City of Sandy

Community Profile

- County: Clackamas
- City: Sandy
- Population: 10,655

Assignment

- Organization: City of Sandy
- Supervisor: Kelly O’Neill Jr.
- RARE Member: Emma Porricolo

About the City of Astoria

The City of Sandy is a municipal government in east Clackamas County representing approximately 11,000 people living within city limits. Sandy is a semi-rural community about 10 miles southeast of Gresham, and the last home rule city for those heading eastbound on US Hwy 26 prior to reaching the Mount Hood National Forest and the ski resorts. The RARE will be working in the Planning & Building Department at City Hall, which consists of the department director, one building official, one part-time building inspector, one associate planner, one permit technician and one planning assistant. The RARE will also work directly with staff in the Economic Development and Community Services departments, as well as local non-profits like the Sandy Historical Society, Sandy Parks Board and the Sandy Area Chamber of Commerce.

Emma will work on the Pleasant Street Master Plan, starting a community engagement process to work toward the Council goal of converting the street from primarily residential to commercial. She will work on a downtown walkability plan and parkland rezoning. Last but not least, she will work on improving the efficiency of the business licensure system by fixing a known compliance issue.

Meet Emma Porricolo

- B.S. in Environmental Science and a Minor in Geology and Planning, Public Policy, and Management – University of Oregon
- People may be surprised when they learn that I had to take my road test three times, all within the span of a month. Don’t worry; I’m a great driver today with a clean record. My first test I was so consumed by nervous I couldn’t think straight, leading me to make a left turn without regard for oncoming traffic.
- My most significant accomplishment has been completing my term of service in Hermiston through the RARE program. This past year I have grown immensely, personally and professionally. When I began my position, I was starting from scratch; this was the first year of my position. The initiative was relatively new to the community, and the downtown organization was young. I have been able to grow the downtown network and catalyze downtown revitalization. It has been incredibly rewarding to be able to see the impact I have had on the community, a community that has also taught me so much and helped me grow.