



June 2008

## **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR**

### **DEFINITION**

Under administrative direction, plans, organizes, manages, and provides administrative direction and oversight for all functions and activities of the Public Works Department, including the maintenance and operations wastewater collection systems, stormwater, drainage, water distribution systems, streets, fleets, facilities, parks, landscapes, and public works engineering projects; serves as General Manager for the Intergovernmental Water Board; manages the Emergency Management Program; coordinates assigned activities with other City departments, officials, outside agencies, and the public; fosters cooperative working relationships among City departments and with intergovernmental and regulatory agencies and various public and private groups; provides highly responsible and complex professional assistance to the City Manager in areas of expertise; and performs related work as required.

### **SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED**

Receives administrative direction from the City Manager. Exercises general direction and supervision over management, supervisory, professional, technical, and administrative support staff through subordinate levels of supervision.

### **CLASS CHARACTERISTICS**

This is a department head classification that oversees, directs, and participates in all activities of the Public Works Department, including short- and long-range planning, development, and administration. This class provides assistance to the City Manager in a variety of administrative, coordinative, analytical, and liaison capacities. Successful performance of the work requires knowledge of public policy, municipal functions, and activities, including the role of an elected City Council, and the ability to develop, oversee, and implement projects and programs in a variety of areas. Responsibilities include coordinating the activities of the department with those of other departments and outside agencies and managing and overseeing the complex and varied functions of the department. The incumbent is accountable for accomplishing departmental planning and operational goals and objectives and for furthering City goals and objectives within general policy guidelines.

### **EXAMPLES OF ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)**

*Management reserves the rights to add, modify, change, or rescind the work assignments of different positions and to make reasonable accommodations where appropriate so that qualified employees can perform the essential functions of the job.*

- Assumes full management responsibility for all Public Works Department services and activities, including the maintenance and operations wastewater collection systems, stormwater, drainage, water distribution systems, streets, fleets, facilities, parks, landscapes, and public works engineering projects.
- Develops, directs, and coordinates the implementation of goals, objectives, policies, procedures, and work standards for the department; establishes, within City policy, appropriate budget, service, and staffing levels.

- Manages and participates in the development and administration of the department's annual budget and capital improvement budgets; directs the forecast of additional funds needed for staffing, equipment, materials, and supplies; directs the monitoring of and approves expenditures; directs and implements adjustments as necessary.
- Selects, trains, motivates, and directs department personnel; evaluates and reviews work for acceptability and conformance with department standards, including program and project priorities and performance evaluations; works with employees to correct deficiencies; implements discipline and termination procedures; responds to staff questions and concerns.
- Contributes to the overall quality of the department's service by developing, reviewing, and implementing policies and procedures to meet legal requirements and City needs; continuously monitors and evaluates the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and procedures; assesses and monitors the distribution of work, support systems, and internal reporting relationships; identifies opportunities for improvement; directs the implementation of change.
- Evaluates the need for and develops plans and schedules for long-range public works maintenance and capital improvement programs; organizes available resources for the maintenance, improvement, and repair of public works facilities and City equipment; compiles estimates, contract provisions, and specifications.
- Reviews the design, materials, and processes proposed in connection with new construction or major repairs for City facilities and improvements; prepares and/or reviews ordinances for Council consideration; recommends levels of service for utilities, streets, and drainage areas.
- Confers with engineers, developers, architects, and a variety of outside agencies and the general public in acquiring information and coordination of engineering, public works, utilities, parks projects and related matters; provides information regarding these matters.
- Oversees the development of consultant requests for proposals for professional services and the advertising and bid processes; evaluates proposals and recommends project award; coordinates with legal counsel to determine City needs and requirements for contractual services; negotiates contracts and agreements and administers same after award.
- Serves as General Manager for the Intergovernmental Water Board; prepares agendas, ordinances, resolutions, and staff reports.
- Negotiates interagency agreements regarding water, emergency management, wastewater, and stormwater issues.
- Develops, manages, and administers the City's Emergency Management Program.
- Represents the department to other City departments, elected officials, and outside agencies; explains and interprets departmental programs, policies, and activities; negotiates and resolves significant and controversial issues.
- Conducts a variety of departmental organizational and operational studies and investigations; recommends modifications to programs, policies and procedures as appropriate.
- Participates on and makes presentations to the City Council and a variety of boards and commissions; attends and participates in professional group meetings; stays abreast of new trends and innovations in the field of public works and other types of public services as they relate to the area of assignment.
- Maintains and directs the maintenance of working and official departmental files.
- Monitors changes in laws, regulations, and technology that may affect City or departmental operations; implements policy and procedural changes as required.
- Prepares, reviews, and presents staff reports, various management and information updates, and reports on special projects as assigned by the City Manager.
- Responds to difficult and sensitive public inquiries and complaints and assists with resolutions and alternative recommendations.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

## **QUALIFICATIONS**

### **Knowledge of:**

- Administrative principles and practices, including goal setting, program development, implementation, and evaluation, and supervision of staff.
- Public agency budgetary, contract administration, administrative practices, and general principles of risk management related to the functions of the assigned area.
- Organizational and management practices as applied to the analysis and evaluation of projects, programs, policies, procedures, and operational needs; principles and practices of municipal government administration.
- Principles and practices of public works program development, maintenance, and management in a municipal setting.
- Principles and practices of emergency management program development and administration.
- Methods, materials, and techniques used in the construction of public works projects.
- Applicable Federal, State, and local laws, codes, and regulations.
- Principles and practices of employee supervision, including work planning, assignment, review and evaluation, and the training of staff in work procedures.
- Methods and techniques for the development of presentations, contract negotiations, business correspondence, and information distribution; research and reporting methods, techniques, and procedures.
- Record keeping principles and procedures.
- Modern office practices, methods, and computer equipment.
- Computer applications related to the work.
- English usage, grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and punctuation.
- Techniques for dealing effectively with the public, vendors, contractors, and City staff, in person and over the telephone.
- Techniques for effectively representing the City in contacts with governmental agencies, community groups, and various business, professional, educational, regulatory, and legislative organizations.
- Techniques for providing a high level of customer service to public and City staff, in person and over the telephone.

### **Ability to:**

- Develop and implement goals, objectives, policies, procedures, work standards, and internal controls for the department and assigned program areas.
- Prepare and administer large and complex budgets; allocate limited resources in a cost effective manner.
- Interpret, apply, and ensure compliance with Federal, State, and local policies, procedures, laws, and regulations.
- Plan, organize, direct, and coordinate the work of supervisory, professional, and technical personnel.
- Select, train, motivate, and evaluate the work of staff and train staff in work procedures.
- Research, analyze, and evaluate new service delivery methods, procedures, and techniques.
- Effectively administer special projects with contractual agreements and ensure compliance with stipulations; effectively administer a variety of public works programs and administrative activities.
- Conduct effective negotiations and effectively represent the City and the department in meetings with governmental agencies, contractors, vendors, and various businesses, professional, regulatory, and legislative organizations.
- Conduct complex research projects, evaluate alternatives, make sound recommendations, and prepare effective technical staff reports.
- Prepare clear and concise reports, correspondence, policies, procedures, and other written materials.
- Establish and maintain a variety of filing, record keeping, and tracking systems.

- Organize and prioritize a variety of projects and multiple tasks in an effective and timely manner; organize own work, set priorities, and meet critical time deadlines.
- Operate modern office equipment including computer equipment and specialized software applications programs.
- Comprehend and use English effectively including producing all forms of communication in a clear, concise, and understandable manner to intended audiences.
- Use tact, initiative, prudence, and independent judgment within general policy, procedural, and legal guidelines.
- Establish, maintain, and foster positive and harmonious working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

**Education and Experience:**

*Any combination of training and experience, which would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required qualifications would be:*

Equivalent to graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major coursework in civil engineering, business or public administration, or a related field, and seven (7) years of management and/or administrative experience in public works in a municipal setting, including experience in overseeing the development of capital improvement projects.

**Licenses and Certifications:**

- Possession of a valid driver's license with a satisfactory driving record.

**PHYSICAL DEMANDS**

Must possess mobility to work in a standard office setting and use standard office equipment, including a computer; to operate a motor vehicle, to inspect City development sites, and to visit various City and meeting sites; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; and hearing and speech to communicate in person, before groups, and over the telephone. This is primarily a sedentary office classification although standing in work areas and walking between work areas may be required. Finger dexterity is needed to access, enter, and retrieve data using a computer keyboard or calculator and to operate standard office equipment. Positions in this classification occasionally bend, stoop, kneel, reach, push, and pull drawers open and closed to retrieve and file information. Employees must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects weighing up to 25 pounds.

**ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS**

Employees primarily work in an office environment with moderate noise levels, controlled temperature conditions, and no direct exposure to potentially hazardous physical substances. Employees also work in the field and facilities and may be exposed to hot and cold temperatures, inclement weather conditions, loud noise levels, vibration, confining workspace, chemicals, mechanical and/or electrical hazards, and hazardous physical substances and fumes. Employees may interact with upset staff and/or public and private representatives in interpreting and enforcing departmental policies and procedures.