EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY WITH YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS:

ASSOCIATE PLANNER

To learn more about this position, go to www.yvcog.org, click on Employment.

Contribute to the Future of Yakima Valley:
An Associate Planner will play a key role with developing relationships with member jurisdictions, traveling to evening meetings in the valley to meet with city staff and supporting members during public meetings and processes.

QUALIFICATIONS:
A Bachelor’s Degree in Planning or equivalent work experience, plus 1 year work experience.

Yakima Valley Conference of Governments
311 N 4th Street, Suite 204
Yakima WA 98901
http://www.yvcog.org
ABOUT THE YAKIMA VALLEY CONFERENCE OF GOVERNMENTS ...

Established over 50 years ago, the Yakima Valley Conference of Governments (“YVCOG”) was then and is today, a group of community members who are committed to working together on land use, transportation, environment and other common issues that impact the quality of life for the communities of the Yakima region. Yakima Valley COG serves as an intermediary between the communities it represents and the state and federal government entities that are responsible for ensuring the decisions made at the local level are aligned with state and federal laws, and that government resources are managed. The overall mission of Yakima Valley Conference of Government membership is to improve the valleys’ livability and secure its future.

Located in the center of the state, Yakima County is the second largest county in Washington. The region is a rich and productive agricultural valley which is surrounded by lush rivers and mountain ranges. Well known for its apples and its production of fruit and vegetables, in recent years it has received national recognition for its many vineyards. Home to approximately 255,950 people, 49.9% of whom are Hispanic and Latino, the region is culturally rich and diverse. Applicants will find a family friendly environment that offers affordable housing with a median cost of housing in the $220,000 range. Small town living galore, the region offers urban living in the City of Yakima which is the largest city in the county, while small farms and more rural living is of abundance in the surrounding cities. The Yakama Indian Reservation, which is home to 15% of the region’s population, is one of the largest Native American tribes in the nation.

Outdoor sports are abundant year around and include fishing, camping, hiking, water sports and snow skiing.

ABOUT THE ASSOCIATE PLANNER POSITION...

The Yakima Valley COG is a small group of highly professional and dedicated staff committed to making a difference in the Yakima Valley Region. Although the primary focus of the current position will be specific to land use and transportation planning, there is an opportunity for this individual to work with colleagues as needed.

The successful applicant is required to have the ability to obtain a Washington State driver’s license, have their own transportation and be able to travel frequently around the region; including night meetings, and / or throughout the state for trainings.

The Associate Planner will possess the knowledge for principles and practices of federal, state and local land use and transportation planning matters.
PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

The Associate Planner will report to the Executive Director and performs the assigned job duties under general supervision as follows:

- Revise local policies, plans, ordinances, legislation, projecting trends
- Monitor changes with respect to individual programs and projects as needed
- Provides technical and administrative assistance to member organizations, elected officials and committees
- Supports the supervisory staff in advising the Director and decision making/advisory boards/committees of program or project needs, public policy issues, planning procedures, comprehensive and special plans, and related regulations
- Establish and use methodologies for research, analysis, preparation, and coordination of data
- Gather information to support studies, prepare documents and materials for public policy issues, planning, and community development
- Prepare and presents reports, graphics and other materials, designs or identifies training opportunities, facilitates work group sessions
- Develop outreach materials to further understanding of project or program planning efforts and impacts on the community
- Facilitate organization committee meetings, advisory meetings, open houses, or other public participation events
- Respond to member inquiries for data and information on planning and other processes or program related public policies, procedures and regulations
- This list of job responsibilities is not all inclusive.

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE:

- Bachelor degree in Planning or related field; (equivalent experience may substitute for education on a one-one basis) with one year work experience.
- Principles and practices of federal, state and local land use, environmental, and transportation planning;
- Structure and form of plans, laws and ordinances involved in planning and municipal governments;
- Applicable land use, environmental, and transportation planning policies, laws, regulations, ordinances, codes principles and practices;
- Methods of statistical analysis and evaluation of research data;
- Presentation methods, U.S. Census Geography methods, and/or legal descriptions; and
- Customer service techniques and team building concepts.
- Prefer prior experience working in the public sector
**SALARY & BENEFITS:**

- Salary for this position begins at **$4,582 monthly**
- Paid Time Off (15 days)
- Twelve (12) paid holidays
- Health benefits offered include medical, dental and vision for the employee and dependents as established by the Executive Director and Board on an annual basis
- Additional benefits include: long-term disability and life insurance
- Eligible to participate in Deferred Comp and in a Health Saving Account
- Participation in Washington State Department of Retirement Systems PERS is required
- Wellness Program

All positions at YVCOG are Grant or Contract supported.

**HOW TO APPLY:** Position Closes February 9, 2020 at 11:59 p.m.

To apply for this opportunity, email your resume and cover letter to

yvcog.hr@yvcog.org

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YVCOG fully complies with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and related statutes and regulations in all programs and activities. For more information, or to obtain a Title VI Complaint Form, see http://www.yvcog.org/title6.pdf or call (509) 574-1550.

The Yakima Valley Conference of Governments is an Equal Opportunity Employer. This is a drug and tobacco free workplace.