

Vilma Martínez-Dominguez
Appointed December 2019

Vilma serves as Lawrence's Community Development Director. She is an urban planner with 24+ years of experience in economic and community development.

Most of her professional planning experience is in municipal and non profit organizations. Vilma provides administrative oversight to CDBG, HOME Investment Partnerships and Emergency Solutions Grant entitlement programs, and to a Lead Abatement Program. She supports the Office of Planning & Development (OPD) in the implementation of other programs related to economic and community development, and housing activity in the City, and provides oversight to the Mayor's Health Task Force (MHTF), a widely recognized multi-sector coalition that promotes health equity for all through advocacy, education, capacity-building, and networking, fully integrated under the umbrella of OPD.

Prior to her appointment as Community Development Director, Vilma was a leader in the MHTF and the YWCA Northeastern Mass organization. Vilma serves on various local coalitions and advisory groups - Lawrence Working Families Initiative, the Lawrence Partnership and the RWJF Culture of Health Prize National Advisory Board. She served on the Essex County Commission on the Status of Women, the MA Public Health Association's Public Health Council, and helped set statewide policies and advance legislation of relevance to the Lawrence community and the Merrimack Valley region.

Vilma graduated from Springfield College with a Bachelor's Degree in Science with a major in Health and Human Services, has extensive training in social and racial justice, gender and health equity, and community-based participatory research, and completed a Core Certificate Program from the Institute for Nonprofit Practice from Tufts University's Jonathan M. Tisch College of Civic Life.