

## PATRICK SPAUSTER

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Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellow  
Master's of Urban Planning Candidate, NYU Wagner  
Graduate Student Researcher, NYU Furman Center  
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### Career Brief

Patrick Spauster is a journalist, data scientist, and researcher focusing on urban and housing issues. Spauster works as a freelance data journalist while pursuing his Master's of Urban Planning at the Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service where he is a Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellow. He currently writes for Bloomberg CityLab as a data journalist, researches housing policy at the Furman Center at New York University, and serves as editor-in-chief of Wagner's Planning publication, the Wagner Planner, where he edits the work of seven staff writers. He also co-instructs a NYU planning course on data analysis and visualization. Before that he was a Research Analyst in the Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center at the Urban Institute. Spauster works on research projects and writes data-driven journalistic pieces related to rent relief, renter protections, homelessness, housing affordability, housing vouchers, housing discrimination, fair housing, transportation, bike infrastructure, and zoning. He has a strong background in quantitative methods, including analysis of survey, census, administrative, spatial, and program data in R, Stata, and Python. He visualizes data in R, QGIS, D3, and Illustrator and develops webpages in HTML, CSS, and Javascript. Spauster also has significant journalism and qualitative research experience, planning and conducting interviews, coding research findings, and drawing out key themes, quotes, and insights. He is a strong writer experienced with many different written products, including feature length and shorter news articles, long form research reports, opeds, briefs, fact sheets, and blogs. He supports teams by managing projects and timelines, presenting results, and communicating with partners and stakeholders. Spauster holds a BA in Public Policy and a Minor in Economics from Davidson College, where he was a leader in the service community on campus.

### Education

Expected May 2023	Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service, New York University, New York City, NY M.S. Candidate, Urban Planning Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellow
2017	Davidson College, Davidson, NC B.A., Interdisciplinary Major in Public Policy, Economics Minor

### Professional Experience

2022 -	Bloomberg News CityLab, New York, NY Freelance Data Journalist <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pitched, sourced, and wrote stories on housing, urban planning, and design</li></ul>
2022	Bloomberg News, New York, NY Data Journalism Intern <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Underwent intensive news training program</li><li>• Pitched, sourced, and wrote stories on data general assignment team for Bloomberg News verticals</li><li>• Lead writing and data analysis for investigation of the rise in Starbucks unions</li><li>• Contributed data analysis, visualization, and reporting on articles across</li></ul>

- the newsroom
- Create publication-ready maps and graphics using R, Excel, QGIS, and Adobe Illustrator

- 2021–
- Furman Center, New York University, New York, NY  
Graduate Student Researcher
- Data analyst programming in R and Python
  - Analyzed housing production and subsidy data, wrote sections of the report, and created interactive housing development leaflet map for “State of the City 2022”
  - Evaluate the Impact of New York’s 2019 rent protection law on multifamily lending using property records and HMDA data
  - Use unemployment and census data to target areas most in need of Emergency Rental Assistance payments
  - Conduct data analysis and create maps, visualizations, and graphics
  - Write and edit reports, blogs, briefs, and other products
- 2018–2021
- Urban Institute, Metropolitan Housing and Communities Center, Washington, DC  
Research Analyst (2021)  
Research Assistant (2018-2020)
- Conduct qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods research projects on fair housing, homelessness, vouchers, and zoning.
  - Manage projects and budgets, meetings, logistics, and events.
  - Clean, manage, analyze, and automate large datasets in R and Stata
  - Create maps, data visualizations, and graphics
  - Conduct interviews, draft interview protocols, and code research findings
  - Write and edit reports, blogs, briefs, and other products
- 2017–2021
- Prose Media, New York, NY  
Freelance Writer
- Wrote dozens of blog posts, reviews, and other short pieces for clients
  - Focused on clear, condensed writing designed for search engine optimization
- 2017–2018
- The Center for New York City Neighborhoods, New York, NY  
Program Associate
- Provided relief and support to housing insecure citizens. Staffed the Center’s homeowner hub, managed housing cases, provided counseling referral services, and leveraged program partnerships through the NYS Mortgage Assistance Program, Build it Back, Flood Help NY, and Temporary Housing Services.
  - Supported research on NYC projects to improve agency programs in foreclosure mitigation, climate resilience, and access to homeownership.
  - Analyzed organizational caller data patterns and created plan to increase responsiveness
  - Served on the agency’s disaster response committee in the wake of hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria
- 2016
- Human Rights Watch, New York, NY  
Children’s Rights Division Intern,
- Assisted researchers and executives with research, writing, editing, and administration for children’s rights research projects

- Composed treaty body on Bangladesh submitted for review of the United Nations Committee on Elimination of Discrimination against Women; Composed background research report on Peruvian Gold Mining
- Contributed significant research, writing, and editing and for nine country profiles for *Education Under Attack 2018*, a report of the Global Coalition to Protect Education from Attack

### **Fellowships, Honors, and Awards**

Georgina and Charlotte Bloomberg Public Service Fellow, 2021-2023;  
Ten Urban Wire Blog Posts that Elevated the Debate, 2018;  
Davidson College Civic Engagement Council Chairperson, 2016-2017;  
Leadership Davidson Selectee, 2017;  
Vann Center for Ethics Human Rights Watch Fellow, 2016.

### **Technical Skills**

R	Web development	Interviewing
Stata	Illustrator	Focus groups
ArcGIS/QGIS	Data visualization	Data walks
Python	Mapping	Blogging
nVivo	Wordpress web design	Freelance writing
Qualtrics	Econometrics	Opinion editorial
HTML/CSS	Regression	Investigative reporting
Javascript/JQuery	Program evaluation	Web scraping
D3	Ethnography	Editing

### **Publications**

#### ***Articles***

**Patrick Spauster**, "[Florida Republicans Are Fighting Gainesville's Zoning Reform, and Themselves](#)," *Bloomberg CityLab*, October 13, 2022.

**Patrick Spauster**, "[The Bitter Fight for Unions at Starbucks, One Year Later](#)," *Bloomberg*, August 30, 2022.

**Patrick Spauster**, "[Gainesville, Florida, Moves to End Single-Family Zoning](#)," *Bloomberg CityLab*, August 9, 2022.

**Patrick Spauster**, "[A College Town Takes on Exclusionary Zoning](#)," *Bloomberg CityLab*, July 28, 2022.

**Patrick Spauster**, "[Cities Seek Alternatives to Gas Tax Holidays](#)," *Bloomberg CityLab*, July 1, 2022.

#### ***Blog Posts***

Eldridge, Matthew, Kimberly Burrowes, and **Patrick Spauster**, "[How Cities Like Birmingham, Alabama, Are Unlocking New Funding for Parks and Green Space](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), February 18, 2019.

Scally, Corianne, Camille Anoll and **Patrick Spauster**, "[Four lessons on federal crisis response from ten years of foreclosure counseling](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), May 23, 2017.

**Spauster, Patrick**, "[LeBron James's I Promise School puts a public face to the evidence-based approach of whole-family intervention](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), August 14, 2018.

**Spauster, Patrick**, "[In some New York City districts, nearly one in four students experience homelessness](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), Urban Wire, November 19, 2018.

**Spauster, Patrick**, "[LeBron James's Foundation Is Building Transitional Housing at the I Promise School. But It Can Go Further to Help Families](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), November 22, 2019.

**Spauster, Patrick**, "[Three Things We Learned from Cleaning One Million DMV Property Records](#)," *Data@Urban* (blog), December 3, 2019.

**Spauster, Patrick**, "[Tackling Systemic Barriers in Northeast Buffalo to Help Break Cycles of Poverty](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), December 16, 2019.

**Spauster, Patrick**, Mica O'Brien, and Olivia Fiol, "[The Suburbs Aren't Under Attack. They Can Be Places of Opportunity for All](#)," *Urban Wire* (blog), September 11, 2020.

#### **Opeds**

**Patrick Spauster**, "[New York City Needs Basement Apartments Now More Than Ever](#)," *City Limits*, September 30, 2021.

#### **Published Reports**

Anderson, Theresa, Susan J. Popkin, Marla McDaniel, Amelia Coffey, Amanda Gold, **Patrick Spauster**, Peace Gwam, Marcus Gaddy, and Adaeze Okoli. Investing in Equitable Urban Park Systems. 2021. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/developing-two-generation-approaches-communities>

Cunningham, Mark K., Devlin Hanson, Sarah Gillespie, Mike Pergamit, Alyse D. Oneto, **Patrick Spauster**, Tracey O'Brien, Liz Sweiter, Christine Velez Breaking the Homelessness-Jail Cycle with Housing First: Results from the Denver Supportive Housing Social Impact Bond Initiative. 2021. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/breaking-homelessness-jail-cycle-housing-first-results-denver-supportive-housing-social-impact-bond-initiative>

Eldridge, Matthew, Kimberly Burrowes, and **Patrick Spauster**. Investing in Equitable Urban Park Systems. 2019. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/investing-equitable-urban-park-systems>

Galvez, Martha, Solomon Greene, Alyse Oneto, and **Patrick Spauster**. Protecting Housing Choice Voucher Holders from Discrimination: Lessons from Oregon and Texas. 2020. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/housing-and-land-use-implications-split-roll-property-tax-reform-california>

Gillespie, Sarah, Devlin Hanson, Alyse D. Oneto, **Patrick Spauster**, Mary Cunningham, Mike Pergamit. Denver Supportive Housing Social Impact Bond Initiative: Housing Stability Payments. 2020. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/denver-supportive-housing-social-impact-bond-initiative-housing-stability-payments-0>

Gillespie, Sarah, Devlin Hanson, Alyse D. Oneto, **Patrick Spauster**, Mary Cunningham, Mike Pergamit. Denver Supportive Housing Social Impact Bond Initiative: Final Outcome Payments. 2021. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/denver-supportive-housing-social-impact-bond-initiative-final-outcome-payments>

Greene, Solomon, Laurie Goodman, Sarah Stochak, Daniel Teles, and **Patrick Spauster**. Housing and Land Use Implications of Split-Roll Property Tax Reform in California. 2020. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/housing-and-land-use-implications-split-roll-property-tax-reform-california>

Greene, Solomon, **Patrick Spauster**, Martha Galvez, and Daniel Teles. State and Local Voucher Protection Laws: Introducing a New Legal Dataset. 2020. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute.

<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/state-and-local-voucher-protection-laws-introducing-new-legal-dataset>

Popkin, Susan, Theresa Anderson, Amelia Coffey, Marcus Gaddy, Charmaine Runes, Marla McDaniel, Adaeze Okoli, **Patrick Spauster**. Incorporation Two-Generation Approaches in Community Change. 2019. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute.

<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/incorporating-two-generation-approaches-community-change>

Scally, Corianne, Camille Anoll, Jung Choi, **Patrick Spauster**, Leah Hendey, Diane Levy, and Bing Bai. 2018. "Responding to a Crisis: The National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program 2008-2018."

NeighborWorks America. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/responding-crisis-national-foreclosure-mitigation-counseling-program-2008-2018>

Scally, Corianne, Eric Burnstein, Nicole DuBois, Marcus Gaddy, Chris Hayes, Clare Saleno, **Patrick Spauster**, Yipeng Su, Elsa Falkenburger, and Susan Popkin. "Evaluation of the Resident Opportunity and Self-Sufficiency Service Coordinator Program." 2019.

<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/evaluation-resident-opportunity-and-self-sufficiency-service-coordinator-program>

**Spauster, Patrick**, Lydia Lo, and Yonah Freemark. The Rise of Market-Reliant Affordable Housing Tools. 2021. Washington, D.C.: The Urban Institute. <https://www.urban.org/research/publication/rise-market-reliant-affordable-housing-tools>

### **Features**

Cunningham, Mark K., Devlin Hanson, Sarah Gillespie, Mike Pergamit, Alyse D. Oneto, **Patrick Spauster**, and Josh Leopold "Reenvisioning Rural America," Urban Institute, September 2021,

<https://www.urban.org/research/publication/promise-heights-response-challenges-created-covid-19>

Scally, Corianne, Amanda Gold, Yipeng Su, Jorge Morales-Burnett, Eric Burnstein, and **Patrick Spauster**, "Housing First Breaks the Homelessness-Jail Cycle," Urban Institute, July 2021,

<https://www.urban.org/features/housing-first-breaks-homelessness-jail-cycle>

### **Presentations**

**Spauster, Patrick**, Solomon Greene, and Sarah Strochak "Housing and Land Use Implications of Proposed Split Roll Tax Reform," Fresno, CA and Washington DC. Zoom. July 30th, 2020.

**Spauster, Patrick** and Peter Tatian. "Building a Data-Driven Learning Culture." Washington, DC. Zoom. May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Spauster, Patrick**, Timothy Tripplett, and Brett Theodos. "Improving Survey Design and Administration," Washington, DC. Zoom. August 11th, 2020.

### **Service**

Steward, GSOC-UAW Local 2110: The Union for Graduate Employees at NYU, 2022

Data Analyst, Unlock NYC, 2021-2022

Member, Housing Data Coalition, 2022-

Organizer, Urban Institute Employees Union, 2019-2021

Puerto Rico Evacuee Service Center Volunteer 2017-2018

Davidson College Civic Engagement Council Chairperson 2016-2017

Volunteer and Researcher with the Beatties Ford Road Project 2017

Vice President, Communications Davidson Nonprofit Consulting 2015-2017