

**Town of Winthrop**  
**Sustainable Local Planning Practicum**

<b>Supervisors:</b>	Rocklynn Culp, Winthrop Town Planner & Kristi Skanderup, Electric Vehicle Charging Project Leader
<b>Salary:</b>	\$14.49/hour, 24 hours/week for 10 weeks
<b>Period of Employment:</b>	June 21, 2022 - August 26, 2022  3 days per week
<b>Participation Requirements:</b>	Living in the Methow Valley for the summer  Enrollment in UEPP 471 Campus Sustainability Planning Studio course Meets 2 days per week (3 credits)  Optional internship credits are available but not required (up to 8 credits)

**Overview**

The Town of Winthrop Comprehensive Plan offers the following Summary and Vision: The Town of Winthrop is a small community of about 500 people, centrally located at the confluence of the Methow and Chewuch Rivers in the Methow Valley. Our beautiful location and small town character remain central to our identity, despite the tides of change. We embrace Old West history with our theme. We welcome visitors, offering a gate to gate western experience and a trailhead to the North Cascades. We respect our residents' desire for quality of life.

Our Comprehensive Plan envisions:

- ☆ A vital economy and livable community – welcoming to residents and visitors.
- ☆ Orderly development within the Town's capacity to provide water, sewer and essential services.
- ☆ A suitable array of commercial and residential uses and settings, including mixed used areas.
- ☆ A transportation network that functions well for all users.
- ☆ Well maintained infrastructure.
- ☆ Ongoing promotion of the western theme.
- ☆ A trail network with connections to Methow Trails.

- ☆ Visual and physical access to the rivers, opens spaces, and recreation.
- ☆ Protection of shorelines and other natural features of the environment.

This practicum will focus in on sustainable implementation of Winthrop’s vision by furthering progress towards a “complete streets” transportation network and electric vehicle charging in the Methow Valley. Student will learn about the systems underly sustainable planning.

### **Responsibilities**

1. Complete Streets Focus Area
  - Review and understand Winthrop transportation planning objectives and needs as set out in the *Winthrop Comprehensive Plan* and *Winthrop In Motion* plan.
  - Analyze and develop alternatives for street connectivity in areas of the Town that lack public roads.
  - Develop GIS layers that can be used to analyze route alternative.
  - Participate in landowner outreach and public process.
2. EV Charging Infrastructure – Working with Kristi Skanderup
  - Help develop a strategy for EV charging in the Methow Valley, including siting and installation criteria.
  - Identify grant and partnership programs that could assist with the costs of EV infrastructure.
  - Develop proposals that meet grant targets that can be used to further seek funding.
3. General
  - Develop a mutually workable schedule with Town Planner.
  - Meet weekly with Town Planner.
  - Determine information and input needs and work with Town Planner as needed to facilitate landowner contact and public input forums.

### **Required Qualifications and Experience**

- Interest in planning at the local level, in a small community.
- Motivated to develop communication skills and work collaboratively.
- Familiarity with transportation planning issues and principles.
- Ability to demonstrate initiative, work independently, and ask for help / guidance as needed
- Foundational knowledge / interest in engaging the community around issues of sustainability in the built environment.
- Skills in GIS mapping and analysis are a bonus!

### **Educational/Professional Benefits**

This practicum offers valuable experience to a student interested in local planning, particularly in the small community context. You will:

- Actively participate in work that brings Winthrop's plans to life.
- Gain experience in collaboration and public process.
- Gain practical knowledge of transportation planning concepts safety, mobility, connectivity, and accessibility.
- Gain practical knowledge about EV charging infrastructure and learn to develop a grant proposal.

**Find more information about Sustainability Pathways Fellowships at:**

<https://sustain.wvu.edu/pathways>

**Please direct all questions to Sustainability Pathways Director, Joshua Porter at:**

[Joshua.Porter@wvu.edu](mailto:Joshua.Porter@wvu.edu)