

Contact

www.linkedin.com/in/karen-dettmer
(LinkedIn)

Top Skills

Licensed Professional Engineer

Brownfield assessment, remediation,
and redevelopment

Real Estate Due Diligence

Certifications

Professional Engineer (PE)

Professional Engineer (PE)

Professional Engineer (PE)

Professional Engineer (PE)

Karen Dettmer

Advancing sustainability and social impact in the water sector
through innovation and collaboration

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Experience

Ramboll

Water Market Leader

June 2023 - Present (5 months)

Arlington, Virginia, United States

Water Market and Program Manager focused on client development by designing strategies aimed at creating growth across the Americas. Providing experienced business leadership on water infrastructure investment.

Discovery World

Member Board of Directors

January 2022 - Present (1 year 10 months)

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Managing Director for Infrastructure Implementation

April 2022 - March 2023 (1 year)

Washington, District of Columbia, United States

Served as Senior Advisor for Implementation to the Assistant Administrator (AA) of Water, providing expert, independent, and confidential advice and counsel on infrastructure funding and regulatory policy. Led implementation of \$50 billion from the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) for programs administered by the Office of Water.

City of Milwaukee

5 years 11 months

Public Works Commissioner

December 2021 - April 2022 (5 months)

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

Led over 2,000 professionals in administration, engineering, operations, and water works through administration change including key policy initiatives.

Superintendent of Milwaukee Water Works

February 2019 - April 2022 (3 years 3 months)

Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Oversaw all operations of the utility and over 350 professionals in the plants, distribution, business, engineering, and water quality sections. Milwaukee Water Works is the largest public utility in Wisconsin and provides drinking water to over 860,000 people in 16 communities in Milwaukee, Ozaukee, and Waukesha Counties.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Task Force Member
June 2017 - February 2020 (2 years 9 months)

Public Works Coordination Manager
June 2016 - February 2019 (2 years 9 months)
Milwaukee, WI

As Public Works Coordination Manager for the City of Milwaukee, oversaw public works permitting and managing public works aspects of special projects. Most notable among them were the Lakefront Gateway and the Milwaukee Bucks Arena Development, now home of the Fiserv Forum and an entertainment district. Served as liaison to Business Improvement Districts and other city departments.

American Water Works Association
Water Utility Council Member
June 2020 - April 2022 (1 year 11 months)
Denver, Colorado, United States

The Water Council
Member Board Of Directors
February 2020 - April 2022 (2 years 3 months)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

Menomonee Valley Partners
Member Board Of Directors
October 2018 - April 2022 (3 years 7 months)
Milwaukee, Wisconsin, United States

Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (DNR)
Wisconsin Brownfield Study Group Member
September 2015 - February 2021 (5 years 6 months)

REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF MILWAUKEE
9 years 6 months

Senior Environmental Project Engineer, P.E.

April 2011 - June 2016 (5 years 3 months)

Milwaukee, WI

Senior Environmental Project Coordinator

January 2007 - April 2011 (4 years 4 months)

Milwaukee, WI

GZA GeoEnvironmental

Environmental Engineer

July 2003 - January 2007 (3 years 7 months)

Waukesha, Wisconsin

Education

Milwaukee School of Engineering

Bachelor's Degree, Architectural Engineering

Milwaukee School of Engineering

Master's Degree, Environmental Engineering