



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION POSTING FOR GULF COAST RAIL DISTRICT

Context

The Gulf Coast Rail District (GCRD) Executive Director operates under the direction of the GCRD Board of Directors and is the sole direct report. The Executive Director plans, organizes, directs and administers all functions of GCRD and prepares all recommendations for Board approval and then executes all decisions.

Scope

While the primary focus is rail, the Executive Director is responsible for understanding all multimodal forms of regional transportation and integrating rail priorities for both freight and people movement in the multiple county boundaries defined by law. The Executive Director will align region priorities with the Texas Department of Transportation State Rail Plan, actively pursue funding sources for projects, coordinate project execution, communicate with all stakeholders, coordinate THE HART activities, and develop/maintain outstanding working relationships.

Job Functions

- Deliver outcomes defined by Board Approved GCRD Strategic Plan which includes THE HART.
- Serve the Board by providing input for development of strategies that foster continuous transportation improvements.
- Ensure all recommendations foster safety in region and for individual citizens.
- Understand the priorities of regional stakeholders and integrate priorities/activities in project plans.
- Effectively communicate with all region stakeholders.
- Work to foster working relationships with all stakeholders.
- Develop capital plan that integrates priorities for Texas Department of Transportation, Houston-Galveston Area Council, Federal Funding Sources into cohesive action plan.
- Monitor project action plan to ensure successful outcomes.
- Impart rail transportation knowledge to Board and all stakeholders.
- Become rail subject matter expert for region.
- Become recognized by Texas Department of Transportation as leader in Rail Plan implementation for the region.
- Interface with local communities.

Job Qualifications

- Prefer at minimum a Bachelor of Science degree in public administration, business administration, planning or engineering; Master's degree preferred.
- A minimum of 10 years of experience in leadership, project management or administrative roles in transportation.
- Preferred direct experience in rail or multi modal transportation.
- Experience in implementation of Strategic Plans.
- Demonstrated excellent verbal and written skills.
- Ability to solve complex problems and implement successful action plans.
- Ability to implement approved project plans.
- Ability to forecast present and future capital needs.
- Ability to continuously identify funding sources.
- Ability to influence Texas legislative transportation activities in coordination with Texas Department of Transportation.
- Ability to manage multiple projects to successful completion.

Salary is commensurate with experience and does not offer benefits. Position is a hybrid/remote position reporting to the Gulf Coast Rail District Chairperson and Board of Directors.

No inquiries please. A letter of interest, resume or CV , and a bio should be sent to the following email address: lisa.patke@gcrd.net.

The Board of Directors anticipates selection process to continue through the fall of 2025 with hiring to be effective in January 2026.