



## URVI DESAI

### I Education:

The University of Texas at Austin, School of Architecture  
**Master of Science in Community and Regional Planning**

Center for Environmental Planning and Technology (CEPT), Ahmedabad  
**Diploma in Architecture**

### II Professional Experience:

**July 2006 to date** IORA Studio; **Principal Planner**  
Ahmedabad, India

Working on several Urban Planning and Master Planning projects. Please refer the Company Profile attached alongwith for details of some of the ongoing work.

**July 06 to Nov 2007** CEPT Research and Development Unit (CRDU); **Consultant**  
Ahmedabad, India

Provided consultancy services to CRDU for some of their planning projects. Please refer the Company Profile attached along with for details of some of these projects.

**Jan 2005 to June 2006** Rolf C. Campbell and Associates, Inc; **Associate Planner**  
Chicago, Illinois

- Worked on the Comprehensive Plan Update for the Village of Hainesville, IL and Village of Fox River Grove, IL. The Plans included land use maps, environmental studies, future land use proposals, bike trail plans, etc.
- Worked on Master Planning and Urban Design Guidelines for a 70-acre mixed use commercial/residential project for the Village of Vernon Hills, IL

**Jan 2003 to Sep 2004** University of Texas at Austin; **Graduate Assistant**  
Austin, Texas

- **Low Impact Development Project:** Collaborated on a team for a LID project on a 468-acre site near Austin, with special focus on Integrated Water Management Practices, including landscaping, rainwater harvesting, wastewater treatment, & stormwater management. The team developed five different scenarios of residential development, presenting different options of housing types and water infrastructure (Included GIS analysis, AutoCAD drawings, and presentation drawings). Economic models for different water scenarios were calculated to show that LID is preferable - both ecologically as well as economically.
- **Transportation and Landuse Tools for Mitigation of Sprawl:** Collaborated on a team with Director of CRP Program at UT on Study of Transportation and Landuse tools for mitigation of sprawl. The Study included deriving parameters and planning strategies/ tools that can be effectively used in differing urban contexts. The Study

focused on literature review, practices in various cities across the USA, theories, expert opinions, as well as case studies to identify the transportation and land use strategies that may be used to mitigate sprawl.

**Aug 2001 to July 2002** Archicrafts; **Architect and Research Assistant**  
Ahmedabad, India

- Designed and developed a research paper for an international seminar: “Disaster as a Challenge in a Vernacular Settlement: Rebuilding Bhuj City, Gujarat after the Earthquake of 2001”; involved in evaluation of the planning processes and development strategies for the redevelopment of city of Bhuj
- Designed, developed, and compiled research document for Indian Council for Social Science Research (ICSSR): “Domestic Regional Architecture of Gujarat: 1850-1947” (published in 2005)

**Feb 2001 to July 2001** Mandala Design Services; **Architect**  
Kolkata, India

- Was resident architect on a mixed-use housing project with 225 Low-Income Group units, 650 Middle-Income Group units, 725 High-Income Group units, recreation club, and commercial complex of 85,000 sq.ft. Most work was on commercial complex; responsibilities included Design Development, Working Drawings, coordination with client consultants, and site supervision.
- Consulting Architects – Balkrishna Doshi, Vastu-Shilpa Consultants. The Project won the national Spectrum Award for best Housing Project, 2002

### III Teaching Experience:

**Sem 1, 2010-'11** **Perception Study Lab; Visiting Faculty**  
Faculty of Sustainable Environment and Climate Change, CEPT University, Ahmedabad

**2007 to date** **Area Planning Lab; Visiting Faculty**  
Faculty of Planning and Public Policy, CEPT University, Ahmedabad

**Sem 1, 2009-'10** **Green Building; Visiting Faculty**  
School of Building Science & Technology, CEPT University, Ahmedabad

**Sem 2, 2007-'08** **Environmental Science & Services; Visiting Faculty**  
Indubhai Parekh School of Architecture, Rajkot

### III Other Academic Activities:

- Feb-March 2003 – participated as a team member in a urban design competition by the Urban Land Institute. The project involved revitalization of the South Capitol Street in Washington, DC
- February, 2003 – presented a research paper titled “Social Institutions as Generators of Urban Form: Case Study of Ahmedabad” for the 5th Annual Research Colloquium in Urban Studies at University of Texas at Austin
- 2003 – wrote a book review of “The Regional City” by Peter Calthorpe and William Fulton for the School Journal Planning Forum at UT, Texas
- 2002-2003 – participated in and facilitated Regional Planning workshops for Envision Central Texas, the regional planning initiative being handled by Fregonese and Calthorpe Associates, Portland, OR.

### IV. Professional Associations:

- Member of the Council of Architecture, New Delhi, India
- Member of the American Planning Association, Chicago, USA