

CITY OF BELLEVUE
invites applications for the position of:
Senior Environmental Planner

SALARY: \$35.66 - \$49.20
Hourly
\$6,180.45 -
\$8,528.36
Monthly
\$74,165.40 -
\$102,340.32
Annually

OPENING DATE: 06/14/16

CLOSING DATE: 07/05/16 05:00
PM

JOB SUMMARY:

This position is one of two senior positions on a five-person work team that reviews and processes a wide range of development applications. The team is one of four such work groups within the land use division. Duties include but are not limited to development review of complex and politically sensitive projects involving environmental regulation, infrastructure planning and permitting, environmental restoration and mitigation, urban design, and customer service. Responsibilities also include providing public information on the Land Use Code and SEPA, Sign Code, and Comprehensive Plan. The scope of potential assignments is diverse and varied and includes predevelopment client services, and providing public information on policies, codes and processes to external and internal clients, managing complex critical area and shoreline assessments, code updates, and other permitting tasks. Multifaceted environmental analysis, project management skills, and site design expertise is often required. The position requires depth of knowledge sufficient to mentor and train other staff and to assist in developing innovative ordinances and regulations related to a diversity of topics including, critical areas, shorelines, environmental sustainability, tree preservation, habitat restoration, mitigation, and design. Work requires strong analytical ability and excellent customer service skills.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Development Review and Management

- Reviews and approves discretionary land use applications of all types as well as follow-up construction permits for compliance with City and other environmental and land use regulations.
- Reviews and approves projects where the combination of size, scope, complexity, policy implications, gray areas, and political sensitivity or client goals requires unique skill and expertise.
- Makes recommendations on quasi-judicial project review to the Hearing Examiner
- Uses technical expertise and experience to mentor and advise less experienced staff in resolving land use and environmental issues
- Provides predevelopment client consulting
- Serves as a project manager responsible for ensuring timelines for a large array of application types
- Manages environmental and land use consulting contracts and special projects having to do with land use policy and code development.
- Conducts land use hearings, and presents technical material to citizens groups, commissions and the City Council

Policy analysis and code development:

- Communicates and interacts with executives and administrators of other organizations at the request and on behalf of the Director
- Participates in intergovernmental committees at the request and on the behalf of the Director to analyze, evaluate and resolve public policy issues
- Represents the City or Department in various regional and local decision-making forums including regional forums, governmental bodies or community groups.
- Oversees and establishes methodologies for data collection, analysis, and complex studies related to land use, transportation, community development, environmental impacts
- Oversees and coordinates investigation, analysis and preparation of documents for public policy issues, planning and community development as it relates to land use and SEPA.

Public information:

- Staffs public counter providing general land use code information to applicants and citizens
- Provides official responses to inquiry from local, State and Federal entities
- Acts as a project manager or liaison to other departments within the City and provides consulting services to other departments

- Makes presentations to Boards and Commissions, community groups and private organizations
- Oversees the design, writing and production of public information hand-out materials

QUALIFICATIONS:

Minimum Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree from an accredited four-year college or university with a degree in land-use planning, regional planning, urban planning, urban design, landscape architecture, forestry, geography, engineering, biology, zoology, botany, environmental or ecological studies, or a closely related field is required.
- Five or more years of progressively more responsible experience performing land use planning, development review or related activities and at least one year's experience with reading plans, drafting reports, and managing multiple projects.

Preferred:

- Five or more years of the professional related experience described above.
- Master's Degree in Environmental Studies, Ecology, Urban Planning, Regional Planning, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, Forestry, biology, zoology, applied geography or related field.
- Experience reviewing large scale infrastructure permits
- Understanding of applicable Federal, State and local environmental regulations and permitting requirements including broad understanding of SEPA
- Experience with aquatic permitting and restoration strategies and techniques and a general understanding of ecological concepts
- Strong analytical and writing skills.
- Demonstrated interest in improving and deepening understanding in one or more competency areas

KNOWLEDGE AND COMPETENCIES

Thorough knowledge of:

- Development review and planning principles, practices, regulations and techniques as they relate to land use, environmental review or a related area
- Zoning laws and comprehensive plans including their formation, process of adoption, and enforcement

- Principles, practices, regulations, and techniques in the field of land use, architecture and urban design, environmental or transportation planning
- Microsoft Office software to prepare documents and spreadsheets,
- Local government and political decision-making processes
- Experience developing policies and ordinances for a wide range of disciplines

Ability to:

- Communicate effectively with individuals and groups regarding complex or controversial land use and planning policies or regulations
- Write clear and concise reports and plans
- Organize and participate in committees and public meetings and communicate ideas effectively
- Establish and maintain effective working relationships with elected and appointed officials, staff of other agencies, and the community
- Provide in depth technical expertise in one or more specialized areas of planning, such as design review, transportation planning, NEPA, SEPA, landscape design, critical areas, habitat, architecture, or urban design
- Establish and maintain effective working relations with agency members, staff, and the community
- Provide exceptional customer service to citizens, developers, consultants and staff
- Mentor and train junior staff

OTHER:

For more information on this position please contact Heidi Bedwell at 425-452-4862.

The City of Bellevue is situated between Lake Sammamish and Lake Washington with the Cascades mountain range to the east and the Olympic mountains to the west offering breath-taking panoramic vistas. Bellevue is the Eastside's major urban population center, and is the fifth largest city in Washington State. We are proud of our award winning city and the employees who help make it happen! The City of Bellevue is truly a culturally-enriched destination city to live, work and play! Apply online at www.bellevuewa.gov.

The City of Bellevue values diversity in its workforce and is an Equal Opportunity Employer that does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, sex, age, color, sexual orientation, gender identity, religion, national origin, marital status, genetic information, veteran's status, disability, or any other basis prohibited by federal, state or local laws.

APPLICATIONS MAY BE FILED ONLINE AT:
<http://www.bellevuewa.gov/>

Position #16-00181
SENIOR ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER

PO Box 90012
Bellevue, WA 98009
