

# Betsy Lopez

Deloitte & Touche LLP

Mrs. Lopez has over 10 years of experience in planning, mitigation, community recovery, and grants management. Her talent for community development, project management, collaboration, and meeting facilitation started early in her career where she supported New Orleans school recovery and revitalization of the foster care system following Hurricane Katrina. She is known for working with organizations to enhance disaster resiliency and cultivate a culture of preparedness. Mrs. Lopez specializes in hazard mitigation, having led some of the nation's largest Hazard Mitigation Programs down to local-level initiatives. Her international and national experience spans preparedness planning to exercise development. She currently leads a Disaster Response Team for the federal government, manages a Federal Grant Program for Native Entities, and has served as the Senior Planner for jurisdictions across the nation. She also teaches at the Disaster Resilience Leadership Academy at Tulane University, specializing in human and social factors following a disaster.



## PROJECT EXPERIENCE

### Work at Deloitte (2021-present)

- **Department of Commerce Native Entity Grant Manager for Digital Equity:** Work with National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) to develop and launch the Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program for Native Entities.
- **Louisiana STORM Manager:** Worked with the GOHSEP Hazard Mitigation Division to create the program and author the Intended Use Plan (IUP) for the pilot year for the Safeguarding Tomorrow Through Ongoing Risk Mitigation (STORM) Revolving Loan Fund. In addition to writing the IUP, I coordinated multiple stakeholder workshops, connected GOHSEP to other states attempting to receive STORM funds from FEMA, drafted public outreach and communication for IUP feedback and project solicitation, and worked in cross-collaboration with other state agencies and across GOHSEP to create a feasible plan for a revolving loan fund.
- **Louisiana Public Assistance Team Manager:** Manage a formulation team of 15 people that support 42 entities (cities, schools, parishes, electric co-ops, and non-profits) with Hurricane Ida, Laura, and Zeta and Winter Storm PA claim formulation, over 400 projects with best available costs over \$125 million in all categories, \$64 million in obligated projects as of September 2022, 406 and 428 mitigation, and final state payments. Manage the Task Order of approximately \$4.1 million and work closely with the Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness (GOHSEP).
- **National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Marketing and Outreach (M&O) Disaster Response Team Manager:** Created and currently lead the Federal response team tasked with maintaining relationships across FEMA, Regional, State, and Local offices and providing support before and following flood events. From October 2021 to July 2022, managed 31 activations with 10,119 stakeholder touchpoints. Designed the Standard Operations Procedure (SOP) and Crisis Communication Plans in line with NIMS and in coordination with FID Directorate plans. Manage a staff of four, coordination with the prime contractor, private sector partners, NOAA, and FEMA. Oversaw the development of the disaster response NFIP landing page, media monitoring reports, After Action reports, and field staff newsletters. Serve as the resident Subject Matter Expert (SME) for disaster equity and emergency management.

### Featured Emergency Management and Public Health Work, Nation-wide

- Managed over \$1 million in project deliverables yearly.

- Project Manager for 2020 Ohio Health Department COVID-19 Strategic Plan, Fatality Management Plan, and After Action Report (AAR), 2020 LENOWISCO Hazard Mitigation Plan, and 2019 Madison County Hazard Mitigation Plan, and Butler School District COVID-19 Operations Plan
- Emergency Operations Center (EOC) Planning Cell Planner for Milwaukee County and Cook County COVID-19 Planning Response Operations
- Senior Planner for 2020 Chicago Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA), 2019 Cook County Hazard Mitigation Plan, 2019 Salt Lake County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Miami-Dade Super Bowl Exercise, Chicago Department of Public Health Pandemic Influenza Plan, 2020 Cook County COVID-19 After Action Report (AAR), and 2018 Hialeah Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan (CEMP)
- Subject Matter Expert (SME) and Technical Writer for 2020 Bay Area Regional Tactical Interoperable Communications Plan, 2020 San Antonio COVID-19 Strategic Adaptation Plan, 2020 Napa County Emergency Operation Plans and Earthquake Full-Scale Exercise, 2019 Portage County Hazard Mitigation Plan, Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) trainings (nationally), 2018 Miami-Dade Business Continuity Plan, and 2018 Phoenix Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI)
- Authored the company's Diversity and Inclusion Planning Report
- Authored proposals and secured project bids for City of San Antonio Office of Emergency Management Multi-Year Emergency Management Strategic Planning Services, Chicago Hazard Identification and Risk Assessment (HIRA), Illinois-Indiana-Wisconsin Whole Community Training Summit

### **Tulane University, Louisiana**

- Managed over \$300,000 of grants and endowments; established relationships with donors and conference coordinators; created evaluations and initiative to improve learning outcomes
- Directed the Kenya Summer Abroad Program; team lead for safety planning; guest lecturer on leadership and resiliency; liaison to NGO, university's risk management, and university administrators
- Chair of the Inclusivity and Diversity Excellence Committee; provided guidance and recommendations to senior administrators to improve work place climate; oversaw assessment and improvement team
- Piloted and ran multiple internship and mentoring programs that annually benefit over 500 students; led specialized trainings; directly report to two national boards on funding and programmatic updates
- Orientation lead for guest semester students attending due to hurricane impacts and international students
- Committee head of campus-wide Grants Working Group; developed and disseminated evaluations and programs aimed at enhancing students' access to resources; head of institute's campus-wide communication

### **Foster Care System, Louisiana**

- Oversaw and ran all training, electronic database management, evaluation, and recruitment efforts; lead evaluator and reporter for yearly assessment of volunteer programs and government-funded grants
- Worked directly with judges, attorneys, Department of Children and Family Services, Orleans Sherriff Department, child psychologists, and the mayor's mentoring initiative to enhance service delivery
- Developed hurricane preparedness strategies for foster care programs

## **School System, Louisiana**

- Recruited, hired, trained, and managed a staff of five full-time staff members
- Created and ran all volunteer programs at 8 Orleans Parish public schools resulting in 500 long-term volunteers, 18 university partnerships, neighborhood group partnerships, and over 2000 one-day volunteers
- Successfully wrote, received, managed, and edited various grants; managed donor relations
- Managed the soil remediation of outdoor spaces; secured funding and recruited volunteers to build playgrounds and educational gardens for various public schools
- Successfully brought on over 30 new partnerships by working directly with school administrators, government officials, guardians, and the community
- Standardized procedures for volunteer projects; oversaw 75 projects; built volunteer capacity resulting in recruitment and management of over 1500 special projects volunteers and 12 university partners

## **Featured Graduate Work, 2017-2018**

- 2017-18 Consortium for Resilient Gulf Communities Graduate Researcher: Worked with the Bywater Institute and the Gulf of Mexico Research Initiative to assess and address the ecosystem, economic, and community restoration following the 2010 Deepwater Horizon oil spill
- 2017-18 Center for Public Service Community-Engaged Fellow: Analytical and technical work to assess the resilience of individuals following an anthropogenic disaster with the purpose of making recommendations to increase individual resilience and preparedness. Designed and lead coordinator of 300 mixed-methods surveys to residents of 3 parishes (counties)
- 2017 Graduate Research Assistant for Dr. Robert Verchick's Environmental and Infrastructure Program: Projects included work on disaster mitigation, environmental science, economics, and infrastructure policy
- 2018 TEACHING ASSISTANT FOR DR. CHARLES FIGLEY'S TRAUMA CLASS: TAUGHT 100 STUDENTS ABOUT POST-TRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER, TRAUMATOLOGY, AND

## **EDUCATION AND CERTIFICATIONS**

- M.S., Disaster Resilience Leadership | Tulane University, 2018
- B.A., Environmental Studies and Communication | Tulane University, 2010
- Project Management Professional (PMP)
- Certified Business Continuity Professional (CBCP)
- Homeland Security FEMA Public Trust
- 2018 Program Manager and Development Pro Certification from AMPG International
- 2018 Group Discussion Leadership Certification from Tulane University Traumatology Department
- 2017 Atlantic Promise Forage Center for Peace Building and Humanitarian Leadership