



NEWS RELEASE

MEDIA CONTACT

Community Design Center of Rochester
Monica McCullough, Board Chair

monica@mmdevelopmentadvisors.com | 315.559.3181

Community Design Center of Rochester announces Karen Nozik as new Executive Director

ROCHESTER, NY – October 20, 2022 – Karen Nozik, formerly of the DC non-profit, City Parks Alliance, has been selected as the new Executive Director of the [Community Design Center of Rochester \(CDCR\)](#). The organization fills the role following the passing of the late Maria Furguele.



Beginning in mid-October, Nozik now leads the organization in its mission to promote the creation of vibrant, equitable, and resilient communities by engaging, educating, and empowering stakeholders in crafting purposeful design. She will serve as the chief executive and administrative officer, with overall operational and financial responsibility for the organization.

“Karen has the extraordinary talent and drive that is necessary to lead the CDCR into the future,” says Monica McCullough, Board Chair. “She is a passionate advocate for neighborhood design and for building more livable, walkable communities. Her roots run deep in upstate New York and the Finger Lakes region and we are happy she has come home to share her professional experience with our community. She will be a great asset for the CDCR and for the greater Rochester region.”

A communications and environmental policy veteran, Nozik has more than 20 years of experience developing, implementing, and marketing policy and program content for national and local non-profit organizations. Her professional experience is rooted in championing livable communities, urban parks, and public spaces, first with the United States Conference of Mayors, then with the Bicycle Federation of America, the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, National Parks Conservation Association, and most recently with the City Parks Alliance. She earned a master’s degree in public affairs (MPA) from the O’Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs at Indiana University, Bloomington, an undergraduate degree from the Newhouse School of Public Communications at Syracuse University.

“It’s an honor to take the reins of the Community Design Center of Rochester at this important time in our city’s history. For more than two decades the CDCR has given voice to communities during Rochester’s remarkable and on-going transformation, and I’m excited to lead the Design Center into its bright future, continuing its legacy of collaborating with partners, taking on critical issues, and making a positive, lasting impact on our communities,” Nozik said.



CDCR is supported by the New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Kathy Hochul and the New York State Legislature. It is the Rochester region’s only non-profit, citizen-driven organization dedicated to promoting the creation of vibrant, equitable, and resilient communities. Its design professionals, planners, and citizens serve as a collaborative resource providing design guidance and recommendations. CDCR organizes the Annual Reshaping Rochester Lecture Series and Awards. The 12th Annual Reshaping Rochester Awards Ceremony will be on Wed., November 16, 2022, 11:30am- 1:30pm, Harro East Ballroom.

###