

City of Newburgh

Press Release

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Laurence Fleischer is New GIS Analyst

City Manager Richard Herbek has announced the appointment of Laurence Fleischer as City of Newburgh Geographic Information Systems (GIS) Analyst. He joins the Engineering Department, located on the first floor of City Hall.

Mr. Fleischer is completing his Master of Arts in Geography from CUNY Hunter College. He has an advanced post-baccalaureate certificate in GIS, and a BA in Geology. Prior to coming to Newburgh, he worked as a GIS Specialist for the New York City Department of Housing Preservation and Development, and the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation. He was an adjunct instructor for the Department of Geography at CUNY Hunter College.

GIS is a computer software technology to store, display, and analyze geographic information. Many people are familiar with Google Maps which store and display layers of geographic information, such as roads, state boundaries, and locations of places like restaurants. The City of Newburgh geographic database has more than 250 of these layers—everything from streets and buildings, to manholes and water main valves. These layers can be custom loaded onto maps to assist in construction projects, public works projects, and policy making decisions.

Laurence commented, “The GIS position with the City of Newburgh was ideal for me. A lot of GIS positions out there are limited to a particular field. I wanted something without limits, and I found Newburgh. I work with multiple departments on everything from keeping tax parcel maps up to date, to helping to manage the city’s infrastructure needs, and producing maps for projects to help improve this great municipality.”

He added, “I’ve always had a passion for maps, even as a child I was always drawing maps of both real and made-up places. They say a picture is worth a thousand words; a map is worth a million.”

City Manager Richard Herbek commented, “Mr. Fleischer fills a crucial need in the City of Newburgh. We are pleased to have him here not only to assist our departments with daily operations and planning for the future, but also to help the Districting Committee with their task of changing the configuration of the City.”