

Lida Aljabar

AICP, LEED AP

lidaaljabar.com

Lida (Meliha) Aljabar is an urban planner, social and environmental impact strategist, and educator striving to build a global future that is just, resilient and joyous.

MURP, Urban & Regional Planning

Certificate, Center for Leadership in Global Sustainability
Virginia Tech – Washington, DC

BA, magna cum laude, Public & Urban Affairs

Minor, Landscape Architecture
Honors Scholar Diploma
Virginia Tech - Blacksburg

BOARD & COMMITTEE

MEMBERSHIPS

Member, Board of Directors,
The Greenlining Institute,
2023 - present

Fellow, Urban Design Forum,
2019 - present

Advisor, Social Equity Working Group,
US Green Building Council, 2019

PRACTICE

Founder & Principal | Ki Strategies, LLC, 2022 - present

An urban planning and social innovation consultancy which supports changemakers at all scales in advancing equitable environmental change. Select work: *Environmental Justice NYC; NYC Solar Development; BT Farms Agri-community Master Plan*

Director of Climate Resiliency Planning, Policy and Acquisitions | The City of New York, Dept. of Housing Preservation & Development, June 2020 - 2022

Senior Resiliency Planner, Jan. 2019 - June 2020

Led climate adaptation policy, design and program initiatives at NYC's affordable housing agency. Partnered across sectors to secure resources, develop strategy, and mobilize action in improving the resiliency of NYC communities. Select work: *Resilient Edgemere Community Plan, Build it Back Buyouts Program, NYC Climate Resiliency Design Guidelines*

Acting Director, Climate-Smart Cities | The Trust for Public

Land, New York, NY, Aug. 2016 - Jan. 2019

Program Manager / Coordinator, 2017 - 2018 / 2016 - 2017

Led national program advancing equitable investments in green infrastructure through technical assistance, development of civic technology, strategic partnerships and policy development across the U.S., including in New Orleans, Boston, Cleveland, Denver, Los Angeles..

Associate Urban Planner | Arlington County, VA, 2012 – 2016 Planner I, 2012 - 2013

Led and executed award-winning public-private partnerships and public spaces development, through community visioning, strategic planning and implementation.

Economic Equity Associate | The Greenlining Institute, Berkeley, CA, 2012

Racial justice leadership training and research fellowship.

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AWARDS

Cities100 Global Award for Climate Innovation - community engagement
C40 Cities/Bloomberg Philanthropies
2019

Outstanding Implemented Plan -

Western Rosslyn Area Plan
American Planning Association, National
Capital Area Chapter
2018

ACADEMIC

Visiting Assistant Professor | Pratt Institute
School of Architecture, Brooklyn, NY, 2019 - present
Delta Cities Coastal Resilience: Interdisciplinary Studio
Urban Placemaking & Management Lab: Analysis of Public Space

Visiting Critic & Studio Instructor | Syracuse University
School of Architecture, New York, NY, 2022
Undergraduate Architecture Studio

Guest Lecturer | Columbia University, The Cooper Union,
Virginia Tech, University of Virginia, Syracuse University

PUBLICATIONS

Lucchitta, B., Croci, E., & Aljabar, L. (2021). *Environmental stewardship as community reclamation: the role of community land managers in New York City's urban ecology*. In Nature-based solutions for more sustainable cities: A framework approach for planning and evaluation. Book, Emerald Publishing

McDonald, R., Aljabar, L., Aubuchon, C., Birnbaum, H., Chandler, C., Toomey, B., Daley, J., Jimenez, W., Trieschman, E., Paque, J., Zeiper, M. (2019). *Funding trees for health: an analysis of finance and policy actions to enable tree planting for public health*. Report. The Nature Conservancy.

SPEAKING & KEYNOTES

Invited Speaker, **SwissNex Sustainable Cities**, New York, 2022
Invited Speaker, **New York Build Expo**, New York, NY, 2022
Invited Speaker, **United Nations World Forum on Urban Forests**, Montova, Italy, 2018
Invited Keynote, **ReLeaf NYC**, Brooklyn, NY, 2018
Conference on Earth System Governance, Lund, Sweden, 2017
Resilience 2017, Stockholm, Sweden, 2017