

# Senior Planner

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## **MCKENNA**

Join the talented team at McKenna, recently named one of Crain's Detroit Business' 2024 Best Places to Work in Southeast Michigan! McKenna's planning, design, and building professionals help municipal leaders develop and maintain communities for real life. From downtowns, neighborhood parks, and storefronts, to parking spots, coffee shops, and farmers' markets, we want your community to thrive. McKenna provides planning, zoning, building, landscape architecture, community and economic development, and urban design assistance to cities, villages, townships, counties, and regional agencies, as well as select private clients, based on skilled and effective public engagement.

## **SENIOR PLANNER**

McKenna's Senior Planners are passionate, talented, and creative professionals who want to make a difference and see their work efforts result in tangible, inspirational outcomes. Our work is purposeful and impacts people by influencing the state of the environment; ultimately, we take pride in helping to improve quality of life in our great Midwestern communities. McKenna's team members enjoy the benefits of our practice, from the diversity of projects in a diverse range of communities, to our fast-paced, creative, and collaborative team culture.

## **MCKENNA TEAM**

McKenna team members inspire those around them by displaying their positive individual approaches to solving difficult problems. Our Senior Planners work with Principal Planners and Firm Leadership in producing creative work products of the highest technical and graphic excellence and are responsible for demonstrating continuous professional development. McKenna Senior Planners are given responsibility as Project Managers for some projects, while acting in a support role for others.

## **POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES**

The Senior Planner is committed to providing on-time, on-budget planning and design work that is of the highest technical and creative quality. This position supports new and ongoing business in southeastern and western Michigan. Accordingly, candidates will work a hybrid schedule out of either our Northville or Grand Rapids office.

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Serve on a multitude of projects, helping to deliver creative solutions to our clients throughout the Midwest, primarily local units of government. Projects range from providing ongoing and continuing service in the areas of zoning, form-based coding, master planning, economic development, and placemaking, to special projects in planning, design, economic development, transportation, etc.
- Work on harmonious teams of other planners and designers, mapping specialists, graphic designers, and administrative staff
- Assist Principal Planners and Firm Leaders in preparing for and delivering public presentations and facilitating public meetings, including in front of municipal boards and commissions, concerned and engage stakeholder groups, and professional peer organizations
- Deliver graphically rich work products, regardless of individual graphic skills (i.e., work with team).
- Build relationships with current and future McKenna clients to increase awareness of McKenna
- Support night meetings as needed as it relates to planning, development, and zoning activities within client communities

## PERFORMANCE STANDARDS

Members of McKenna’s professional planning and design team are evaluated on specific performance standards, as follows:

1. Ability to effectively collaborate with clients and other McKenna professionals
2. Capability to multi-task and set priorities
3. Work Habits
4. Initiative
5. Billable Rate Achievement
6. Profitability
7. Achievement of key measurable “vital signs”:
  - a. Client Satisfaction
  - b. Career Development
  - c. Giving Back
  - d. Innovation
  - e. New Work
  - f. Productivity
  - g. Project Manager Billings
  - h. Project Variance

## REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

The successful Senior Planner will possess the following knowledge and skills:

1. A master’s degree in urban planning, Urban Design, Architecture, Landscape Architecture, or related field or equivalent experience
2. Three (3) to five (5) years of experience in municipal consulting or compelling and directly relatable experience planning for a municipal government or private-sector organization
3. Experience in public engagement and excellent public speaking skills
4. Advanced knowledge of zoning
5. Ability to multi-task in ever changing, client-focused environment
6. AICP, NCI and/or other complimentary professional certifications a plus
7. Ability to respectfully function as a productive and enthusiastic member of a team, under the direction of McKenna’s Leadership Team, Project Directors, and Project Managers
8. Superior communication skills supported by interpersonal connections, speaking, and writing.
9. Proficiency and experience in utilizing Microsoft Office Apps and TEAMS

## HOW TO APPLY

To apply for this position, send your resume in confidence with general salary expectations to the attention of Human Resources at [hr@mcka.com](mailto:hr@mcka.com). Please specify the location to which you are applying and where you saw this posting.

McKenna is an Equal Opportunity Employer and celebrates diversity, equity and inclusion and strives to create a dignified work environment where team members can thrive. Candidates with non-traditional backgrounds and transferable experience are encouraged to apply.