URBAN FORESTRY SPECIALIST

MAJOR FUNCTION

This is professional and technical work in arboriculture assessing the health and severity of risk associated with tress on City right of ways, vacant lots, cemeteries and canopy roads. Work is performed in accordance with prudent safety and environmental standards and practices under the general supervision of a Maintenance Construction Chief in the Public Works Department and is reviewed through conferences, reports and results obtained.

ESSENTIAL and OTHER IMPORTANT JOB DUTIES

Essential Duties

Performs complete tree risk assessments and schedules applicable maintenance depending on level of risk found on tress in City right of way areas, and other properties. Follows all occupational safety, health, and environmental standards. Determines ownership of tress along right of way and parcel edges. Meets with citizens one-on-one to discuss requests for tree maintenance/removal activities on City owned properties. Works closely with other Public Works employees to schedule appropriate personnel and equipment to resolve tree related issues discovered during the tree risk assessments. Enters all tree maintenance data into a database to track costs and develop replanting and follow up inspection plans for trees. Manages the expenditures of funds for Tree Bank related projects created throughout the year. Provides oversight to contractors for tree removal and trimming activities when needed. Incorporates GIS data of trees growing on City owned properties collected by outside vendors and internal staff. Reviews development plans that may impact City infrastructure and provides feedback and professional recommendations. Participates in storm response activities as part of road clearing teams. Performs related work as required.

Other Important Duties

Develops contacts and working relationships with vendors, city, county, state and federal agencies. Prepares reports of activities as required or directed. Performs related work as required.

DESIRABLE QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge, Abilities and Skills

Thorough knowledge of professional urban forestry, arboricultural procedures and practices including tree risk assessments. Knowledge of methods, tools, occupational hazards and risks associated with tree removal, pruning, and treatment in the urban landscape. Knowledge of tree diseases and pests and those agents usable for proper treatment. Knowledge of local laws and ordinances concerning trees and tree removal. Knowledge of GIS data and databases. Ability to lead and the work activities of co-workers and contract personnel. Ability to communicate clearly and concisely both orally and in writing with the general public, department personnel, and City administrators. Ability to keep records, prepare progress reports, and enforce/interpret contracts for goods and services, as applicable. Ability to establish and maintain effective working relationships as necessitated by the work. Skill in the use of microcomputers and the programs and applications necessary for successful job performance.

Minimum Training and Experience

Possession of a bachelor's degree in forestry, arboriculture or a related field and two years of experience in urban forestry, or performing tree risk assessments, or tree removal; or possession of a high school diploma or equivalent recognized certificate and six years of the aforementioned experience; or an equivalent combination of training and experience.

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Necessary Special Requirements

Must possess the appropriate State Commercial Driver License (CDL) and endorsement(s) at the time of appointment.

Must possess the Certified Arborist Credential certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) at the time of appointment and most obtain the Municipal Arborist Credential certified by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) within six months of appointment and must maintain this credential as a condition of continued employment in the position.

Must possess the Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) as administered by the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) within one year of appointment and must maintain this credential as a condition of continued employment in the position.

Must possess the Florida Department of Transportation Intermediate Maintenance of Traffic certification within six months of initial employment and maintain this certification as a condition of continued employment in the position.

Established: 02-05-15