

PRINCIPAL ENGINEER (FIELD)

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: Under general supervision, the incumbent directs and supervises the construction inspection of all the County's construction projects, to assure compliance with construction contracts and to maintain an acceptable level of quality control on the construction projects. The incumbent acts as liaison with County departments, municipal officials, consultants, State and Federal agencies. The incumbent supervises a number of professional, technical and clerical employees; does related work as required.

EXAMPLES OF WORK: (Illustrative Only)

Organizes and supervises the Construction Section of the Department of Public Works and consultant construction managers to efficiently and effectively inspect and administer the County's construction projects;

Assigns construction contracts to individual construction inspector after consultation with assistants to assure that all projects are covered with optimum use of staff;

Evaluates projects to determine whether they are best covered by in-house staff or by outside consultants and makes appropriate recommendations;

Reviews staff work and monitors progress to ensure that prescribed budgetary, time and contract guidelines are met, recommending and preparing Change Order Resolutions for contract extra work;

Reviews and responds to complaints from the public, municipalities and County departments regarding work associated with County construction projects;

Confers with public utilities to resolve problems associated with construction contracts;

Negotiates extra work claims with contractors and consultant architects and engineers for added service fees;

Resolves disputes associated with construction contracts by interpreting contract documents;

Negotiates malpractice claims with consulting architects, engineers and insurance companies in conjunction with the County Law Department;

Evaluates staff and promotes training and development of staff;

Uses computer applications or other automated systems such as spreadsheets, word processing, calendar, e-mail and database software in performing work assignments;

May perform other incidental tasks, as needed.

REQUIRED KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND ATTRIBUTES: Thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of engineering with particular emphasis on buildings, roads and facility construction and repair; thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of administration; good knowledge of the theory and practices of budgeting, financial record keeping, supervision and personnel administration; good knowledge of the techniques and principles of community relations; ability to effectively use computer applications such as spreadsheets, word processing, e-mail and database software; ability to read, write, speak, understand and communicate in English sufficiently to perform the essential tasks of the position; ability to plan, lay out and direct of the work of construction in an effective manner; ability to speak and write effectively; initiative; good judgment; tact; integrity; physical condition with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AND EXPERIENCE: Possession of a license to practice as a Professional Engineer in the State of New York and a Bachelor's Degree* in engineering and eight years of experience in engineering, four of which must have involved the construction/reconstruction of highways, buildings or other major facilities and four years of supervisory experience.

SUBSTITUTION: Successful completion of a Master's Degree* in engineering may substitute for one year of the general engineering experience. There is no substitute for the specialized and supervisory experience.

*SPECIAL NOTE: Education beyond the secondary must be from an institution recognized or accredited by the Board of Regents of the New York State Education Department as a post secondary degree-granting institution.

NOTE: Only experience gained after attaining the minimum education level indicated in the minimum qualifications will be considered in evaluating experience.