

# Tours

Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>

## ViBe Creative District: Planning the Leftover Spaces

3 CEU | Speakers: **Emily Archer, PLA**, **Kate Pittman**, **Nathan Lahy, PLA**

This tour will explore the history and examine the evolution of the rapidly growing ViBe Creative District. In order to gain a better understanding of the changes taking place throughout the district the tour will include an overview of the district's history and will discuss the challenges and opportunities associated with placemaking, connectivity, and retrofitting existing car-oriented infrastructure. The tour will include stops at public art murals and installations, an infrastructure improvement project underway, public and private green spaces, and unique small businesses.



In her four years with the City of Virginia Beach's Strategic Growth Area Office, **Emily Archer, PLA**, has authored two council-adopted planning documents, managed multi-million dollar capital improvement projects, and regularly assisted multiple City Departments with various project initiatives. Her integrated solutions support economic vitality, improve transportation, and include community feedback to deliver a product that meets the existing regulatory framework and future vision for the City. Emily is a licensed landscape architect with over 14 years of professional experience in urban design, streetscape and corridor planning, transit-oriented design, site master planning and development throughout the U.S. and internationally.



**Kate Pittman** joined the ViBe Creative District nonprofit in October 2016 as the organization's first Executive Director. The ViBe Creative District is a 501c3 which exists to promote, support, connect, and inspire the arts and creative industries to boost our local economy, grow jobs, and enhance our quality of life. Working collaboratively with local businesses, including public art projects in the City of Virginia Beach's first arts district. Networking with 80 businesses/individuals who pay annual memberships in support of the nonprofit, Pittman actively promotes the districts' First Friday, Second Saturday, and other arts inspired pop-up events. Pittman has over a decade of nonprofit management experience and previously worked at the Virginia Museum of Contemporary Art as Director of Operations.



**Nathan Lahy, PLA** is a licensed landscape architect with over 12 years of experience. He currently serves as Director of Landscape Architecture & Planning for MSA, P.C. in Virginia Beach. He is responsible for coordinating all landscape architecture and planning projects with government agencies, outside consultants, and other in-house disciplines. He has experience completing landscape architecture and planning projects for educational and health care facilities, commercial buildings, and mixed-use residential/recreational developments, including golf courses and open spaces.

