

# SUZANNE FISHER, CPRP

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Dedicated local government administrator with 20 years' experience and a proven record for navigating difficult political situations, building relationships with elected officials, staff, and the community, and sound fiscal management of multi-million-dollar departments and capital improvement projects. Utilizing my expertise in the fields of parks and recreation, special events, natural disasters, public works, utilities, and finance, I have assisted the diverse rural, urban, and tourist-based communities where I have served, to improve operational efficiencies and increase revenues by embracing the future while honoring their past.

## *Core Strengths:*

- ✓ Team Leadership
- ✓ Budget Management
- ✓ Strategic Planning
- ✓ Project Management
- ✓ Branding & Marketing
- ✓ Community Engagement
- ✓ Operations Management
- ✓ Policies and Procedures
- ✓ EOC Logistics

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## EXPERIENCE & NOTABLE CONTRIBUTIONS

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### **City of Delray Beach, FL**

#### ***Assistant City Manager***

***04/19-09/20***

Supervision and management for Parks and Recreation, Public Works, Utilities, Information Technology, and Neighborhood and Community Services (Code Enforcement, Sanitation/Solid Waste, Education, and Affordable Housing/HUD). Acting Director of Public Works and Utilities (September 2019 – June 2020).

- Administration of \$108M combined department budgets – 77% of total city budget and over 360 FTEs.
- Organization of Covid-19 community task force including 7-day a week food distribution.
- Initiated policy updates for general administration, asset disposition, asset management, and information technology.

#### ***Director of Parks & Recreation***

***01/14—4/19***

Overall department management with a staff of 70 full-time in 7 divisions (Administration, Aquatics, Cemetery, Recreation, Parks Maintenance, Special Events, and Golf/Tennis), a budget of \$18M, and included 4 community centers, 1 teen center/skate park, 1.5 miles of beach, 2 aquatic facilities, 8,000 seat tennis stadium, 38 clay and 6 hard tennis courts, an 18-hole Donald Ross/Dick Wilson designed golf course, 1 executive golf course, 1 marina with 29 rental slips, 2 environmental preserve areas, 1 cemetery, and 59 total parks/greenspace areas.

- Analysis of Special Events including permitting processes, fee structure, and administration (new policy adopted by Commission in November 2018); analysis of City Code Sec. 91.20 (Dogs on the Beach); and analysis of City Code Sec. 92.32 (License Agreement for Boat Dockage).
- Launched Heritage Here – an equity-based community-driven neighborhood connectivity mural project sponsored by the Public Art Advisory Board.
- Emergency Operations Center logistics manager – Hurricane Matthew (2016) and Hurricane Irma (2017).
- Increased revenue for boat dockage, cabana rentals, and marina slip rental by over \$250,000 annually through contract negotiations and policy updates.
- Increased tennis stadium revenue by over \$100,000 annually by recruiting commercial film productions.

### **City of Albany, GA**

#### ***Director of Recreation & Parks***

***12/06-01/14***

Administration of a full-service Parks and Recreation department that served over 100,000 residents and visitors. Department included 64 full-time in 8 divisions (Aquatics, Athletics, Gyms and Centers, Park Maintenance &

Cemeteries, Natural Resources and Park Planning, Golf, Health and Wellness, and Entertainment), with 800+ acres of land, 76 parks, 9 community centers, 1 golf course, 2 cemeteries, 1 aquatic facility, 1 minor league baseball stadium, 6 youth baseball facilities, 4 boat ramps, 1 pistol range, 1 amphitheater, 1 skate park, 3.2 miles of Greenway Trail, a 10,500 seat Civic/Convention Center, a 950 seat historic auditorium, and 654 FEMA lots.

- Award of a \$75,000 FY09 – FY11 Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention appropriation for collaborative community youth crime and gang prevention initiative named: Totally Teen Zone.
- Optimized Civic Center utilization by increasing attendance through youth arena football and commercial events such as WWE, R&B concerts, religions and industry conferences and trade shows, stage productions, and the Albany Symphony.
- Increased Summer Food Service program by including 31 partner locations to serve over 45,000 free lunches.

**Putnam County, Palatka, FL**

***Director of Parks & Recreation***

***5/02 – 12/06***

Department organization, direction, and programming for a department of 8 full-time and 12 seasonal part-time employees, 17 parks, 14 boat ramps, 2 community centers, 1 senior center, 1 aquatic center and 3 nature areas.

- Acquisition of additional funding and construction management for the Palatka-Putnam County – Edgar Johnson Senior Center
- Increase of youth athletic program participation by 72% during first year of employment and adult athletic program participation increase of 40%.
- Acquisition and award of over \$1.2 million in state and federal grants from 2003 to 2006 (LWCF, FRDAP).

**City of Jefferson, GA**

***Director of Parks & Recreation***

***4/01 – 5/02***

Pioneered a new City department including complete development and facilitation of all programs, policies, staffing and budgets.

- Recipient of the Tony Hawk grant for component-based skate park.

**City of Gainesville, GA**

***Allen Creek Soccer Complex Facility Manager***

***7/00 – 04/01***

Oversaw facility construction and initiated policy and budget development for a 10-field competition soccer facility, including a collegiate soccer stadium built for Brenau University.

**Tift County, Tifton, GA**

***Special Events Coordinator***

***9/99 – 6/00***

Successful procurement, facilitation, and contract negotiations for signature community events, including ASA National Softball Tournaments (Women’s Open, Co-ed Church) and the legendary “Tifton Turkey Bowl.”

**City of Camilla, GA**

***Director of Parks & Recreation***

***1/98 – 9/99***

- Revitalized the Northside Aquatic Facility & Park after being closed for 10 years.
- Grant acquisition (over \$100,000) to assist with facility renovations to ensure ADA compliance.

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**EDUCATION**

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Anticipated: Spring 2021  
 December 2007  
 December 1996

Doctor of Public Administration  
 Masters of Public Administration  
 Bachelor of Science in Education

Valdosta State University  
 University of North Florida  
 University of Georgia