

NEW YORK CITY

MAYOR'S OFFICE OF LONG-TERM PLANNING AND SUSTAINABILITY

Position description: Green Code Energy Consultant

Buildings have a major impact on almost every aspect of New York City's environment. 75% of the City's greenhouse gas emissions come from energy used in buildings; 85% of potable water is used in buildings; and over 50% of the city's solid waste is construction debris. Codes and rules represent the broadest and most cost-effective strategy to bring the benefits of common sense green building practices to all, while creating citywide impacts. Consequently, PlaNYC, New York City's comprehensive plan for the sustainable growth through 2030, contains a critical initiative to "green" the city's codes and regulations relating to buildings – a project which is well underway.

In July of 2008, Mayor Bloomberg and Speaker Quinn asked Urban Green to convene New York City's experts to make proposals on how to green the city's codes, and in February of 2010, the Green Codes Task Force delivered a report containing 111 proposals for specific changes to the City's codes and rules. This represents the most sophisticated and comprehensive set of green code proposals developed by any American municipality, and the adoption of these proposals can have significant beneficial impacts across a wide variety of areas including water consumption, energy use and carbon, adaptation to climate change, and health and toxicity. As of April 2011, 23 of the proposals have been incorporated into the city's codes, rules, or practices. For the full text of the proposals, along with the Executive Summary and cost analysis, go to: <http://www.urbangreencouncil.org/greencodes/>

The Task Force presented the City with well-researched and well-documented proposals, but still more research and refinement is required before they can be incorporated into the city's laws and rules, and not all of them will make the cut. The Office of Long-Term Planning and Sustainability held a series of meetings with industry representatives and city agencies in which every proposal was reviewed. The questions from the industry and the agencies concerning technical and financial feasibility need to be further researched, and refinements to the proposals need to be developed that address the problematical issues. In the end, it is expected that most of the proposals will be found to be viable and beneficial to the city when appropriately amended.

Over 50 of the Task Force proposals address energy consumption, and they are divided into three topic areas. The first group of proposals, "Fundamentals", addresses passive strategies such as better thermal envelopes and shading. The second, "Operations and Maintenance", addresses how buildings are run. And the third, "Energy Efficiency" address the efficiency of the mechanical and lighting systems that are installed.

The Green Code Energy Consultant will work with the Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability and other City agencies to research and refine the code proposals that relate to energy.

Responsibilities:

Under the direction of the Senior Policy Advisor on Buildings and Energy, the Green Code Energy Consultant will perform the following functions:

- Research industry and City agency concerns and develop proposals to address those issues, including financial and technical questions
- Draft proposed code and regulatory language in concert with relevant city agencies
- Communicate with industry and City agencies as to the progress of the code work
- Convene stakeholder and/or interagency working groups, as required, to develop consensus solutions
- Document the reasons for revisions to the initial Green Codes Task Force proposals
- Work with state and national agencies and groups, such as DOE or the Institute for Market Transformation, to align the City's efforts with state, federal, or other national standards or resources

It is expected that 18 to 24 of the proposals will be refined during the consultancy period.

Qualifications:

Applicants must have a strong background in building science and mechanical engineering, including both new and existing buildings; knowledge of and familiarity with building and energy codes and green building rating systems; and strong research, writing, and communications skills. Seven years relevant working experience plus a degree in engineering are required. Experience on committees working on the development of codes, standards, and/ or green building rating systems is a plus.

To apply:

To submit for this position, email a resume and a brief cover letter with the job title to: planycjobs@cityhall.nyc.gov

This is a grant-funded position being administered through the Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City. The period of work is for 18 months, beginning as soon as the position can be filled. The total funding is \$75,000, so the position is viewed as a half-time position. It is expected that the consultant will be located in the Mayor's Office on a half-time basis. The consultant could be an individual or a member of a firm, seconded to work on this project.

The Mayor's Fund to Advance New York City is an Equal Opportunity Employer.