

Murtaza H. Baxamusa, Ph.D., AICP

Dr. Murtaza Baxamusa is the Director of Planning and Development for the San Diego County Building and Construction Trades Council Family Housing Corporation, and teaches community planning at the Sol Price School of Public Policy at the University of Southern California. He is a certified planner by the American Planning Association. He has over 12 years' experience in economic development and sustainable urban planning. He serves on the Board of Directors of Civic San Diego.

Dr. Baxamusa received his doctoral (PhD) degree in Planning from the University of Southern California (USC) in 2008. His study on community benefits agreements received the *John Dyckman Award* for the best doctoral dissertation in planning at USC, and was published in the academic journal of record in American planning education. He received a Master's degree in Planning at USC, and Bachelor's degree in Architecture from the Indian Institute of Technology.

In local public policy, Dr. Baxamusa continues to work on policies related to affordable housing, economic development and community engagement. In 2012, he received the Ruby Award for Outstanding Advocate from the San Diego Housing Federation. He also received the John Lyons Memorial Fellowship that was read into the Congressional Record of the 112th Congress on September 10, 2012 by Hon. Bob Filner. The City of San Diego proclaimed June 17, 2008 to be "Dr. Murtaza H. Baxamusa Day" in recognition of his work in the city.

Prior to moving to San Diego, Dr. Baxamusa was a researcher at the USC Center for Economic Development. He worked on sustainable development strategies for cities in Southern California. The Center was recognized as the National Center for Eco-Industrial Development by three federal agencies.

Dr. Baxamusa lives in Bird Rock with his wife and two daughters.