Lehigh Valley Planning Commission

Landscape Architect/Urban Designer

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) and Lehigh Valley Transportation Study (LVTS) is expanding organizational capacity and skill. Specifically, the LVPC/LVTS is looking to hire a Landscape Architect/Urban Designer with accompanying design skills to grow park, infrastructure, housing, development and other community design and scenario planning capabilities. The successful candidate will assist with the development of community, environmental and transportation services to the region and its communities. The Landscape Architect is anticipated to provide strong leadership to a variety of communities in urban, suburban and rural contexts, specifically, in the areas of:

- Landscape planning and urbanism
- Energy-efficient and sustainable landscape design
- Environmental graphic design
- Landscape assessment and design
- Landscape and streetscape detailing
- Intelligent Urbanism
- Complete Streets and multi-modal design
- Urban forestry
- Trail and recreational design

ABOUT THE LEHIGH VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION, TRANSPORTATION STUDY + REGION

The Lehigh Valley Planning Commission is the official planning commission for Pennsylvania's Lehigh and Northampton Counties. The Lehigh Valley Transportation Study serves as the Metropolitan Planning Agency, or transportation and infrastructure planning agency for the same areas, and within the offices of the LVPC. The Lehigh Valley is strategically located on the eastern border of Pennsylvania, north of the Philadelphia region and west of the New York-New Jersey metropolitan statistical area. The fastest growing region in the Commonwealth, the Lehigh Valley is known for a high quality of life, recreational and cultural amenities, as well as, its variety of housing and communities from rural to urban. The region is unique, in that it is home to three cities and 59 other communities including dense urbanized boroughs, old and new suburbs, cross-roads villages and rural landscapes.

CURRENT LVPC/LVTS PROJECTS

The LVPC/LVTS 2016 work program includes the update of the regional Comprehensive General Land Use Plan, creation of an Integrated Water Resources Management Document, new Lehigh County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Plan, Sidewalk/Walkability Inventory and Plan, Monocacy Creek Stormwater Management Plan, Southwest Lehigh Comprehensive Plan, coordination with the University of Pennsylvania Design School on a Northampton County Landscape Architecture exhibit and t book to support implementation strategies for the fresh food access, economic development and landscape-transportation-land use connections. Future projects are anticipated to include: highway landscape design, park interconnection design, floodplain management design, urban landscape reuse planning, and blueway activation planning, among many other regional landscape architecture opportunities.

JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Job Title: Landscape Architect/Urban Designer

2. Salary Range: $42,000 - $73,500, dependent on experience

3. Responsibility and Reporting to: Executive Director

4. Location: 961 Marcon Boulevard, Suite 310, Allentown, Pennsylvania

5. Overall Purpose: Project Designer for Urban Design, Master Planning, Streetscape and Landscape Projects

6. Key Tasks and Responsibilities:

- Manage Urban Design, Master Planning, Streetscape and Landscape Projects
- Prepare and develop Urban Design and Master Plan drawings, reports and strategies
- Prepare and develop Hard and Soft Landscape Designs
- Collaborate with the Transportation, Environmental, Community Planning Sections of the LVPC/LVTS, as well as, the Lehigh Valley Transportation Study Technical and Coordinating Committees and Lehigh Valley Planning Commissioners
- Collaborate with Lehigh County, Northampton County, Lehigh Valley communities and other organizations to illustrate community design concepts
- Preparation of urban design strategies that clearly communicate planning principles
- Preparation of design elements of planning documents and projects, including electronic media, in conjunction with the LVPC/LVTS Teams
- Support the LVTS/LVPC Teams in the promotion of Urban Design, Master Planning Streetscape, Park and Landscape Architecture services including seeking out and capitalizing on new opportunities
- Collaborate with the LVTS and LVPC teams in promoting Planning and Landscape Architectural services including seeking out and capitalizing on new opportunities
- Ability to prepare for and present to a variety of audiences and in web forums
- Attend community consultations and other events for major projects when requested

7.1 Qualifications

- Graduate degree in Landscape Architecture, City and/or Regional Planning or other design/development industry related discipline
- Professional certification(s) preferred but, not required. Desire to work towards professional certification if not obtained
- Demonstrated ability to work within and contribute to a team structure
- Demonstrated ability to work with diverse groups of people and in diverse environments
- Possess or immediately obtain a Pennsylvania driver's license

7.2. Experience

- Minimum of 2 (two) or more years of Landscape Design +/or Urban Design experience

7.3. Skills and Training

- Information Technology literacy in standard industry software including:
    - Adobe Creative Suite; Photoshop, Illustrator, and InDesign are essential; Muse, preferred
    - Microsoft Office; Word and Excel are essential

    - Sketch-Up
    - Other visual design software, such as AutoCAD, Revit, etc.
- Good verbal and written communication skills
- Refined organizational skills, including time-management abilities

8. How to Apply: Only e-mail submissions to planning@lvpc.org will be accepted and must include:

a. Current resume detailing your education and experience. Please address to:
   Becky Bradley, AICP, Executive Director
   Lehigh Valley Planning Commission
   961 Marcon Blvd, Suite 310
   Allentown, PA 18109
b. Letter of interest describing how you meet the qualifications for this position and why you would like to be considered
c. Minimum of three (3) references with names, address, telephone number, e-mail and relationship information for each person

Application materials must be received by 5:00 PM Eastern Standard Time on February 11, 2016.

Those applicants selected to advance to the next stage of the hiring process will be required to submit a portfolio. Position finalists may be required to complete an on-site urban design exercise utilizing Adobe Creative Suite and to demonstrate manual drawing skills.

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission/Lehigh Valley Transportation Study is an equal opportunity employer. Persons with a disability who need assistance with their application or that need this announcement in an alternative format, may call (610) 264-4544.