



VICE PRESIDENT OF PLANNING AND POLICY

ByalaSearch LLC is pleased to announce that our firm has been retained by the Municipal Art Society of New York to identify candidates for the position of Vice President of Planning and Policy.

ABOUT THE MUNICIPAL ART SOCIETY OF NEW YORK

The Municipal Art Society of New York lifts up the voices of the people in the debates that shape New York's built environment and leads the way toward a more livable city from sidewalk to skyline. MAS envisions a future in which all New Yorkers share in the richness of city life—where growth is balanced, character endures, and a resilient future is secured.

Over more than 125 years of history, MAS's advocacy efforts have led to the creation of the New York City Planning Commission, Public Design Commission, Landmarks Preservation Commission, and the Tribute in Light, as well as the preservation of Grand Central Terminal, the lights of Times Square, and the Garment District.

MAS's current initiatives include reform of the New York City Environmental Quality Review process (CEQR), the Fight for Light campaign (introducing access to sunlight as a critical element of planning for the public realm), and the Livable Neighborhoods Program. Upcoming advocacy, preservation, and policy efforts will focus on New York City's resilience with a special focus on the equity of the built environment and the protection of key aspects of New York City's character. Their website, mas.org, provides a full picture of the current and future work.



PRIMARY FUNCTION

Reporting to the President, the Vice President of Planning and Policy serves as a member of the senior leadership team and participates actively in strategic and operational planning for the organization as a whole. In partnership with the President, this position is responsible for all advocacy, policy, planning, and preservation initiatives and legal interventions. Managing seven professionals with expertise in advocacy, planning, law, analytics, preservation, and data visualization, the Vice President of Planning and Policy will build on a solid foundation of success in policy development, advocacy positions, and providing new analytic tools and reports on the evolution of the built environment in all five boroughs.

The Vice President will also work closely with the Board of Directors and the Society's Planning, Preservation, and Law Committees, activating and supporting them as key advisors and members of MAS.

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Specific Responsibilities in the following areas include but are not limited to:

LEADERSHIP AND VISION

- Working with specialized staff, direct the organization's key initiatives in the following areas:
 - Planning: Research, Data Analysis, and Policy Development
 - Land Use & Zoning
 - Environmental Review
 - Historic Preservation
 - Urban design
 - Advocacy: Campaign Development, Coalition Building, and Livable Neighborhoods Program
 - Legislation & Policy Implementation
 - Partnerships & Initiatives
 - Community Capacity Building
 - Legal: Key Citywide Issue Identification and Implementation
 - Recruitment and management of outside counsel

- Independent legal research and reporting
- Support of other community legal initiatives
- Play a lead role in advocating for and communicating the organization’s policy initiatives with elected officials, City agencies, partners, stakeholders, and community groups.
- Oversee the organization’s relationships with government representatives at the City, State and federal levels.

PROGRAMMING AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS

- Align initiatives across development, programming, policy, legal, and advocacy.
- Collaborate with the President on the implementation of the organization’s strategic direction.
- Supervise, coach, and recruit the planning, preservation, advocacy, and legal team.
- Build and maintain relationships with partner organizations and other stakeholders.
- Support the Society’s Planning, Preservation, and Law Committees.
- Advance the organization’s commitment to equity and service to all New Yorkers.
- Develop and manage the department budget.
- Assist in the cultivation of key funders.

Qualifications

- Bachelor’s degree required; advanced degree in planning, preservation, architecture, government, law, or associated field preferred.
- A minimum of seven (7) years of experience in a leadership and management role.
- Deep knowledge of urban planning, preservation, and legal issues, preferably in New York City.
- Proven ability to present complex ideas clearly and accessibly to a wide variety of audiences.
- Strong communication, emotional intelligence, and organizational skills.
- A professional and resourceful style; the willingness and ability to work independently and as a team player, to take initiative, and to manage multiple tasks and projects at a time.
- High energy and passion for the MAS mission is essential; knowledge and understanding of the urban environment preferred.

Core Competencies

- Demonstrated success in policy development (whether external or internal to government) and/or advocacy campaigns.
- Strategic capacity to construct, articulate, and implement annual and multi-year plans.
- Strong leadership skills with the ability to prioritize activities of the team, maximize skillsets, and coach individual staff members to a level of high performance; experience managing coalitions and engagement efforts.
- Experience working closely and collaboratively with Board members, commissions, public bodies, and senior staff.

METRICS FOR SUCCESS

- Successfully launch two of MAS's new planning and policy initiatives, one focused on resilience and the other focused on enduring culture.
- Establish strong working relationships with key city agencies that MAS seeks to influence, such as City Planning and the Deputy Mayor's Office of Economic Development.
- Build and expand partnerships and coalitions in two or three critical advocacy efforts, such as public realm leadership and enduring culture.
- Support and strengthen the collaborations across direct reports (Planning, Advocacy and the Menapace Fellowship).



OTHER CHARACTERISTICS

The Vice President of Planning and Policy is a highly organized team player with superior communication skills and a clear and crisp presentation style. The placement will have the intellectual depth, maturity, wisdom, and collaborative skills to garner the trust and confidence of colleagues and staff, administrative leadership, Board of Directors, volunteers and other constituents. The next Vice President of Planning and Policy will have superior interpersonal skills, a strong work ethic and a commitment to institutional success. The ideal candidate is a self-starter who can mobilize a team and resources to support growth. The placement is adaptable, hands-on and should thrive in a high performing environment. The next Vice President will be comfortable in this fast-paced setting and have the intellectual curiosity and personal motivation to achieve the goals of the Municipal Art Society in support of its varied constituents.

KINDLY SEND NOMINATIONS OR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST TO:

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The Municipal Art Society of New York is an equal opportunity employer and seeks qualified applicants without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, disability, marital status, or sexual orientation. MAS is committed to cultivating a staff with diverse backgrounds and life experiences that is representative of the communities in which we live and work.



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