

Marie Z. Branch

Originally from Tucson, AZ, I moved to Memphis in 1987 with a volleyball scholarship to the University of Memphis (then Memphis State University). I graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1991 with a Bachelor's Degree in Urban Geography and a minor in Spanish. I went to graduate school right after that, but it took me many, many years to earn my Master's Degree in City & Regional Planning. I worked for 14 years as a city planner in various neighborhoods, cities, towns and rural communities in the Memphis area. In 2004, I met my husband, Eddie at a historic preservation class offered by Memphis Heritage. We married in 2006. We live in a 1920's bungalow on Snowden Avenue in the VECA neighborhood, just a stone's throw from Rhodes College. If we are not sitting on our front porch, you will probably find us on a tennis court, the V & E Greenline or at the nearest coffee house.

In 2007, I broke away from city planning to do marketing & communications for Tennis Memphis, a nonprofit organization that manages the public tennis centers in Memphis. I am still adjusting to my new role as a citizen planner and advocate for walkable communities and transportation alternatives and hope that I can use my skills and experience to bring the Greater Memphis Greenline to reality.