

CITY OF SPOKANE VALLEY POSITION DESCRIPTION

Class Title: Building Official
Department: Community Development
Division: Building
Date: December 8, 2022

Job Code Number: 350
Grade Number: 19
FLSA Status: Exempt
Location: City Hall

GENERAL PURPOSE

Performs a variety of routine and complex technical, administrative, and supervisory work in administering and enforcing building and related codes.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Works under the direction of the Community & Public Works Director.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

Exercises supervision over Assistant Building Official, Development Services Coordinator, building inspectors, plans examiners, technicians, support staff, and other part-time or temporary staff, as assigned.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Manages and supervises assigned operations to achieve goals within available resources; plans and organizes workloads and staff assignments; trains, motivates and evaluates assigned staff; reviews progress and directs changes as needed.

Provides technical building code advice to supervisors; makes presentations to supervisors, boards, commissions, civic groups and the general public.

Communicates official programs, policies and procedures to staff and the general public.

Assures that assigned areas of responsibility are performed within budget; performs cost control activities; monitors revenues and expenditures in assigned area to assure sound fiscal control; prepares annual budget requests; assures effective and efficient use of budgeted funds, personnel, materials, facilities, and time.

Determines work procedures, prepares work schedules, and expedites workflow; studies and standardizes procedures to improve efficiency and effectiveness of operations.

Issues written and oral instructions; assigns duties and examines work for exactness, neatness, and conformance to policies and procedures.

Maintains harmony among workers and resolves grievances; performs or assists subordinates in performing duties; adjusts errors and complaints.

Prepares a variety of studies, reports and related information for decision-making purposes.

Prepares and administers the annual operating budget of the building department.

Enforces a variety of codes, including the International Building, Fire, Mechanical, Existing Building, and Property Maintenance Codes, Uniform Plumbing Code, and locally-adopted codes, including the Spokane Valley Municipal Code. Maintains knowledge and familiarity with current editions of same as they become amended and/or updated. Issues correction notices and citations.

Explains, interprets, and provides guidance regarding all applicable codes to architects, engineers, contractors, developers, and other interested parties.

Reviews current trends and developments in the field of construction, and prepares revisions to codes, ordinances and local regulations. Supervises the examination of building plans of all types to determine compliance with code requirements and related regulations.

Researches problems and complaints regarding commercial and residential buildings, building construction and code compliance. Responds to complex and sensitive building issues.

Resolves complex and sensitive customer service issues, either personally, by telephone or in writing. Maintains records and documents of customer service issues and resolutions.

Administers the permitting function, including application, fee assessment and collection, permit issuance, inspection, and occupancy.

Coordinates plan reviews, inspections, and enforcement actions.

PERIPHERAL DUTIES

Provides backup for direct reports as needed or required.

DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience:

(A) Graduation from a standard senior high school or GED equivalent, supplemented by two (2) years of post-secondary college or technical instruction in building technology, construction management, mechanical, electrical, plumbing or building construction; and

(B) Seven (7) years experience in building inspection, general construction or related fields, including at least 2 years supervisory experience; or

(C) Any equivalent combination of education and experience on a year for year basis.

Necessary knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- (A) Thorough knowledge of Washington State and International codes and standards, general construction codes, and a thorough knowledge of carpentry; considerable knowledge in electrical work, carpentry work, cement work, or plumbing, and skill in applying knowledge of national uniform building codes, zoning and land use applications;
- (B) Skill in the operation of the listed equipment; and
- (C) Ability to establish effective working relationships with contractors, developers, architects, engineers, owners, and the general public; Ability to read and understand complicated plans and blueprints; Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing.
- (D) A key value of the City is customer service. This position requires considerable knowledge, ability and skill in the principles and practices of excellent customer service as practiced in both the private and public sectors. It requires the ability to effectively meet and deal with the public; the ability to handle stressful situations; the ability to greet and respond to customers in a friendly, pleasant and professional manner using appropriate inflection, grammar and syntax; the ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with employees, supervisors, and the general public; the ability to maintain a professional, courteous, and pleasant demeanor in difficult and stressful situations; and the ability to diplomatically deal with difficult people. A willingness to expend extra effort to help the public find answers or information relative to their inquiry or complaint is expected.

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS

A valid Washington State driver's license, or ability to obtain one by start of employment. One or more I.C.C. certifications, including but not limited to plans examiner and combination inspector. Certified Building Official designation preferred but not required.

TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED

Personal computer, including word processing and permitting software; motor vehicle; 10-key calculator; portable radio; phone; ladder or scaffolding; tape measure.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

The physical demands described here are representative of those that must be met by an employee to successfully perform the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Work is performed mostly in office settings. Some outdoor work is required in the inspection of various land use developments and construction sites. Hand-eye coordination is necessary to operate computers and various pieces of office equipment.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee is occasionally required to stand; walk; use hands to finger, handle, feel or operate objects, tools, or controls; and reach with hands and arms.

The employee is occasionally required to sit; climb or balance; stoop, kneel, crouch, or crawl; talk or hear.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 10 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, peripheral vision, depth perception, and the ability to adjust focus.

WORK ENVIRONMENT

The work environment characteristics described here are representative of those an employee encounters while performing the essential functions of this job. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee occasionally works in outside weather conditions. The employee occasionally works near moving mechanical parts and in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, or risk of electrical shock.

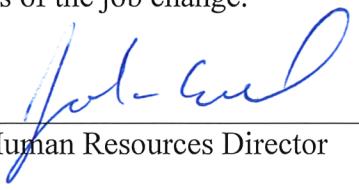
The noise level in the work environment is usually quiet in the office, and moderate to loud in the field.

SELECTION GUIDELINES

Formal application, rating of education and experience; oral interview and reference check; job related tests may be required.

The duties listed above are intended only as illustrations of the various types of work that may be performed. The omission of specific statements of duties does not exclude them from the position if the work is similar, related or a logical assignment to the position.

The job description does not constitute an employment agreement between the employer and employee and is subject to change by the employer as the needs of the employer and requirements of the job change.

Approval: 
Human Resources Director

Approval: 
City Manager

Effective Date: December 8, 2022

Revision History: May 13, 2003, Established
December 8, 2022, Update