



Interstate Bridge Replacement (IBR) Program Community Engagement Lead

Email resume and cover letter by September 6, 2024, to eshr@espousalstrategies.com

Overview: The Community Engagement Lead will lead a mega-project's Community Engagement ongoing strategy, planning, implementation and evaluation as a member of the IBR program's Public Affairs team. The Community Engagement lead is one of three discipline leads, including Government Affairs and Communications – all reporting to the program Public Affairs manager.

Espousal Strategies, LLC is a boutique government, community, and public affairs' firm focused on collaborative problem solving, equity and inclusion, issue lobbying, and coalition building.

Classification: Exempt

Required Knowledge and Abilities:

- Strong project management experience, preferably on megaprojects, with experience in managing blended consultant and subconsultant teams in a fast-paced, high-profile environment with rapidly changing deadlines and needs.
- Demonstrated experience planning and managing multi-phase, equity-centered engagement programs with performance measures on publicly funded projects.
- Familiarity with public agency owners, consultant teams, and cross-discipline technical teams.
- Proven ability to deliver effective and culturally relevant task management, delegation, and implementation in a diverse project-based team environment.
- Strong record of compliance to project scopes, schedules, and budgets, and experience with quality control/assurance processes, and public records requirements.
- Taking initiative with thoughtful, strategic follow-through.
- Providing support for as-needed cross-discipline priorities.
- Bachelor's degree with a minimum of 10-12 years post-graduation work experience in communications and public engagement on infrastructure projects.
- Community engagement leadership role on at least three significant infrastructure projects.

Required understanding of:

- Project management best practices.

- Public sector project communications, community engagement, equity and public affairs best practices.
- Relevant local, state and federal legislation.
- NEPA process and its relationship with publicly funded projects.
- Project construction and public notification processes.

Desired Qualifications:

- Managing blended consultant and subconsultant teams.
- Experience in setting objectives and being accountable to achieving results and meeting deadlines.
- Experience bringing the client high-quality, innovative, effective equitable community engagement ideas, solutions and resources.
- Experience developing and implementing equitable engagement tools and tactics.
- Experience managing conflicts as they arise, mediating solutions as needed and escalating issues when necessary.
- Experience working with vendors to translate a variety of materials and coordinate language access needs for public meetings and events.
- Experience developing workplans for and managing community advisory groups.
- Lived experience in the Pacific Northwest and specifically Portland, OR and/or Vancouver, WA.
- Experience coordinating with neighborhood groups and community-based organizations in the greater Portland, OR and Vancouver, WA communities.
- Training through the International Association of Public Participation.

Working Conditions/Physical Demands:

Work is usually performed in an indoor office environment, or remote home office environment, with long periods at a desk. The position requires travel throughout the Portland Metro Area. Work is oriented to community service and subject to constant work interruptions. Position requires the employee to regularly facilitate meetings and deliver presentations to community members, and other business partners, in both small and large groups. Employees may work under the stress of continual contact from clients, community members, co-workers and business partners, and the pressure to meet deadlines. Requires flexible work schedule and may be required to work evenings and weekends. Must occasionally lift and/or move up to 25 pounds.

Benefits:

Espousal Strategies offers competitive health, dental, PTO, and retirement benefits. At Espousal Strategies, we don't just accept difference — we celebrate it, we support it, and we thrive on it for the

benefit of our employees, our clients, and our community. We do not discriminate in employment based on race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy and gender identity), national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, membership in an employee organization, retaliation, parental status, military service, or other non-merit factor.