NYC Department of City Planning, Transportation Division

- Rayn Riel (Interdisciplinary Studies, 2015)
- Atlantic Avenue Corridor Intern
- Full-time, 30 hours per week
- Unpaid

What do you do as an intern at this organization?
I research existing zoning and land use, collect data on field visits, and organize data for website outreach. I also assist the team at public meetings, and analyze data and create maps with GIS, Excel, Adobe Illustrator, and other government data tools.

How did you find your internship?
I worked at the NYC Department of City Planning’s Brooklyn Office last summer, and I was referred to the Transportation Division through existing contacts. I originally worked at DCP last summer through networking with Tufts alumni.

What do you enjoy most about your internship?
I enjoy site visits and asking my questions to experienced professionals. I also enjoy learning about the various tools and techniques that planners use in order to collect and analyze data, such as GIS, Excel, Adobe Illustrator, and online census tools such as CTPP, NHGIS, OASIS, ZoLa, etc...

What do you find challenging?
It's important to understand that these projects take a lot of time to get realized, so one must remain professional, polite, and patient. Even when it seems as though there's nothing new being completed, there are many mundane tasks which are not publicized, and which must be done to come up with a final proposal.

What advice would you offer to someone who wants to make the most of an internship like yours?
Make sure to seek out work, and if there's none, make sure to spend free time doing something productive: write a blog post, go out for an informational interview, or get to know the other interns.

About the Organization
NYC Department of City Planning’s Transportation Division
New York, NY

City Planning’s Transportation Planning Division undertakes projects to improve the movement of bicyclists, pedestrians, and vehicles in and about New York City. The division also works to update and maintain the five-year transportation improvement program in collaboration with other transportation agencies.