change action plan and a county-wide arts and culture plan. He was also the primary staff person for the Metropolitan Caucus and external liaison to municipalities, business and civic groups, state elected officials and regional colleges. Mr. Nelson also conceived and implemented a national design competition for the County's September 11 Memorial.

As Acting Director of the Montgomery County Planning Commission, Mr. Nelson managed a 39 person professional planning department and initiated a communications and marketing strategy to promote the department to municipalities and a variety of other audiences. While working at the planning commission previously, Mr. Nelson wrote numerous comprehensive plans, studies, and ordinances for 7 municipalities, and performed demographic, development trend and housing analysis on a county-wide scale.

Education

BA in Economics,
Rutgers University

Masters in City
Planning, University of
Pennsylvania

Professional, Corporate, Civic Leadership

Collaboration is important to Mr. Nelson, as he has created several cross-departmental working groups on diverse topics including geographic information systems, sustainability and economic development. He has also facilitated collaborations among arts and cultural groups to strengthen them and provide increased public access to the arts. Mr. Nelson has been a speaker at state and national conferences on topics as varied as setting up a planning department web site to transit oriented design. He has guest lectured at Temple University, University of Pennsylvania, and Widener University and has taught several classes in planning to appointed and elected officials. He is a member of the American Planning Association, the Pennsylvania Planning Association and the American Institute of Certified Planners.

Contact

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