

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title: Principal Engineer
Working Title: Principal Engineer, Project Management
FLSA Status: Exempt
Salary Grade: 11A

PURPOSE OF POSITION

The Principal Engineer, Project Management, supports the design and assure compliance with SCRRRA standards and specifications of new stations or modified stations. which are typically designed, constructed modified and maintained by other entities besides SCRRRA.

DISTINGUISHING CHARACTERISTICS

This job description is not part of a job series.

SUPERVISION EXERCISED AND RECEIVED

- Receives general oversight from director or executive level roles
- Responsible for supervising and monitoring performance for a group of employees

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The duties listed below are intended to describe the general nature and level of work being performed and are not to be interpreted as an exhaustive list of responsibilities.

- Manage SCRRRA's Project Management (PM) and Construction Management (CM) consultant contracts.
- Manage or oversee the delivery of internal SCRRRA capital projects and external (third-party or member agency) projects that are not related to SCRRRA's rehabilitation and maintenance projects or programs.
- Coordinate internal project design with the Principal Engineer – Design and Construction.
- Assure internal and external projects are managed according to requirements and expectations for scope, schedule, budget, functional quality, and safety, and meet stakeholder expectations.
- Act as Project Manager for structure and culvert rehabilitation projects and manage consultants performing structure and culvert design and condition ratings.
- Assure compliance with FRA's Bridge Management Program and that SCRRRA's structures and culverts assets are kept in a state of good repair.
- Oversee and coordinate Railroad High –Wide Heavy Load movements.
- Act as Railroad engineering subject matter expert with internal and external clients.
- Develop railroad engineering standards, specifications, and processes: review internal and external design plans and specifications for compliance with Railroad requirements, inspect and review ongoing construction and maintenance work for compliance with Railroad requirements.
- Proactively manage scope, budget, schedule, functional quality, internal and external impacts, and assure projects are designed and constructed safely with no or minimal impacts to railroad operations.
- Perform and/or review engineering work, highly specialized design, research, and analysis.
- Manage consultant contracts, contract task orders, schedule, cost and scope.
- Coordinate the work of consultants for the Capital Program including Capital Maintenance and new Capital Construction improvements.



- Coordinate with internal departments, provide technical review of the design work, manage task orders and monitor schedules for design, and compile and review project cost estimates.
- Coordinate preliminary planning for civil and railroad engineering projects, site visits, determining the scope of work, estimating engineering cost, estimating labor and materials, providing information to the project engineer to assist in determining whether project design or construction can be done in-house or contracted outside.
- Evaluate progress of project(s) to determine if time schedules will be met and submit reports to the executives.
- Manage the development of railroad engineering processes, standards and specifications, maintain these documents to keep current and relevant with industry best practices.
- Review internal and external design plans and specifications for compliance with Railroad requirements.
- Direct small or short deadline project designs.
- Work with outside agencies to ensure real estate leases, licenses, easements and construction agreements after reviewing and giving project approval.
- Represent the Authority at public and joint department meetings; make presentations to groups including the Board of Directors.
- Provide engineering support for SCRRRA maintenance and rehabilitation projects and activities.
- Plan, manage and direct the work of staff and consultants; effectively supervising, coaching and training.
- The responsibilities outlined above are representative of the role but not exhaustive. Additional duties may be assigned as needed, and reasonable accommodations will be provided to qualified individuals with disabilities in accordance with applicable laws.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education and Experience

- Bachelor's Degree in Engineering, Construction Management or a closely related field.
- A minimum of three (3) years' design or construction experience with a Commuter/Passenger or Class 1 Freight Railroad or as a consultant or contractor working on long-term assignments involving Commuter/Passenger or Class 1 Freight Railroad Projects.
- A minimum of six (6) years of relevant and progressively increasing experience in the area of construction, or engineering. Experience must include at least two (2) years of contract management of engineering or construction projects and two years of experience managing the work of staff or consultants.
- A minimum five (5) years of experience in managing railroad or transit construction projects including three (3) years of experience managing railroad projects on dense traffic "active" railroad corridors.
- A combination of training, with a minimum of an Associate Degree and/or experience that provides the required knowledge, skills, and abilities, may be considered when determining minimum qualifications. Advanced relevant coursework may also substitute for a portion of the required experience.
- Must pass tests for Roadway Worker Protection (RWP) and Railroad General Code of Operating Rules (GCQR) within one year of employment
- A valid Class "C" California driver's license with a satisfactory driving record of no more than two moving violations and no DUIs within the last three years

Preferred Qualifications

- California Professional Engineers License



Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities

Knowledge of:

- FRA's Bridge Management Program
- Public sector and SCRRRA

Skilled in:

- Excellent, communication, interpersonal, decision making and problem-solving skills
- Use of Microsoft Office

Ability to:

- Work independently, manage multiple concurrent engineering tasks or projects both in the office and in the field effectively and critically analyze information are essential to success
- Foster a team environment

PHYSICAL REQUIREMENTS

- Transition between a stationary position at a desk or work location and move about Metrolink facilities or other work site locations
- Operate tools to perform the duties of the position, such as computers, office equipment, and work-related machinery
- Transport equipment or boxes up to 25 lbs
- Exchange ideas by means of communication
- Visual acuity to detect, identify, and observe employees or train movement and any barriers to movement when working on or near railroad tracks
- Hear and perceive the nature of sounds when working on or near railroad tracks
- Balance, ascend/descend, climb, kneel, stoop, bend, crouch, or crawl within assigned working conditions and or locations

Working Conditions

Position requires work in a normal office environment with little exposure to excessive noise, dust, or temperature. Work may also be conducted in outdoor environments, at construction sites, Railroad Track and Right-of-Way environments, and warehouse environments, with possible exposure to individuals who are hostile or irate, moving mechanical parts, and loud noises (85+ decibels, such as heavy trucks, construction, etc.)

Southern California Regional Rail Authority is an Equal Opportunity Employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the Authority will provide reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities and encourages both prospective and current employees to discuss potential accommodations with the employer.

Last Updated: January 2026

