

LIKITHA BOORA

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Personal Statement

As a dedicated Urban Planner and GIS Analyst, I bring extensive expertise in geospatial technologies and urban planning principles to deliver innovative, data-driven solutions for complex spatial and environmental challenges. My proficiency in tools such as ArcGIS, QGIS, and AutoCAD, combined with hands-on experience in urban development projects, allows me to analyze and visualize intricate datasets, informing strategic decisions that shape sustainable communities.

With a strong foundation in spatial analysis, custom map creation, and GIS database management, I am adept at driving efficiencies and improving accuracy in planning processes. My work ranges from rural area development and slum redevelopment planning to waterbody classification upgrades and green infrastructure research. I am passionate about integrating technology with urban design to create resilient, inclusive, and forward-thinking solutions. Eager to contribute to impactful projects, I thrive in collaborative environments, applying my technical expertise to support sustainable growth and improve the quality of life in diverse urban and rural settings.

Education

Masters in Urban and Regional Planning, SUNY Albany, Albany, NY

Aug 2022 – Present

Group Project:

- ♦ **Integrating Dam Risks and Failures in State and Local Hazard Mitigation Plans:** The report integrates strategies for improving dam safety and incorporates georeferencing past flood inundation maps, digitizing them, and comparing them with the generated flood inundation zones for improved accuracy in assessing risks and community impacts for dams in Clinton and Fulton Counties, New York.
- ♦ **Downtown Revitalization Initiative – Bargain Grocery Store & Community Center, Amsterdam, NY:** Led the proposal for a community-focused grocery store and center at the Five Corners brownfield site. Secured funding, conducted environmental assessments, and collaborated with local organizations to address food desert conditions, enhance food access, and promote cultural engagement within the growing Puerto Rican community.

Individual Project:

- ♦ **Healthcare Facilities vs. Travel Time: Best Location to Establish Hospital Facilities for Isolated Communities:** The study identifies optimal locations for new hospital facilities in Duval County, Texas, to serve isolated communities. Using service area analysis in a QGIS environment, it assesses the accessibility of existing hospitals and suggests sites based on population density, accessibility, and a 30-minute service area. The goal is to improve healthcare access and emergency response in underserved areas.

Bachelors in Urban and Regional Planning, JNAFAU, Hyderabad, India

September 2016 - June 2020

Group Project:

- ♦ *Rural Area Development:* Designed a comprehensive plan tailored to uplift and cater to the specific needs of rural communities, emphasizing sustainable practices and local resources.
- ♦ *Local Area Development Plan:* Orchestrated a project to enhance the local infrastructure, amenities, and services. The plan was tailored to the community's needs, ensuring residents access to better facilities and quality of life.
- ♦ *City Development Plan:* Collaboratively devised a strategic blueprint for holistic city development, focusing on infrastructure, transportation, sustainability, and community engagement.
- ♦ *Slum Redevelopment Plan:* Curated a plan to transform living conditions in slums, ensuring better housing, sanitation, and amenities. Plan considers the socio-economic fabric of the community, proposing inclusive and sustainable solutions.
- ♦ *Seminars Presented:* Review on current scenario of the Musi River

- ◆ *Neighborhood Planning*: Designed and revamped neighborhoods, enhancing community spaces, pedestrian pathways, and recreational zones, keeping in view the socio-cultural ethos of the residents.

Individual Projects: Thesis: Impact on Rural Areas due to Migration

Objective: To analyze the impact of migration on household income, agricultural productivity, housing conditions, and overall development in Palennaram village, Suryapet District, Telangana. Additionally, the study aims to propose strategies to mitigate the adverse effects of migration on rural areas.

Career History

Kings Celia Home and Park Improvements Corporation – Planning Affairs Intern September 2024 – Present

I provide strategic planning and consultancy, conduct environmental assessments, and manage project development. Responsibilities include grant writing, fundraising, data analysis, and GIS utilization to support decision-making and site inspections while representing the organization in public forums and fostering stakeholder engagement.

NYSDEC Division of Water, Albany, NY, US – GIS Analyst February 2024 – May 2024

Applied advanced GIS tools to upgrade waterbody classification and enhance drinking water management. Cleaned up existing GIS layers for improved efficiency, developed comprehensive layers for classification upgrades, and ensured data accuracy through meticulous quality control. Streamlined GIS layers to optimize staff efficiency and support environmental protection initiatives, including trout habitat preservation and source protection.

RMSI Pvt. Ltd., Hyderabad, TG, India – Trainee GIS December 2021 - July 2022

Innovated map update techniques, reducing turnaround time and enhancing user experience. Resolved complex data challenges, met tight deadlines, and achieved high user satisfaction. Strengthened team performance through knowledge-sharing and ensured precision in map representations by verifying and updating geographical data.

Quality Control of India, New Delhi, India - Assessor October 2021 - November 2021

Conducted thorough assessments of urban infrastructure, enhancing data-driven decision-making. Collaborated with local authorities to document sanitation workers' contributions and streamline data collection. Proposed improvements to survey methodologies, optimizing evaluations and contributing to urban planning through detailed analyses of Vizag City's sewer infrastructure.

Geostat Informatics Private Limited, Noida, UP, India – Project Analyst February 2021 - April 2021

Maintained and updated Monthly Information System data, ensuring accuracy in ODF, GFC, and SS2021 rankings. Proposed data management enhancements and improved reporting accuracy. Managed SBM Portal data, compiled city rankings, and developed strategies to enhance IEC activity effectiveness.

Additional Works

- ◆ **Intern, IGIN, Bangalore, India**: Conducted in-depth research on the environmental advantages, historical evolution, and contemporary innovations of green roofs, examining their contributions to urban sustainability and related policy incentives.
- ◆ **Intern, RCUES, Hyderabad, India**: Engaged in infrastructure planning, emphasizing social infrastructure, financial mechanisms, GIS-based master planning, and comprehensive case studies.
- ◆ **Intern, NIUM, Hyderabad, India**: Demonstrated expertise in crafting solid waste management reports, performing compliance audits, and analyzing urban institutional restructuring.

Skills, Certifications, and Participations

- ◆ **Technical Skills**: MS Office, AutoCAD, AutoCAD Map 3D, ArcGIS Online, ArcGIS Pro, QGIS, Google Earth, Photoshop, Sketchup, Illustrator.
- ◆ **Certifications**:
 - **Yo4GIS Solutions**: ArcGIS Pro Customization Using Python & ArcPy, Geospatial Development Course
 - **ESRI**: GIS for Climate Action, Going Places with Spatial Analysis, Transform AEC Projects with GIS and BIM.

- ◆ **Volunteering Experience:** Contributed to the 66th National Town and Country Planners Congress (ITPI, 2019) and the IYF World Culture Cap (Youth Fellowship, 2017), where I developed expertise in teamwork, adaptability, and resource management.
- ◆ **Additional Participation:** Attended the XX National Planning Conference and participated in gully football.