

## Profile

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**Goal.** To advance the systemic changes needed for communities to mitigate and adapt to climate change.

**Principles.** Treat people with respect by being informed, responsive, diligent, organized, flexible, and kind. Listen and lead by example.

### Service and Publications.

- 2019 – 2024: Strategic Advisory Committee for the Center for Regenerative Solutions
- 2018 – 2023: Board of Directors for RentLab
- 2018: Primary Author of *Resilience Implications of Energy Storage in Urban Water Systems* (JSDEWES)
- 2018: Primary Author of *Actualizing Water and Energy Systems Integration: What is taking so long?* (JSPG)
- 2018: Contributing Author of *Big Data for Regional Science* (Routledge)
- 2015 - 2017: Board of Directors, Foothills Land Conservancy
- 2014 - 2016: Board of Directors, United Way of Greater Knoxville (2012-14: Allocations Committee, 2011: Loaned Executive)
- 2013 - 2014: 40 Under 40 and Local Business Green Achiever (Knoxville Business Journal)
- 2013: U.S. Green Building Council Advocacy Award
- 2012: Contributor to *Acting as if Tomorrow Matters: Accelerating the Transition to Sustainability* (Environmental Law Institute)
- 2011: Contributing Author of *Sustainability and the US EPA* (National Academy of Science)
- 2009 - 2012: Southeast Sustainability Directors Network Founder and Chair

**Memberships.** American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers, American Water Resources Association

### Experience.

#### **Sutherland & Associates**

**08/2013 – present**

Founder and Principal of a mission-driven organization working to help people address climate change impacts in communities.

**Current Projects |** Advising and/or fund design and management for:

- Climate Mayors – U.S. cities
- The Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance – Global cities
- The Equitable Transportation Fund – North American foundations and mobility advocates
- The Funders Network (TFN) Partners for Places (P4P) – North American foundation members
- The Southeast Sustainability Directors Network (SSDN) – Southeastern local government members
- The Urban Sustainability Directors Network (USDN) – North American local government members

### Past Projects

- 2024-25 Fund Design / Execution – U.S. Forestry Passthrough Grant Program for USDN
- 2024-25 Evaluation / Advising – Understanding the Implications of the Tennessee Valley Integrated Resource Plan for SSDN
- 2024 Organizational Development – Capacity Building for the Coalition for Green Capital and Elemental Impact
- 2023-24 Grantee Workshop – Collaborating to influence Transportation Policy in the Midwest for the McKnight Foundation
- 2023-24 Fund Design / Execution – Funding Technical Assistance for SSDN and the New Venture Fund
- 2023-24 Evaluation / Pilot – Streamlining GHG data gathering in cities for C40, Global Covenant of Mayors, and C40
- 2023 Masterclass – Building a partner ecosystem to unlock resources: for C40 and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
- 2022-23 Advising – BayREN Organizational Study and Metrics Development: for the Association of Bay Area Governments
- 2022 Concept Development – Equitable Transportation Fund Growth Options: for the fund's Advisory Team
- 2021 Concept Development – Emergent Learning Fund: for USDN
- 2021 Field-development Research – Funding climate action through collaboratives: lessons from grantmaking to communities
- 2021 Advising – The formation of the Equitable Building Electrification Fund: for the Energy Foundation
- 2021 Framework – Living Strategy and Partnership Approaches: for the Green Infrastructure Leadership Exchange
- 2020 Advising – Climate Funding: for Burro Happold's work with the Global Covenant of Mayors USA
- 2020 Technical Assistance – The American Cities Climate Challenge: for the Natural Resources Defense Council
- 2020 Workshop / Facilitation Tool – Water and Energy Considerations in Las Cruces: for the City of Las Cruces
- 2019 Metrics – Evaluation and Database System Design: for the Southeast Sustainability Directors Network
- 2019 Framework – Applied Water and Energy Integration: for the Summit Foundation
- 2019 Convening – American Climate Cities Challenge Partnership Guide: for Bloomberg Philanthropies
- 2018 Evaluation – Framework and Metrics Development: for TFN P4P
- 2018 Concept Development – Game Changer Fund: for CNCA
- 2017 Partner Mapping – Regional Landscape Project: for the National Wildlife Federation
- 2017 Framework – City Adaptation Planning: for the Summit Foundation
- 2016 Action Report – Southeast Energy Innovation Workshop: for U.S. DOE with Oak Ridge National Lab
- 2016 Practices Scan – Ecological Design in the Built Environment: for the Kendeda Foundation
- 2016 White Paper – Technology for Energy Extraction from Water Systems: for U.S. DOE with Oak Ridge National Lab
- 2015 Roadmap – Carbon Neutrality: for CNCA with Innovation Network for Communities (INC)

- 2015 Literature Review – Urban Sustainability Strategy: for USDN with INC
- 2015 Practices Scan – Cities and Carbon Emissions Pricing: for the Summit Foundation with INC
- 2015 Field-development Scan - The Civic Technology Landscape: for USDN
- 2015 Network Mapping – Urban Climate Resilience Networks: for Kresge Foundation with INC
- 2015 Network Design – Regional Networks Pilot Project with 8 regions: for USDN
- 2014 Facilitation – Implementation Groups, President’s Climate Action Plan: for National Oceanic & Atmos. Assoc. (NOAA)
- 2014 Field-development Research – Urban Water Learning Project: for Surdna Foundation and USDN with INC
- 2014 Field-development Research – Emerging Sustainability Standards for Water Systems: for Walton Foundation with INC
- 2013 Guide – LED Streetlights: for Southeast Michigan Regional Energy Office and USDN
- 2013-15 Coordination – The Southeast Sustainability Director’s Network: for Southeastern U.S. cities / counties

**City of Knoxville, Tennessee**

**10/2007 – 08/2013**

**Director, Office of Sustainability**

**01/2012-08/2013**

- Creatively funded, developed, directed and represented the city’s first Sustainability Office:
  - Designed Mayor’s Energy Challenge with Pathway Lending: \$10,000,000 in local funding captured
  - Wrote and ranked top 20: \$5,000,000 Bloomberg Mayors Challenge for design of circular urban agriculture system
  - Wrote and won \$400,000 IBM Smart City Challenge for residential energy efficiency in low income housing
  - Wrote and won \$30,000 from TN state environmental department for new stormwater permitting best practice project
  - Obtained \$25,000 from the Energy Foundation for Southeast Sustainability Director’s Network support
  - Crafted 90 kW 3rd party solar finance model at city convention center, obtained LEED silver certification
  - Installed 24 public electric vehicle charging stations in partnership with DOE & ORNL
  - Implemented Zipcar car share program in downtown and college campus

**Program Manager, Energy & Sustainability**

**10/2009-12/2011**

- Oversaw \$2,212,700 in DOE energy projects, managed a Mayoral Task Force, developed and obtained approval of new city policies:
  - Created the city’s first Climate Action Plan with 6 volunteer working groups
  - Executed a \$19,000,000 13-year guaranteed savings energy performance contract
  - Retrofitted 99 city facilities, generating \$1,100,000 annually in energy savings
  - Trained 146 Contractors in green building best practices and energy code updates
  - Retrofitted 19 middle-income homes for energy efficiency
  - Launched \$270,000 in energy efficiency and renewable energy incentives
  - Implemented single-stream curbside recycling for city residents and local government facilities
  - Won \$600,000 DOE Rooftop Solar Challenge (permitting focus) in partnership with the University of Tennessee

**Project Manager, South Waterfront Development**

**10/2007-10/2009**

- Guided planning, schematic and final design, site investigations, land purchases, remediation, and construction of projects relating to a \$14,000,000 private/public waterfront development effort:
  - Budgeted for and managed proposal development, consultant selection, contract negotiation, and receipt of deliverables
  - Built relationships, competed for, and obtained \$1,497,701 in state and federal funds in 2 years
  - Coordinated engineers, landscape architects, regulatory agencies, utilities, and departments to facilitate design and construction

**Tennessee Valley Authority**

**09/2004 – 09/2007**

**River Scheduler (River Operations Division, Knoxville, TN)**

**04/2006-10/2007**

- Part of a team working with the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers to route the TN River System:
  - Liaison to federal regulatory agencies and consultant on contracted wetlands performance studies

**Watershed Specialist (Environmental Policy & Planning: AL and TN)**

**09/2004-03/2006**

- Worked to consolidate individual, industry, and agency efforts to solve local water issues:
  - Wrote USDA 319 grant and obtained \$1,500,000 for the Bullrun Watershed Association
  - Completed NEPA, EPA Watershed Management / Wetland Delineation, and EPA Resources Protection Act training

**Education – University of Tennessee, Knoxville (UTK)**

**PhD, Energy Science and Engineering** (energy generation from urban water systems dissertation)

**UTK 2017**

- 2017 Chancellor’s Citation for Extraordinary Academic Achievement

**M.S., Biosystems Engineering Technology** (agricultural streams water quality thesis)

**UTK 2004**

- 2004 Chancellor’s Citation for Extraordinary Professional Promise, national park volunteer

**B.A., Environmental Studies Concentration, Forestry Minor** (state park seasonal ranger)

**UTK 2002**