

Associate | Consensus Building Institute nlash@cbi.org | Tel. (617)-652-0560

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Nate has 8 years of experience facilitating groups and meetings, building coalitions, and developing and executing communications strategies. Nate especially enjoys designing and implementing community engagement plans and activities for state and municipal infrastructure projects, facilitating public and stakeholder meetings, and working to build trust between residents, community groups, advocacy organizations, and decision makers in diverse communities.

EXPERIENCE

2021-Present Consensus Building Institute

Cambridge, MA

Associate

Support consensus-building and public participation efforts across a wide range of issues, including land use and transportation planning, water management, coasts and ocean policy, climate adaptation, and energy policy by facilitating stakeholder groups, conducting stakeholder interviews and public outreach, managing online engagement opportunities, coordinating event logistics, note-taking, and synthesizing community input and meeting discussions into summary reports.

2020-2021 George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

Adjunct Professor

2018-2021 Howard Stein Hudson

Boston, MA

Public Involvement Specialist

Developed and implemented public participation plans and community engagement strategies for state and municipal transportation planning and infrastructure projects across Massachusetts. Conducted culturally and historically sensitive community engagement in diverse urban, rural, and Environmental Justice communities in Greater Boston. Designed and facilitated virtual and in-person engagement activities and interactive online mapping activities.

2016-2018 Northeastern University

Boston, MA

Co-op Counselor

Taught undergraduate courses in career leadership, provided career advising to undergraduate students, planned internship fairs and career skills workshops, and managed university co-op partnerships with 30+ tech companies.

2012-2016 George Mason University

Fairfax, VA

Academic Advisor; Field Experience Coordinator; and Teaching Assistant Provided academic and career advising for 150+ undergraduate students, coordinated internship fairs and student programs, and planned student events.

EDUCATION

2018 Northeastern University Boston, MA

Master of Science in Project Management

Concentration in Urban Planning

2015 George Mason University Fairfax, VA

Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Leadership in Community Planning

2013 George Mason University Fairfax, VA

Bachelor of Science in Conflict Analysis and Resolution

Outstanding Scholar Award

MEMBERSHIPS

2019-present International Association for Public Participation (IAP2) Northeast Region

Northeast Chapter Co-Founder and Vice President

2019-2021 Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) Boston, MA

MetroCommon 2050 Community Engagement Advisory Committee Member

2017-2019 Jamaica Plain Centre/South Main Streets Jamaica Plain, MA

Executive Board Member

SELECTED PROJECTS

LAND USE & TRANSPORTATION

Port Infrastructure Improvements Project, Cambridge, MA, ongoing.

Support planning, virtual facilitation, and documentation of public and working group meetings with neighborhood leaders and representatives of community-based organizations to co-design the City's effort to make improvements to pedestrian safety, sidewalk accessibility, tree coverage, open space, and sewer, drainage, and water infrastructure in The Port neighborhood. Facilitate and execute a broad community engagement strategy to ensure improvements are responsive to community needs and priorities which includes public, stakeholder, and community working group meetings, neighborhood pop ups, block parties, and print and digital outreach.

Route 28 Resurfacing and Road Diet Pilot, Reading, MA, 2019-2021

Planned and facilitated in-person and virtual public outreach for a roadway resurfacing and reconfiguration project on Route 28 (Main Street) in Reading, Massachusetts for the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT). Designed and implemented public engagement strategies, managed the project website, developed outreach and educational materials, conducted door-to-door outreach to business owners, created public meeting presentations, liaised with town staff on behalf of MassDOT, developed and managed a Public Involvement Management Application (PIMA) interactive comment mapping tool, and responded to over 100 individual comments and questions from members of the public via phone and email.

Arborway Parkway Improvements Project, Boston, MA, 2020-2021

Planned and facilitated public meetings, site walks, and stakeholder engagement activities to build consensus around design alternatives for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR). Created an interactive online map and digital surveys to gather public and stakeholder input; created PowerPoint presentations for public and stakeholder meetings; and drafted content for the project web page. The public outreach efforts resulted in over 1,000 public comments that were submitted to the Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) which Nate synthesized into a memo highlighting key themes, common ground, and divergent views. The memo was integral in the development of a new alternative design that was responsive to the public feedback received.

Tobin Bridge/Chelsea Curves Rehabilitation Project, Chelsea, MA, 2018-2021

Collaborated with the MassDOT project team and general contractors to plan and conduct public outreach for the rehabilitation of Route 1 over the Maurice J. Tobin Memorial Bridge and Chelsea Viaduct which had significant local and regional impacts in Boston, Chelsea, and along the North Shore. Managed the project stakeholder database, drafted and distributed biweekly construction advisories to over 3,500 project subscribers, served as a liaison to local community organizations, and oversaw project outreach in Environmental Justice communities including in-person outreach and the development of bilingual fact sheets and signage.

North Washington Street Bridge Replacement Project, Boston, MA, 2018-2021

Supported public outreach for the MassDOT project to build a new, safer, multi-modal bridge over the Charles River with improved vehicle, pedestrian, cycling, and boat navigation facilities. Managed the project stakeholder database, drafted a bi-weekly project newsletter, and designed project fact sheets, construction advisories, and engaging presentations for public and stakeholder meetings and legislative briefings.

Sumner Tunnel Rehabilitation Project, Boston, MA, 2021

Collaborated with MassDOT staff and other consultants to develop a public participation plan for the full-scale rehabilitation of the Sumner Tunnel which will impact vulnerable communities in East Boston and the North End. Designed visually appealing and easy-to-understand project fact sheets, informational flyers, and public meeting presentations in multiple languages.

Route 9 Corridor Improvement Project, Hadley, MA, 2018-2019

Supported facilitation and documentation of stakeholder, transit subcommittee, and public information meetings for MassDOT's comprehensive reconstruction of Route 9 between Northampton, Hadley, and Amherst in Massachusetts. Created PowerPoint presentations for public and stakeholder meetings, delivered transcriptions of meeting proceedings, drafted content for the project web page, and developed written content for public meeting flyers and project fact sheets.

Lower Roxbury Transportation Study, Boston, MA, 2020-2021

Collaborated with Boston Transportation Department (BTD) staff to design a collaborative community engagement process to identify and highlight neighborhood assets and envision positive changes to Lower Roxbury neighborhood streets. Interviewed residents, shared project information, and gathered community input at neighborhood pop-ups and open houses. Organized and analyzed over 250 public comments from residents about how to make neighborhood streets safer and more enjoyable.

Designed informational poster boards that visualized key themes and takeaways from the public comments received to reflect back what BTD heard from community members to the public.

Brewery Small Business Complex Circulation and Safety Study, Jamaica Plain, MA, 2019 Conducted a stakeholder assessment for a comprehensive assessment of vehicular, pedestrian, and bicycle circulation at The Brewery Complex for the Jamaica Plain Neighborhood Development Corporation (JPNDC). Interviewed staff, analyzed survey responses from tenants and staff members, and planned and facilitated a design charette for JPNDC staff to identify safety and circulation issues and brainstorm creative solutions.

Route I-195/Route 18 Interchange Rehabilitation, New Bedford, MA, 2018-2019 Designed multilingual outreach materials in English, Spanish, and Portuguese to raise awareness of the project and related construction and traffic impacts. Engaged with residents at community popups throughout New Bedford and coordinated live Spanish and Portuguese interpretation at the 25% Design Public Hearing.

CLIMATE CHANGE & RESILIENCE

New York State Energy Research & Development Authority (NYSERDA) Statewide Climate Assessment, New York, 2021-present.

Support the development of a statewide climate change impacts assessment by facilitating stakeholder engagement processes including community engagement and workshop development for a wide range of stakeholders. Manage the selection of subject matter experts to serve as Sector Advisors for two Technical Working Groups responsible for drafting the Transportation and Buildings chapters of the change impacts assessment. Plan and facilitate workshops for Transportation and Buildings Sector Advisors.

New Mexico Climate Change Task Force Technical Advisory Group, 2021-2022.

Supported planning, facilitation, and documentation of the NM Climate Change Task Force Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meetings for the State of New Mexico. The purpose of the TAG is to review the emission-reducing strategies and implementing actions proposed by the Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) to inform the CCTF's development of a 5-year climate action plan to reach the State's emission targets and grow New Mexico's economy.

Plum Island Economic Analysis for Sea Level Rise Decision Making, Newburyport, MA. 2021. Supported two lead facilitators leading a collaborative research project funded through the Massachusetts Municipal Vulnerability (MVP) program by documenting meetings, analyzing stakeholder input, and drafting public engagement reports for an advisory group of municipal and community stakeholders representing key interests and co-designing public engagement efforts. The project provided economic and fiscal data about the costs and benefits of managing Plum Island, a barrier island spanning the towns of Newbury and Newburyport, in the face of coming sea level rise.

NATURAL & CULTURAL RESOURCES

Somerville Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) Long Term Control Plan (LTCP) Update Public Outreach and Meeting Facilitation, 2022-present.

Advises the City of Cambridge, City of Somerville, and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority

(MWRA) on public outreach strategies to engage members of the public, neighborhood-based organizations, advocacy groups, and EJ communities in a process improve water quality and reduce CSOs in the Charles River and Alewife Brook. He also supports planning and facilitation for virtual public meetings offered in multiple languages hosted by the City of Cambridge, City of Somerville, and Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA).

Forest for All NYC, New York City, NYC, 2022-present.

Nate is one of four CBI staff working with the Nature Conservancy and participating non-profit and city groups creating the Forest for All NYC coalition, a broad and diverse coalition formed to protect, maintain, expand, and promote the New York City urban forest to benefit all New Yorkers in a way that is just and equitable. The group now includes 80 member organizations focused on policy and stewardship of the city's 7 million trees. Nate is the lead facilitator for two action teams within the coalition and has led collaborative efforts to define goals and priorities across action team members. The coalition held NYC's first ever City of Forest Day in 2022 and are working with city leadership to advance shared goals.

GE-Pittsfield/Housatonic River Cleanup – Environmental Protection Agency, Pittsfield, MA, 2021-present.

Plans and conducts public outreach and stakeholder engagement in several municipalities related to the EPA's efforts to remediate river sediment and soil sites in and along the Housatonic River from PCBs from the operations of General Electric manufacturing facilities.

Water Forum 2.0 - The Sacramento Water Forum, Sacramento Region, CA, 2021.

Provided notetaking, synthesis of stakeholder input, and logistical support to The Water Forum. The Forum works to balance the need for a reliable and safe water supply for the region and the need to preserve ecological and aesthetic values of the Lower American River with a diverse group of business and agricultural leaders, environmentalists, citizen groups, water managers, and local governments in the Sacramento Region. CBI is assisting the Forum as it transitions to the next phase of its multistakeholder agreement.

USEPA Southeast New England Program: Stormwater Accounting and Tracking Project, Massachusetts and Rhode Island, 2021.

Supported facilitation of a working group bringing together engineers and planners from municipalities in Massachusetts and Rhode Island along with technical consultants and federal and state agencies to build municipal capacity to track and account for stormwater management best management practices. Coordinated meeting logistics and drafted meeting summaries to assist municipal partners in adopting tracking and accounting tools, identify data gaps and challenges, and develop action plans.

Newtown Creek Superfund Site Community Advisory Group, Brooklyn and Queens, New York, 2021. Assisted in notetaking and drafting meeting summaries for a group of diverse interests providing input to EPA on the development and implementation of plans to remediate water, soil, and sediment contamination from multiple heavily industrialized sites along Newtown Creek.

Charles River Dam Advisory Committee, Natick, MA, 2021.

Analyzed data and provided written summaries of public input collected via surveys and comment letters for a report summarizing community input collected to inform the Town of Natick's Charles

River Dam Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee is tasked with developing recommendations for the future of the Charles River Dam in South Natick.

MARINE RESOURCES

Vessel Strike Framework Project - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 2022-present. Supporting the planning and facilitation of discussions with affected stakeholder communities between to better understand the range of perspectives and inform the development of a North Atlantic Right Whale (NARW) Vessel Strike Framework of methods and protocols to reduce vessel strike risks in offshore wind industry activities in the Northeast, thereby assisting in the recovery of North Atlantic right whales.

Passive Acoustic Monitoring Workshop - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 2021 and 2022. Supported facilitation, notetaking, and drafted the workshop summary for a two-day virtual workshop focused on passive acoustic monitoring data standards that could improve monitoring, data consistency, archiving, and access for improved regional integration of renewable energy science. Over 75 practitioners and subject matter experts participated representing state and federal agencies, academics, and offshore wind developers.

Tracking Avian Species Workshop - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 2021 and 2022. Supported facilitation, notetaking, and drafted the workshop summary for a two-day virtual workshop to improve monitoring, data consistency, archiving, and access for better regional understanding across projects specifically related to tracking avian species off the Atlantic Coast of the United States. Over 65 practitioners and subject matter experts from federal and state agencies, non-profit organizations, private industry, and research institutes participated in the workshop.

ENERGY & EXTRACTIVES

Offshore Renewable Energy Development - Bureau of Ocean Energy Management, 2021-present. Support BOEM and offshore wind energy stakeholders by providing technical and facilitation support for public and task force meetings related to the proposed Gulf of Maine, Carolina Long Bay, Central Atlantic, and New York Bight wind energy areas. Participate in planning calls, coordinate meeting logistics, support day-of meeting facilitation, and draft meeting summaries. CBI has facilitated state task forces on wind energy development for BOEM since 2012.

Idaho National Labs NL – Nuclear Waste Policy Act Summary, 2021-present.

Contributing writer to a report on the Role of Monitored Retrievable Storage (MRS) including a review of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act, a discussion on the constraints and opportunities for MRS as part of an integrated nuclear waste management strategy, and a summary of state-level positions and

policies related to nuclear waste and MRS.

AGRICULTURE & COMMODITIES

USFRA Honor the Harvest Virtual Summit, 2021 and 2022.

Assisted in the planning, design, and delivery of a 3-day virtual forum for farmers, ranchers, and food and agriculture industry leaders to catalyze the food and agriculture sector toward climate change adaptation at scale. Compiled of a 50-page participant briefing paper, facilitated group discussions

with stakeholders across the food and agriculture value chain, provided technical support, and drafted summary reports of key issues and action items identified by forum participants.

ECONOMIC & SOCIAL POLICY

New Mexico Climate Change Task Force Technical Advisory Group, 2021-present.

Support planning and facilitation and draft meeting summaries of the NM Climate Change Task Force Technical Advisory Group (TAG). The purpose of the TAG is to review the emission-reducing strategies and implementing actions proposed by the Climate Change Task Force (CCTF) to inform the CCTF's development of a 5-year climate action plan to reach the State's emission targets and grow New Mexico's economy.

STRATEGIC ORGANIZATIONAL PLANNING

The Nature Conservancy Maryland/DC Chapter

Supported the organization's strategic planning process through background interviews with board members and chapter staff of The Nature Conservancy (TNC) Maryland/DC Chapter to gather information about values, priorities, opportunities, and existing issues within the organization. Using the information gathered in interviews, Nate helped design an all-day in-person strategic planning session for the chapter.

TRAININGS & COURSES

EPA Stormwater Utilities Roundtable Workshops, Winter/Spring 2022

Co-designed and facilitated a series of trainings for staff from 7 municipalities in the Mystic River watershed to help them identify and understand their local stakeholders and build broad support for local stormwater funding mechanisms

Stakeholder Engagement Professional Skills Module, Feb. 2022

Co-designed and taught a course for over 50 masters students at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies to introduce them to concepts and techniques for engaging effectively with stakeholders and communities in natural and environmental resource projects.

CONF 329: Community Engagement and Collaborative Problem Solving, 2020-2023

Developed and teach an undergraduate course at George Mason University's Carter School for Peace and Conflict Studies focused on public participation, collaborative leadership, deliberative democracy, stakeholder engagement, social change, and group decision-making skills and best practices.

Meeting Facilitation Training, Boston, MA, April 2018

Designed and led an interactive workshop on public meeting facilitation best practices and conflict resolution techniques for 15 neighborhood liaisons from the City of Boston's Office of Neighborhood Services.