

CITY OF SPOKANE VALLEY  
POSITION DESCRIPTION

Class Title: Code Enforcement Officer  
Department: Community Development  
Division: Current Planning  
Date: May 28, 2010

Job Code Number: 345  
Grade Number: 13  
FLSA Status: Non Exempt  
Location: City Hall

GENERAL PURPOSE

Performs a variety of routine and complex work in the interpretation and enforcement of adopted codes and related rules and regulations.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED:

Works under the general guidance and direction of the Building Official.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED

None.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Periodically patrols or inspects an assigned area to monitor for violations of local codes.

Responds to complaints of potential code violations relating to signing, building occupancy, nuisances, hazardous sidewalks or other conditions, housing conditions, construction, land use, zoning, animals, noise, dumping, clearing, grading, filling, polluting, or other code related matters.

Conducts field investigations of potential violations; gathers evidence; questions or interrogates complainants, witnesses and suspects; compares facts to code requirements; makes findings; and issues warnings, correction notices, or citations.

Meets with owners, tenants, contractors, developers, businesses, etc. to review and explain code requirements and violations or potential violations; secures code compliance.

Drafts and distributes a variety of correspondence, memoranda, notices, flyers, brochures, media releases, and reports relating to code enforcement issues and actions.

Provides information to persons who request information or assistance in code enforcement related matters.

Assists in obtaining, enhancing, preparing or presenting exhibits or other evidence in court as required.

Maintains a variety of logs and records related to inspection and enforcement activities; prepares recommendations for amendments and additions to codes or regulations which relate to the position.

Coordinates efforts with the police, planning, building and related departments, the prosecuting attorney, and other staff or agencies, as needed.

Works with police and prosecutors to obtain written or tape- recorded statements, depositions, or admissions, as needed.

Reviews cases being prepared for trial with emphasis on the evidentiary and legal issues crucial to successful prosecution. Prepares detailed reports of activities and investigations made; consults with prosecutors and prepares case report for court action; testifies in court.

#### PERIPHERAL DUTIES

Serves as a member of various employee committees.

Assists in processing permit applications and helping out in the permit center as needed.

#### DESIRED MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

##### Education and Experience:

(A) Graduation from high school or GED equivalent, supplemented by two years post-secondary training or an Associate's degree in urban planning, law enforcement, public administration or a related field; and

(B) Two years experience related to inspection, law enforcement, building inspection, land use, public administration or a related field; or

(C) An equivalent combination of education and experience which provides the necessary qualifications to successfully perform the essential duties of the position may be considered.

##### Necessary Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

(A) Some knowledge of code enforcement principles, practices and methods as applicable to a municipal setting; working knowledge of applicable laws, standards and regulations relating to various land use, nuisance and public safety codes; working knowledge of inspection techniques;

(B) Skill in operating the listed tools and equipment; and

(C) Ability to prepare, organize and maintain inspection field data, reports and systems; ability to analyze complex situations, problems and data, and use sound judgment in drawing conclusions and making decisions; ability to comprehend and articulate complex facts and relationships in detail and to summarize and write clearly, concisely and legibly, and to testify in court in an objective, concise, and professional manner; ability to produce or obtain reports, graphs, charts, photographs or the evidence or exhibits; ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing; ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships with citizens, employees, supervisors and the general public; ability to follow verbal and written instructions; ability to handle stressful situations and effectively deal with difficult or angry people.

(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

Must possess a valid Washington State driver's license or have the ability to obtain one prior to employment.

#### TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT USED

Personal computer, including word processing and data base software; motor vehicle; phone; mobile or portable radio, copy and fax machine.

#### 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 field settings. Considerable outdoor work is required in the inspection of various land uses and other matters. 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; talk or hear; 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.

The employee must occasionally lift and/or move up to 50 pounds. Specific vision abilities required by this job include close vision, distance vision, color 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 in high, precarious places and is occasionally exposed to wet and/or humid conditions, fumes or airborne particles, toxic or caustic chemicals, risk of electrical shock, and vibration. The noise level in the work environment is usually moderate.

#### 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 Manager

Approval: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Manager

Effective Date: May 28, 2010

Revision History: Established: May 13, 2003