Professional Engineer - County Highway Department

Location: Perry County, Indiana 47586
Department: Highway/Public Works/Infrastructure, Planning, & Growth
Status: Full-Time, Exempt
Reports To: County Commissioners
Salary Range: 100k to 130k, "Commensurate with Experience"

Job Overview

The Professional Engineer is a key technical role within the County Highway Department, responsible for the planning, design, construction, and maintenance of public infrastructure, including roads, bridges, and drainage systems. The incumbent ensures that all projects comply with federal, state, and local regulations and safety standards, and provides essential technical expertise to county officials, consultants, and the public.

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- **Project Management:** Lead the planning, design, and execution of highway and bridge projects from conception through construction, ensuring alignment with project goals, budgets, and schedules.
- **Design & Specifications:** Prepare and review complex design plans, specifications, and cost estimates for county road and bridge projects in compliance with relevant manuals and standards (e.g., state DOT standards, IMUTCD).
- **Construction Oversight:** Supervise and inspect construction and maintenance activities on county roads and bridges to ensure quality work and compliance with established specifications and guidelines.
- **Compliance & Permitting:** Ensure compliance with all applicable regulations, secure necessary local, state, and federal permits for projects, and manage right-of-way acquisition as needed.
- **Technical Advisor & Liaison:** Serve as a technical advisor to the County Board/Commissioners and township trustees, representing the department at various meetings and effectively communicating with co-workers, other agencies, and the public.

- **Planning & Inventory:** Assist in developing a long-range capital improvement program and maintain a perpetual inventory and classification of all county roads, bridges, and culverts.
- **Traffic Safety:** Develop and implement traffic safety programs, including installing signs, signals, and speed limits, and conducting traffic safety studies.
- **Administration:** Prepare reports, manage project budgets, administer contracts, and review contractor pay applications and timesheets as required.
- **Emergency Response:** Occasionally serve on 24-hour call for maintenance problems or emergencies regarding signal, road, and bridge failures.

Qualifications

- **Education:** A Baccalaureate Degree in Civil Engineering or a related field is required.
- **Licensing:** Must possess a valid Professional Engineer (PE) license in the State of Indiana.
- **Experience:** A minimum of five (5) years of progressively responsible experience in the design, construction, and maintenance of civil engineering/transportation facilities, with some management experience preferred.
- **Knowledge:** Thorough knowledge of civil engineering principles, practices, and techniques, along with federal, state, and local codes and ordinances governing highway and bridge construction.
- **Skills:**
    - Proficiency with engineering software, including CAD and hydraulic/structural design programs, and standard office software (e.g., Microsoft Office).
    - Strong project management, communication (oral and written), and organizational skills.
    - Ability to read, interpret, and work from detailed blueprints, specifications, and maps.
    - Ability to work independently and make sound decisions under pressure.

Physical Demands

The position involves both office work and fieldwork. It requires the ability to sit, stand, and move for extended periods, and to walk outdoors over difficult terrain in various weather conditions. The incumbent must be able to lift and carry tools/materials (up to 50 lbs. occasionally), work safely in hazardous environments (e.g., construction zones), and use safety equipment as needed. Possession of a valid driver's license and a safe driving record is also required.