

Senior Transportation Policy Advisor


Salary Range: \$86,000 - \$112,000



The City is seeking an experienced transportation professional who has expertise in both the technical and policy aspects of major transportation projects and initiatives. In Vancouver, you can enjoy a high quality of life in a major metropolitan area and yet benefit from no state income tax and a lower cost of living.

CITY OF
Vancouver
WASHINGTON

THE COMMUNITY



With a population of over 190,000 residents, Vancouver, Washington sits on the north bank of the Columbia River directly across from Portland, Oregon. The Pacific Coast is less than 90 miles to the west and the Cascade Mountain Range rises on the east. Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument and Mount Hood are less than two hours away while the spectacular Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area lies 30 minutes to the east. Vancouver combines the excitement of a major metropolitan area with the community connections and engagement of a smaller town.

Vancouver enjoys mild weather with less average annual rainfall than cities like Boston, Washington, D.C., or Atlanta. Its seasons are distinct and summer temperatures generally climb into the 80s while winter nights rarely fall below 30 degrees. This moderate climate creates lush forests and abundant foliage. The Columbia River is a central feature of the local environment as it connects and sustains the community. The river provides fantastic recreational opportunities and helps nurture wildlife, evergreen forests, agriculture, neighborhoods, and businesses.

The 7.3-acre Vancouver Waterfront Park is a central component of a 32-acre, high density, mixed-use urban development called *The Waterfront Vancouver*. This community park incorporates public open spaces with the Columbia River and the Columbia River Renaissance Trail connects Vancouver Waterfront Park to Wintler Park, over 5 miles away. Other economic drivers in the community include common industries such as healthcare and education (with Washington State University – Vancouver and Clark College) as well as unique business operations such as life sciences company, AbSci, and high tech manufacturer, RealWear, as well as better known companies like Banfield Pet Hospital, HP, Inc., and Nautilus.

THE POSITION

The City organization has 1,196 employees and a \$1.3B biannual budget. Housed within the Community and Economic Development Department, the Senior Transportation Policy Advisor will serve as the City's senior project manager, advisor, strategist, and advocate for transportation projects of regional importance, including the Interstate 5 Bridge Replacement (IBR) program, congestion pricing on the regional highway system, planning for future southwest Washington highway projects, and the implementation of regional transit projects. As the City's project manager for such projects, this person will provide technical and policy leadership, identify key issues and opportunities, collaborate with City staff and regional partners to establish desired outcomes and priorities, engage with project sponsors to advocate for city interests, and track and report out on progress.

In addition to the development of policy objectives and technical analysis, this position will also be responsible for identifying impacts to vulnerable populations and advocating for mitigation strategies to ensure infrastructure projects provide equitable benefits for Vancouver community members, including Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) communities, low-income and transit-dependent residents, and people with disabilities. This position will lead City efforts to develop state and federal legislative priorities for transportation infrastructure and funding, and will be the primary spokesperson for the City in discussing how regional infrastructure projects further the City's regional transportation vision in a variety of public forums.



Selected Essential Job Functions:

- Provide high level leadership, project management, oversight and coordination for large regional transportation planning projects and initiatives, including policy development, technical analysis, partner and community engagement, and equity and mitigation strategies; coordinate with City leadership and internal staff as well as regional partners to ensure projects meet multiple City and regional objectives and are consistent with city policies and priorities.
- Develop and implement strategies for advancing key City interests in regional infrastructure projects and advise City leaders of preferred approach to each project.
- Develop and maintain positive working relationships with community and agency partners, business organizations and leaders, residents, neighborhoods, community-based organizations, governmental agencies and other stakeholders as the City's primary representative and "voice" on regional transportation projects.
- Represent the City at key events and with the media, as the primary spokesperson for the City's positions on regional infrastructure projects; coordinate messaging opportunities with City leadership, Director, Communications Manager, and other staff as appropriate.
- Advocate at the state legislature for or against legislation and investments that advance the City and region's interests in delivering significant infrastructure projects.

THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will have experience providing high-level reporting to executive leadership as a policy advisor for high impact projects. The individual should have executive presence to act independently when talking with stakeholders and partner agencies. The most competitive candidates will have demonstrated experience in bringing a strategic level of thinking to advancing client interests in large-scale infrastructure projects.

The optimal blend of expertise would be technical hard skills with transportation projects (reading plans and analyzing technical reports) combined with the soft skills of advocacy and policy work in a political environment (with exposure to the City Council and community). The selected candidate will enjoy a collaborative, team-based environment focused on providing solutions. PE or AICP designations are desirable.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

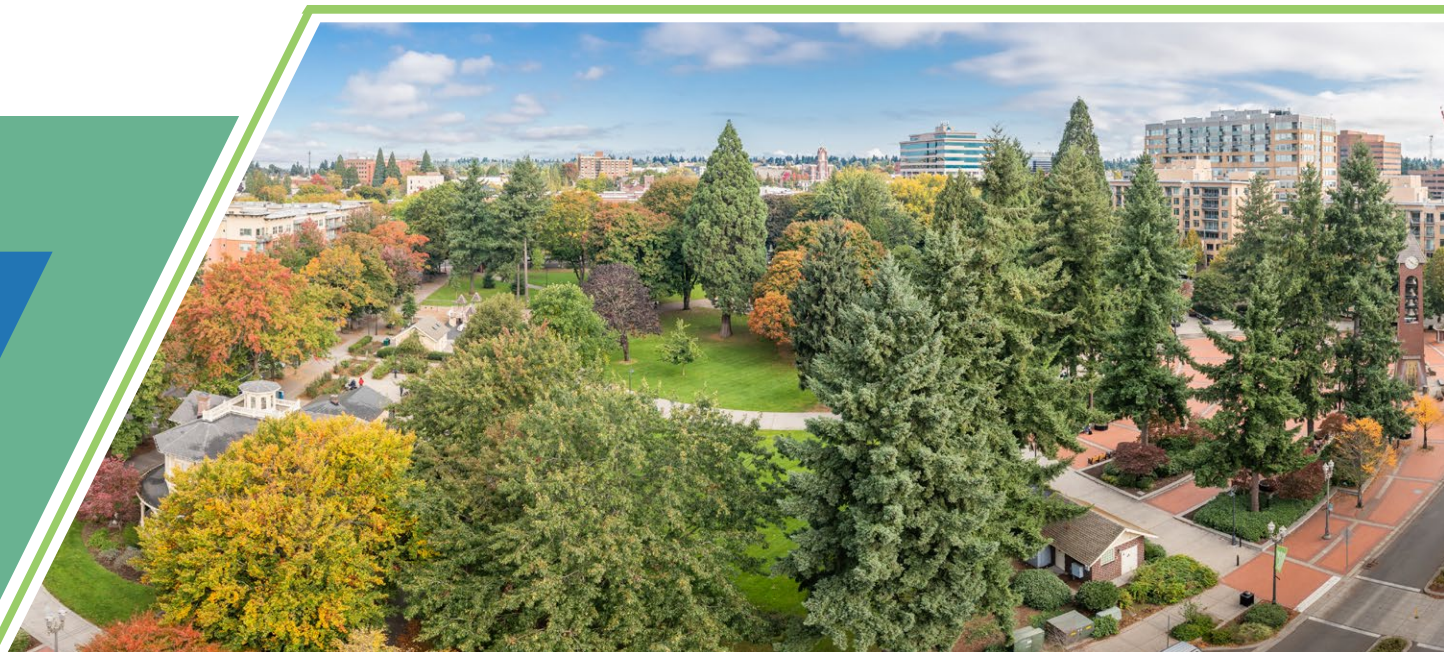
Education:

Equivalent to a **Bachelor's Degree** in project management, engineering, planning, public policy, finance, economics, public administration and/or related field.

Experience:

Five (5) years of related experience in senior level transportation planning, project and construction management, with shown success in transportation, utilities, community development, public finance, construction, or operations projects.

Equivalent combinations of education and experience may be considered.





COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The salary range for the Senior Transportation Policy Advisor will be **\$86,000 - \$112,000** and the starting salary will be dependent upon experience. The City offers the following benefits:

- Medical, Vision, Prescription, and Dental Insurance
- Personal Time Off and Paid Holidays
- Washington State PERS Retirement System (stable and well-funded)
- Deferred Compensation (457 Plan) and 401 Plan with 1% City match
- Other benefits such as life and disability insurance

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCESS

The first review of resumes will occur on December 18, 2020. To be considered, please submit a detailed cover letter and résumé, which should reflect both years and months of employment dates. Please submit your materials for this position through our website:

<https://secure.cpsshr.us/escandidate/JobDetail?ID=1720>

The most competitive candidates will be invited to participate in a telephone interview with the consultant. The City will make the final determination as to which top candidates advance to the final interview process.



For additional information about this position please contact Josh Jones at 916.471.3301 or jjones@cpsshr.us.

