

## Larissa De La Cruz



Larissa has over 18 years of experience in the public sector in community development. She holds a Bachelors Degree in Urban Studies from Loyola Marymount University and a Master of Public Administration from California State University Northridge with a specialty in Public Sector Management and Leadership.

Larissa began her career in Planning with the City of Hawthorne as an Intern and Assistant Planner. She then worked for the City of San Gabriel for over 12 years, where she led various roles including Associate and Senior Planner. In her time at San Gabriel, Larissa served as the project manager for several planning initiatives including housing, commercial developments, and mixed-use developments. She also served as the city's Historic Preservation planner, overseeing the preparation and implementation of the

Cultural and Historic Preservation ordinance.

Larissa joined the City of Lancaster in 2017 as the Community Development Senior Manager. She was responsible for leading the city's Community Development Division overseeing Planning and Traffic Engineering, as well as serving as the liaison to the Planning and Architectural and Design Commissions. In this role, she has led a team of traffic engineers and city planners in the completion of several major city projects including zoning text amendments, master planned developments, specific plans, and the implementation of the city's cannabis ordinance, and other initiatives to further streamline and update the City's processes. In addition to Planning-related projects, Larissa has led the city's Traffic Engineering team in the completion of the City's Local Road Safety Plan and Safe Routes to School Refresh Programs and have supported efforts between the city's Capital Improvement and Transportation Division to ensure project delivery. She has also collaborated with the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Traffic Unit to identify traffic related matters and worked closely with Traffic and Transportation staff to identify and address areas of concern related to traffic safety. Larissa is currently the Director of Community Development and is leading the city's Planning, Building and Safety, Housing, Economic Development and the City's Beautification and Special District functions.

Larissa takes pride in her ability to build relationships with her colleagues and members of the community. In her free time, Larissa enjoys traveling with her husband of 13 years and being a mom to 3-year old baby girl, Rebecca.