
LAURA D. MEMEGER

Associate Partner

Since joining Urban Partners in 1990, Laura Memeger has been actively involved in many of the firm's economic and community development projects. Ms. Memeger has served as project manager for many of the firm's projects including the Montclair Town Center Development Plan, the Asbury Park Strategic Plan for Economic Development, the Benjamin Franklin Parkway Urban Design Framework and the Swarthmore Town Center Revitalization Strategy. She has coordinated market research and supervised site analysis for the South Broad Street "Avenue of the Arts" Economic and Cultural Development Plan, the Haverford State Hospital Reuse Plan and the Phoenixville Foundry Commercial Development Potential Study. She has also led projects involving the reuse and interpretation of historic resources, including the Eastern State Penitentiary Site Operations and Marketing Strategy, the Thaddeus Stevens House Museum Feasibility Analysis and Business Plan and the Olyphant Heritage Development Strategy. Ms. Memeger has facilitated neighborhood-based planning strategies and facilitated Urban Partners' involvement in three Philadelphia neighborhood plans (West Powelton/Saunders Park, Mt. Airy and Chinatown) for the Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission and the William Penn Foundation.

She has assisted in the implementation of several development projects being undertaken with Urban Partners' assistance by successfully soliciting predevelopment, project and program financing from public and private financing agencies and philanthropic organizations. A recent project of this type involves the redevelopment of a former fire station as a senior center serving the West Philadelphia community.

Ms. Memeger has also participated in numerous research projects involving the evaluation of management structures, organizational capacities and the ability of organizations to carry out their intended missions. Ms. Memeger prepared a comparative analysis of arts districts established around the country, their governance and financial operations, as part of the firm's economic and cultural development plan for South Broad Street, Philadelphia's Avenue of the Arts. Additionally, She has also been involved in the firm's work organizational assessment and strategic planning projects undertaken for the Philadelphia Chinatown Development Corporation, the Washington Area Housing Partnership, Friends of the Family, the Hartford Neighborhood Development Support Collaborative, the Pittsburgh Partnership for Neighborhood Development, the Ford Foundation and others.

Ms. Memeger has worked as a planner at Parsons, Brinckerhoff, Quade & Douglas in New York, NY where she served as an intermediary between the firm and various city agencies during the preparation of the environmental impact statement for a project involving the transfer of Grand Central Station development rights to a nearby property. Ms. Memeger has also been employed by the Samuel S. Fels Fund where she reviewed the grant proposals of arts, advocacy and community development organizations. While at the Fels Fund, she conducted a survey on behalf of Delaware Valley Grantmakers which identified trends in the giving patterns of Philadelphia foundations and corporate philanthropies.

Education: Ms. Memeger is a graduate of Cornell University with a B.A. in American History and holds a Master's degree in City and Regional Planning from the University of Pennsylvania.