PRESIDENT, WESTERN SPACES, LLC

Sarah Brown McClain, MURP

BASED IN
Steamboat Springs, Colorado

EXPERIENCE
20+ years in Colorado housing

EDUCATION
Master's Urban and Regional Planning, CU Denver; BA Environmental Policy, CU Boulder

SERVICE AREA
Colorado, New Mexico, Montana, and the broader Mountain West.

Profile

Sarah Brown McClain is a housing policy and planning consultant in Steamboat Springs and the founder of Western Spaces. She wrote the state's Proposition 123 compliance guide and co-wrote its SB24-174 housing needs assessment and housing action plan guidelines, and her work for towns and counties across the Mountain West runs from needs assessments and market studies to adopted housing plans and code.

She began at RRC Associates on some of Colorado's earliest housing needs assessments, founded Balanced Community, and taught Geodesign and the Web, a CU Boulder graduate course on online tools for public engagement. Her practice now pairs that analysis with interactive dashboards and automated data platforms that give communities ongoing access to their own housing data.

Past boards and commissions

Chaffee County Housing Authority, Board of Directors (County Representative)

Colorado Farm to Table, Board of Directors

Summit County Planning Commission

Ten Mile Planning Commission, Summit County

Credentials and memberships

American Institute of Certified Planners (AICP), certification lapsed

American Planning Association

Housing Colorado

Recent Projects

HOUSING STRATEGY & IMPLEMENTATION

Archuleta County Housing Action Plan

Lake City/Hinsdale County Housing Plan & Phase 1 Implementation

Delta Fast Track Program & Code Update

Town of Frisco Housing Strategy & Land Use Analysis

Frisco Inclusionary & Linkage Fee Nexus Study

City of Cortez Housing Action Plan & Code Update

POLICY GUIDANCE & RESOURCES

DOLA SB24-174 Housing Action Plan Guidelines

DOLA SB24-174 Housing Needs Assessment Guidelines

Proposition 123 Compliance Guidelines

Proposition 123 Technical Assistance & Outreach

HOUSING NEEDS ASSESSMENTS

Region 9 HNA Technical Data Platform

Columbia Falls Needs Assessment, MT

Archuleta County HNA

Gunnison Valley Regional HNA

Summit School District HNA

MARKET & FEASIBILITY ANALYSIS

Riverwalk at Ouray Market Study

Two Rivers Phase II Market Study, Salida

Los Alamos Market Demand Study, NM

Summit County Rental Market & Inventory Performance Analysis

Crested Butte Market Rent Analysis

COMPREHENSIVE PLANNING

Town of Telluride Comprehensive Plan

Summit County Comprehensive Plan

Prowers County Comprehensive Plan

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