

Summary of Duties : Supervises and works with a group of employees engaged in studying, reviewing, and making recommendations regarding the design, function, and arrangement of buildings, streets, open space, and other urban features in order to enhance the public environment.

Distinguishing Features : An Urban Design Planner supervises the work of a group of employees involved in the preparation of general plan elements which focus on urban form, urban design, and historic preservation. Assignments involve analysis of urban planning issues which require an inter-disciplinary approach incorporating elements of architecture, landscape architecture, and city planning. Guidance is received both from supervisors and through City Planning Commission requests and policies.

The class of Urban Design Planner is distinguished from the classes of Senior Architect and Senior City Planner in that the latter is primarily involved in reviewing planning and zoning issues from the standpoint of land use policy, and a Senior Architect is primarily concerned with the architectural and engineering aspects of construction and development. In comparison, the Urban Design Planner incorporates the planner's perspective with an appreciation for architecture and landscape architecture.

Examples of Duties : Develops and directs activities designed to implement urban design policy for the City; supervises, plans, coordinates, and reviews the work of a group of employees engaged in urban design activities; prepares or directs the preparation of reports and recommendations regarding adoption of and proposed changes to City urban design policy; prepares or directs the preparation of two- and three-dimensional studies which evaluate implications of zoning recommendations, general plan policies, environmental mitigations, and right-of-way designs; reviews the development, preparation, and updating of long, intermediate, and short range zoning and other plans for the City as a whole and for smaller areas and districts; supervises visual investigations, public hearings, and report preparation on specific design-related planning and zoning matters; supervises the preparation of reports, design-related recommendations, maps, and special exhibits for presentation to the City Planning Commission, Board of Zoning Adjustments, City Council, and other governmental and civic organizations; reviews or supervises the review of design guidelines for zone changes and variances, subdivisions, parcel and private street maps, and other matters for their effect on the City general plan; reviews and advises on proposed design for public buildings and facilities to the Mayor's Design Advisory Panel; supervises field and office work required to prepare visual studies and maps; supervises planning research and case study activity which involves the use of three-dimensional computer graphics software and equipment; assures that the work of the section is in agreement with the policies and interests of other sections and

divisions of the department;

Represents the City Planning Department at conferences with other governmental agencies, City departments, and private organizations; speaks before civic, community, governmental, and professional groups to explain and advise on urban design matters; participates in staff conferences; prepares preliminary section budget requests; may make recommendations on the employment or promotion of professional and subprofessional personnel; and may occasionally be assigned to other duties for training purposes or to meet technological changes or emergencies.

Qualifications : A good knowledge of the principles, practices, techniques, and purposes of City planning and urban design including the integration of land uses with auto and pedestrian transportation, urban form, and historic preservation along with the development and maintenance of a comprehensive general plan and its legal implementation; a good knowledge of the application of landscape architecture and architecture principles to urban design and city planning; a good knowledge of two- and three-dimensional representation; a good knowledge of the planning process including how site planning and urban design fit into decision making, and steps in implementing design objectives through the planning process; a good knowledge of citizen participation techniques; a good knowledge of legal background and tools of planning; a good knowledge of environmental assessment techniques and the preparation of Environmental Impact Reports; a good knowledge of the principles of supervision and coordination as they relate to the direction of a planning function; a good knowledge of physical city development, including theory of urban form and its relationship to land use, transportation, open space, infrastructure, and shelter; a good knowledge of computer graphics analysis applications to city planning and urban design; a good knowledge of human behavior as it relates to planning and urban design; a working knowledge of the procedures involved in developing major building projects from initiation to final completion; a working knowledge of local building practices and code requirements; a working knowledge of laws and regulations related to equal employment opportunity and affirmative action; a general knowledge of state and federal laws and procedures applicable to redevelopment; a general knowledge of City personnel rules policies and procedures; a general knowledge of memoranda of understanding as they apply to subordinate personnel;

The ability to supervise the preparation of clear and concise reports, sound recommendations, and adequate supporting data and special exhibits; ability to visualize and formulate general plans for City development in specific or general areas; ability to evaluate and conceive proper architectural and landscape architectural treatment of proposed changes to a community or neighborhood plan through field inspections; ability to plan, direct, coordinate, and review the work of a group of professional, subprofessional, and clerical employees engaged in several different City planning operations; ability to

speak effectively before professional and civic groups, public gatherings, and in presenting reports and recommendations to governmental agencies; ability to prepare both detail drawings and simple interactive sketches; ability to communicate complex urban designs issues and concepts to a wide variety of people, including those without an urban design background; and the ability to deal tactfully and effectively with personnel of other agencies, public officials, other employees and the public.

Two years of experience at the level of City Planner with supervisory or project manager responsibility in the professions of urban design, landscape architecture, architecture or a related field, or four years of experience at the level of City Planning Associate in the professions of urban design, landscape architecture, architecture or a related field is required. Two years of project implementation is preferred.

A valid certificate of professional competency issued by a recognized professional organization in the field of planning, urban design, architecture, or landscape architecture is preferred.

Physical Requirements : Strength to perform average lifting of less than five pounds and occasionally over 15 pounds; and good speaking and hearing ability.

Persons with medical limitations may, with reasonable accommodations, be capable of performing the duties of some positions in this class. Such determination must be made on an individual basis in light of the person's limitations, the requirements of the position, and the authority's ability to effect reasonable accommodations to the person's limitations.

As provided in Civil Service Commission Rule 2.5 and Section 4.55 of the Administrative Code, this specification is descriptive, explanatory and not restrictive, it is not intended to declare what the duties and responsibilities of any position shall be.