

ROBIN PAYTON PAYNE

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SUMMARY

Detail-oriented communities consultant with over twenty-two years of experience providing comprehensive support to municipal and county governments. Proven track record of successful community development and project management. Strong capacity building and planning skills, utilizing creative planning and engagement with stakeholders.

WORK EXPERIENCE 2021 to Present

Special Projects Consultant, Bertie County, NC Government **April 2019 - Present**

- Implemented organizational and growth structure for the newly adopted Travel & Tourism Economic Development cluster.
- Produced gap analysis to identify capacity-building needs for growth.
- Implemented capacity-building action steps: Occupancy Tax, TDA Development, County-wide asset development education with citizens, businesses, and municipalities.
- Lead on Bertie's new flood resiliency action plan. Grants management, citizen outreach, and priority project implementation.
- Project Manager Bertie Beach Park: Procured and administered \$2 million in grants, executed Phase I and II construction, wetlands restoration, and shoreline stabilization.
- Lead for Destination Bertie - a countywide Travel & Tourism economic development initiative.

Projects Planner, Town of Garysburg, NC **Jan 2022 - Present**

- Project Manager Garysburg Regional Commerce Plaza and Park. Grants procurement totaling \$700,000, construction manager, creation of master plan.
- City-wide Park system planning incorporating scattered site parks for outdoor recreation.
- Low to Moderate Income housing project development.

Economic Development Hertford County, NC Government **April 2022 - Present**

- Provide grant and capacity-building services as needed for Economic Development Department: Planning, Zoning, and Outdoor Recreation.

Grants Management, Carolina Rebuilding Ministry **September 2021 - Present**

- Implemented restructuring of 501(c)(3) low-income home repair organization through financial analysis, visioning sessions, strategic plan, new website, and outreach materials.
- Procured and administered \$6 million in grants to serve three northeastern counties.

Weldon In Action 501(c)(3) Weldon, NC

February 2023 - Present

- Facilitated group visioning sessions.
- Produced a strategic Action Plan with applicable funding opportunities.
- Provided guidance on prioritization and implementation of projects.

Town of Hobgood, NC**September 2022 - 2024**

- Facilitated visioning and asset awareness workshops for Town Council and citizens.
- Produced work plan targeting priorities as identified by Town Council.

Town of McClellanville, SC**September 2019 - 2023**

- Established an initiative to save the local shrimp industry and 32 jobs.
- Working with local shrimpers, established the McClellanville Watermen's Association, and the McClellanville Community Foundation.
- Facilitated visioning workshops for the Town Council and citizens.

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INTERNATIONAL PROJECT RECOGNITION**United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)****May 2016**

- Ocracoke Fish House Project (2006 - 2010) Selected by FAO as a model for third world and developing countries for collective action in small-scale fisheries. As Executive Director of The Ocracoke Foundation, I developed the umbrella 501(c)(3) organization and a for-profit subsidiary for the long-term sustainability of the commercial fishing industry. [*Strengthening organizations and collective action in fisheries. Towards the formulation of a capacity development programme*](#)

EDUCATION**Bachelor of Arts**

Mount Vernon College Washington, D.C.

Non-Profit Management

Duke University, Durham, North Carolina

NC Department of Commerce RC2 Program**2022 - 2023****Economic Development Training Rural Community Capacity**

Appalachian State University - Walker School of Business

Rural Investment Training**2024 - 2025**

Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Richmond, Virginia

KEY SKILLS

- Group Visioning and Facilitation.
- Strategic Planning.
- Grant Writing.
- Construction Management.
- Initiative Building.
- Investment Strategies.
- Website Development.
- Project Management.