



Alivia Metts

Education

Bachelor of Arts, Economics, University of Michigan, 2004

Associate of Business Admin,
Business/Office Management (Business
Management), Oakland Community
College, 2001

Professional Experience

Alivia Metts is the founder of The Metts Group. She is an economist with nearly two decades of experience in helping communities thrive. Her insightful economic and demographic analyses guide decision makers in economic and commercial development as well as transportation and environmental planning.

Alivia has worked in both the public and private sectors. Most recently she served in the Idaho Department of Labor as the Regional Economist for the state's five most northern counties. There she focused on the special needs of communities and performed economic analysis across all industries for businesses, governments, and economic development agencies. She built a reputation as a trusted source for data on the Inland Northwest. Alivia was previously employed by the national consulting firm, HDR, Inc., where she worked out of their Washington, Chicago and Alaska offices. Her projects ran the gamut from master planning urban centers to land use forecasting and transportation modeling.

Experience as Regional Economist for State of Idaho

Market Feasibility Assessments. Developers, business owners, bankers and aspiring entrepreneurs leaned on the expertise of Ms. Metts to perform initial market feasibility analysis and assessment for potential projects. Assessments would include demographic analysis, potential target markets and projected industry employment. Some projects included subdivision developments, storage unit facilities, physicians clinic and work with Idaho Aerospace Alliance and economic development organizations.

Economic Impact Assessments. Alivia performed and prepared a variety of economic impact assessments through her tenure. Analyses helped inform and guide the decision making process for communities, businesses, governments and economic development agencies. As a result, many communities, businesses and organizations were able to obtain additional funding or permitting justifying expansion efforts or existence. Some impact studies conducted included subdivision development, community center, urban renewal agencies and community health clinic as well as the direct, indirect and induced impacts to the overarching mining, timber, aerospace, tourism and health care industries. This solid foundation of research has informed the methodology used to help balance fiscal, social and economic factors.

Housing Market Analysis. As a leading indicator, Alivia watched the housing market closely and enjoyed analyzing the state of the housing market as well as potential. Her work included tracking indices, analyzing and writing articles on the subject matter as well as keeping businesses, bankers and real estate agents current on the most updated data and trends.

Demographic Analysis. The demographic analysis conducted by Alivia was used in decision-making processes across the state. Her work on in- and out-migration broken down by timeframe, age group, industry and labor force participation rates has guided statewide projections as well as provide businesses, economic development organizations and developers the tools to take a more targeted approach and make informed decisions.



Labor Market Analysis and Delivery. As a regional economist for the Idaho Department of Labor, Alivia has dug deeply to understand communities, industries and labor market trends in both quantitative and qualitative ways. Her analyses and breadth of knowledge has brought government, education and businesses together to address labor market challenges for the betterment of region as a whole.

Relevant Project Experience as Planner for HDR, Inc.

Washington State Dept. of Transportation, On-Call Rail Services, WA. Prepared the Geiger Spur Transload Facility Feasibility Study in Spokane, WA. Her work included analyzing optimum site locations and outlined demand for service and potential users.

As a task under the same larger On-Rail contract, she also worked on the Northern Columbia Basin Railroad Environmental Assessment project. Her work included, preparing the *social and economic discipline reports* for the Moses Lake project including an environmental justice assessment. Currently, compiling all discipline reports in preparation for writing the environmental assessment. Alivia has also worked on other various tasks under this On-Call Rail Services for WSDOT.

Walla Walla County, Walla Walla County Watershed Plan. Prepared the *socio-economic, land use*, and environmental justice (a *detailed socio-economic analysis* on disproportionately affected populations) sections of the EIS including a *descriptive analysis on the agricultural industry*.

Municipality of Anchorage, MOA Public Trans. Economic Benefit Analysis, Anchorage, AK. Provided research to the project team regarding funding for mass transit systems nation-wide and prepared *economic benefit analysis* with team lead.

Alaska Dept of Trans & Public Facilities, Sterling Highway Milepost 45 to 60 Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and Preliminary Engineering, Cooper Landing, AK. Prepared the EIS and supplemental reports for the Sterling Highway project including descriptive *socio-economic analysis* and GIS analysis for Conceptual Relocation Study, *Secondary and Cumulative Impacts Assessment*, and Accident Analysis.

Federal Highway Administration, Laughlin–Bullhead City Bridge Project, NV and AZ. Prepared the Environmental Justice Assessment (a *detailed socio-economic analysis* on disproportionately affected populations) in support of the Environmental Assessment.

Knik Arm Bridge and Toll Authority, Knik NEPA Environmental Impact Statement, Permitting & Preliminary Engineering, Matanuska, AK. Assisted in preparing reports for the Knik Arm Bridge including descriptive analysis for all modes of transportation in the project area and aided in gathering data for *employment and population projections* for the project while managing all public and agency comments as well as preparation of the administrative record.

Washington State Dept. of Transportation, Arlington 67th Ave Phase III, WA. Conducted the Environmental Justice (a *detailed socio-economic analysis* on disproportionately affected populations) assessment for this EIS.



Wilbur Smith Associates Inc., Missoula Long Range Transportation Plan, Missoula, MT. Supplied research and background information to the project team and client. Involved in public involvement and planning needs.

The Cornell Group Inc., Port MacKenzie Master Plan, Matanuska, AK. Provided GIS support to the project team.

Federal Highway Administration, Moses Lake EIS, WA. Prepared the Environmental Impact Statement for this railway project including conducting the Environmental Justice (a *detailed socio-economic analysis* on disproportionately affected populations) and its alternatives.

Alaska Dept of Trans & Public Facilities, Alaska DOT, Dowling Road EIS & Preliminary Engineering, Anchorage, AK. Prepared *socio-economic assessment*, descriptive analysis, and data for environmental document for this arterial hub.

Surface Transportation Board, IL. This rail acquisition by the Canadian National Railway Company (CN) was a year-long effort to complete a complex and controversial EIS for the CN to acquire a small, regional rail line running through Chicago. Alivia worked on the *socio-economic research and analysis* as well as tracked comments throughout the public commenting period of this EIS.

Agnew Beck, Palmer Comprehensive Plan, Palmer, AK. Researched and analyzed all modes of transportation attributes in project area to create visual graphics using GIS tools and analysis.