

City of The Dalles

Community Profile

Population 15,150

Location The Dalles

Position Description

Sponsor City of The Dalles

Supervisor Dan Durow,
Community
Development Director



Assignment The participant in The Dalles will work on several projects. The first project will be to create a database of properties that are located in the Local Improvement District (LID). The LID consists of properties within the city limits that are in need of public improvements, specifically those for roads and sewer. After adding existing properties into a database, the participant will analyze the properties and assess each property’s improvements based on needs, using a combination of Geographic Information Systems, computer aided drafting, and field work. The final database will help to create a city-wide ordinance that addresses the need for storm water drainage and other LID improvements. The participant’s second task will be to revise the city’s sign ordinance. The current sign ordinance does not fully address important signage issues, including windows and lighting. The participant will work with the community, including local business owners and a mayor-appointed task force, to address the signage issues.

Required Skills The RARE participant should have strong GIS skills and be able to work with GIS partners in developing and understanding data. S/he will need to be able to interpret and explain how policy can affect land use and development and be able to understand and analyze limitations on infrastructure development. The participant will need to have strong communication skills and be able to guide a citizen involvement process.

RARE Participant



John Dean

John Dean, originally from Spokane, WA, graduated from Iowa State University in 2006, with a bachelor of science in both community and regional planning and environmental studies. During school, John completed an internship with the City of West Des Moines, IA, where he focused on a broad array of planning topics including site development, corridor studies, and GIS projects. He was also a research assistant for Iowa State University’s Sustainable Rural Livelihoods Program where he focused on sustainable development in sub-Saharan Africa and southeast Asia. After graduation and before joining RARE, John traveled to Rome to study sustainable development.