

**SUSAN LEIGH WILKERSON, ASSOCIATE AIA**  
URBAN DESIGNER

**EXPERIENCE** 3 Years

**EDUCATION** BS in Architecture, University of Virginia

**SUMMARY** Leigh Wilkerson worked with Kenneth Schwartz and other Renaissance Planning Group staff for more than two years providing community design and planning expertise in the Virginia office. She led the office in the creation of its graphic identity and branding for projects and company materials. Ms. Wilkerson graduated with honors from the University of Virginia School of Architecture. Her study had a dual focus on architecture and landscape architecture, proposing more holistic solutions to design problems.

**ARCHITECTURE & URBAN DESIGN** US41 EDUCATION AND CULTURAL CORRIDOR MASTER PLAN Sarasota, Florida  
Ms. Wilkerson contributed to the creation of a master plan to unify the cultural and educational assets of this corridor, bringing form and identity to this 5-mile portion of the US 41 corridor. A charrette was held to engage the community and stakeholders in a public planning process. She worked in collaboration with Clarence Eng, AICP of RPG.

VINE STREET/US 192 CORRIDOR STUDY City of Kissimmee, Florida  
Ms. Wilkerson developed the design component of this complex redevelopment strategy for a regional commercial corridor in Kissimmee, Florida. This strategy worked to make a walkable, economically sustainable corridor in spite of land use, transportation, and design challenges. She worked with Kate Ange, AICP, Project Manager with RPG.

SEMINOLE STREETScape GUIDELINES City Of Seminole, Florida  
Ms. Wilkerson worked on streetscape design guidelines to help define the City of Seminole's overall design image. Alternative treatments for landscape, signage and architecture have been identified along the major thoroughfares as part of this study. This project is being done in conjunction with a City Center and an overall city design planning study initiative. She worked in collaboration with Clarence Eng, AICP, Project Manager and Whit Blanton, AICP, Principal of RPG.

NEW JERSEY ROUTE 57 CORRIDOR STUDY Warren County, New Jersey  
Ms. Wilkerson completed Phase II of this rural preservation project for the twenty-mile Route 57 corridor in New Jersey. The project is unique in that the state DOT is taking a proactive approach to ensure the long-term viability of the corridor as a two-lane rural roadway by focusing funds and planning resources for land development and preservation. Leigh is leading the development of four demonstration plans that will apply the conceptual regional plan to specific local areas. Design guidelines and an implementation toolkit were prepared in concert with the demonstration plans. She worked in collaboration with Hannah Twaddell and Noel Murphy of RPG, and Parsons Brinckerhoff of Princeton and lead consultants.

**TALLAHASSEE BICYCLE/PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN Tallahassee County MPO**

Ms. Wilkerson worked with Noel Murphy of Renaissance Planning Group to develop bicycle/pedestrian design guidelines for the Tallahassee Bicycle/Pedestrian Master Plan. The guidelines include best practices for pedestrian-oriented development, design standards for bicycle and pedestrian amenities, and strategies for retrofitting existing development for pedestrian safety and accessibility.

**WESTSHORE PEDESTRIAN MASTER PLAN Tampa, Florida**

Ms. Wilkerson assisted Noel Murphy in creating a master plan for public realm improvements in the Westshore district of Tampa. The master plan focused on establishing a pedestrian-friendly public environment as a renewed setting for economic, social, and cultural development in the area. The plan identified priority areas for streetscape improvements, pedestrian crossings, entrance gateways, and connections to new development, as well as established a high standard of design as a model for private sector initiatives.

**MARTIN AND ST. LUCIE COUNTIES LONG RANGE TRANSPORTATION PLAN**

Ms. Wilkerson led the production of visioning process materials including existing and enhanced community element drawings and a community visual preference survey. Leigh has also been involved with developing an interactive web-based mapping prototype that allows visitors to map data online and explore the regional relationship between land-use and transportation.

**BINGHAMTON, NEW YORK TRANSPORTATION TOMORROW REGIONAL VISION**

This project is one of the first in the nation to be developed under FHWA's Scenario Planning initiative, through which the federal agency is encouraging all MPO's to use scenario planning as a venue for coordinating transportation and land use planning. Ms. Wilkerson assisted in the scenario planning process with the development of community element drawings, with RPG and Kenneth Schwartz and Hannah Twaddell as Project Managers.

**FONTAINE AVENUE STUDY City of Charlottesville, Virginia**

Ms. Wilkerson led the production of street sections and corridor plans which identify context-sensitive options for mixed-use development, pedestrian and bicycle circulation, and transit. She helped facilitate community meetings and lead discussions about the benefits and impacts of alternative plans to traffic, bicyclists and pedestrians, and transit.

**MIAMI 54TH STREET LIVABLE CORRIDOR STUDY Miami, Florida**

Ms. Wilkerson led the urban design component of the 54th Street Corridor Study in Miami, Florida. She examined street design and redevelopment alternatives with an interest in balancing mobility and livability needs along the corridor. The study developed a context-sensitive street plan that minimizes right-of-way impacts while establishing a safe and accessible environment for pedestrians and bicyclists.

**MIAMI DISTRICT SIX LIVABLE COMMUNITIES Miami, Florida**

Ms. Wilkerson has been involved in this project examining best practices across the country for creating livable communities. She has been instrumental in both a literature review and the production of educational materials highlighting design standards and principles which impact the character of a place at the building, street, and community level.

**PORT ST. LUCIE CITY CENTER CODE** Port St. Lucie, Florida

Ms. Wilkerson was involved with the production of a development plan and overlay zoning code for the redevelopment of a suburban mall site in Port St. Lucie, Florida. The Port St. Lucie City Center Code provides the framework for a new mixed-use city center to serve as the focal point of civic and retail activity for the area. She completed conceptual site plan drawings and supplemental graphics for the code and development plan.

**ALACHUA COUNTYWIDE VISIONING AND PLANNING PROCESS**

Ms. Wilkerson produced conceptual and framework plans for the unincorporated areas of the Alachua County. She also prepared numerous visioning process materials that demonstrate future development patterns for these areas surrounded by environmentally sensitive and preserved lands.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**VIRGINIA CHAPTER OF THE APA ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2005**

Ms. Wilkerson, presented at the VAPA conference with Hannah Twaddell of Renaissance Planning Group. Their talk was titled, "Placemaking in Virginia". This interactive presentation addressed the fundamentals of design in placemaking as well as community engagement.

**AWARDS AND  
DISTINCTIONS**

**DEPARTMENT OF ARCHITECTURE CERTIFICATE OF DESIGN ACHIEVEMENT**  
University of Virginia, School of Architecture (2003)

**INTERMEDIATE HONORS (FALL 2001)**  
University of Virginia, School of Architecture