

Maria Connolly, PP/AICP

Maria Connolly has been a planner with the Department of Community Affairs for almost 16 years. A large majority of that time was as a planner with the Council on Affordable Housing (COAH) reviewing municipal Housing Elements and Fair Share Plans, handling affordable housing administration issues, and assisting with the drafting of COAH's rules. Currently, Maria works on Local Planning Services project teams that provide land use planning services to eligible municipalities in NJ at no charge, and supervises other planners in the office. Maria led the team that prepared a Waterfront Redevelopment Plan for the City of Salem. Maria is also responsible for administering the Basic Course in Land Use Law and Planning Program for new planning/zoning board members, and reviewing Redevelopment Area Bond applications for planning issues and making recommendations on the applications to Local Government Services. She graduated from Rutgers University with a Bachelor of Arts and received a Masters of City and Regional Planning from the E.J. Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy.