



CITY OF AVALON

MARCH 2015
FLSA: EXEMPT

FINANCE DIRECTOR

DEFINITION

Under administrative direction, plans, organizes, manages, and provides administrative direction and oversight to personnel in the functions and activities of the Finance Department, including finance, treasury, accounting, purchasing, business licenses, and transient occupancy tax collection; directs and administers the fiscal operations and activities of the City, which include budgeting, investments, financial transaction processing, record-keeping and reporting, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, and business licensing; coordinates assigned activities with other City departments, officials, outside agencies, and the public; fosters cooperative working relationships among City departments and with intergovernmental and regulatory agencies and various public and private groups; provides highly responsible and complex professional assistance to the City Manager in areas of expertise; and performs related work as required.

SUPERVISION RECEIVED AND EXERCISED

Receives administrative direction from the City Manager. The work provides for a wide variety of independent decision-making and judgment, within legal and general policy and regulatory guidelines. Exercises general direction and supervision over management, supervisory, professional, technical, and administrative support staff through subordinate levels of supervision.

CLASS CHARACTERISTICS

This is a Department Director classification that serves as a member of the executive management team and oversees, directs, and participates in all activities of the Finance Department, including short- and long-term planning, development and administration of departmental policies, procedures, and services. This class provides assistance to the City Manager in a variety of administrative, coordinative, analytical, and liaison capacities. Successful performance of the work requires knowledge of public policy and municipal functions and activities, including the role of an elected City Council and the ability to develop, oversee, and implement projects and programs in a variety of areas. Responsibilities include coordinating the activities of the department with those of other departments and outside agencies and managing and overseeing the complex and varied functions of the department. The incumbent is accountable for accomplishing departmental planning and operational goals and objectives and for furthering City goals and objectives within general policy guidelines.

EXAMPLES OF TYPICAL JOB FUNCTIONS (Illustrative Only)

Management reserves the right to add, modify, change, or rescind the work assignments of different positions and to make reasonable accommodations so that qualified employees can perform the essential functions of the job.



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- Assumes full management responsibility for all Finance Department programs, services, and activities, including finance, treasury, accounting, purchasing, business licenses, and transient occupancy tax collection activities.
- Develops, directs, and coordinates the implementation of goals, objectives, policies, procedures, and work standards for the department; establishes, within City policy, appropriate budget, service, and staffing levels.
- Manages and participates in the development and administration of the department's annual budget; directs the forecast of additional funds needed for staffing, equipment, materials, and supplies; directs the monitoring of and approves expenditures; directs and implements adjustments as necessary.
- Selects, trains, motivates, and directs department personnel; evaluates and reviews work for acceptability and conformance with department standards, including program and project priorities and performance evaluations; works with employees on performance issues; implements discipline and termination procedures; responds to staff questions and concerns.
- Contributes to the overall quality of the department's service by developing, reviewing, and implementing policies and procedures to meet legal requirements and City needs; continuously monitors and evaluates the efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery methods and procedures; assesses and monitors the distribution of work, support systems, and internal reporting relationships; identifies opportunities for improvement; directs the implementation of change.
- Coordinates the development and administration of the entire City's annual budget; provides for financial forecasting and planning; tracks the adopted budget and prepares periodic budget reviews for submission to City departments.
- Establishes the City's central budgeting, accounting, and financial reporting practices; evaluates accounting procedures and establishes internal financial controls; ensures compliance with Federal, State, and local government accounting and financial reporting standards and controls.
- Manages the City's investment portfolio and banking relationships; ensures that investments meet the City's policy guidelines and that adequate cash is available to meet obligations; prepares periodic reports regarding investments to the City Council; oversees the development and update of the Statement of Investment Policy.
- Oversees all activities related to the City's accounting function, including maintaining the chart of accounts, opening and closing of fund balances in the financial management software, financial transaction processing, record keeping and reporting, payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable, business licensing, processing and issuance of checks and warrants, cash receipts, and the electronic accounting system.
- Coordinates the issuance and administration of debt issues; coordinates with the City Manager, appropriate department, bond attorney, financial advisor, and underwriter on new or refunding issues; provides public financial information of debt to rating agencies, brokers, news media, bond holders, and other interested parties.
- Oversees and coordinates rate analysis for Prop. 218 funds and property tax assessments; oversees the collection of taxes, assessments, license fees, and other revenues for the City.
- Oversees the development of consultant requests for proposals for professional services and the advertising and bid processes; evaluates proposals and recommends project award; coordinates with legal counsel to determine City needs and requirements for contractual services; negotiates contracts and agreements and administers same after award.
- Represents the department to other City departments, elected officials, and outside agencies; explains and interprets departmental programs, policies, and activities; negotiates and resolves significant and controversial issues.



- Coordinates the City's Successor Agency's and Housing Authority's financial statements and continuing disclosures.
- Conducts a variety of departmental organizational and operational studies and investigations; recommends modifications to programs, policies, and procedures as appropriate.
- Prepares and presents a variety of financial reports, including opening and closing of bank/investment accounts to support the City's Treasury function, monthly statements of receipts and disbursements; ensures that City financial statements are published in accordance with provisions 40804 and 40805 of the Government Code of California.
- Participates in and makes presentations to the City Council and a wide variety of committees, boards, and commissions; performs financial review of matters pertaining to the various committees, such as determining appropriate rates of City services.
- Attends and participates in professional group meetings; stays abreast of new trends, innovations, and technologies in the field of finance and other services as they relate to the area of assignment, including enterprise financial management systems.
- Maintains and directs the maintenance of working and official departmental files, including insurance policies and financial records.
- Monitors changes in laws, regulations, and technology that may affect City or departmental operations; implements policy and procedural changes as required.
- Prepares, reviews, and presents staff reports, various management and information updates, and reports on special projects as assigned by the City Manager.
- Responds to difficult and sensitive public inquiries and complaints and assists with resolutions and alternative recommendations.
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS

Knowledge of:

- Administrative principles and practices, including goal setting, program development, implementation, and evaluation, and supervision of staff, either directly or through subordinate levels of supervision.
- Public agency budget development, contract administration, City-wide administrative practices, and general principles of risk management related to the functions of the assigned area.
- Organizational and management practices as applied to the analysis and evaluation of projects, programs, policies, procedures, and operational needs; principles and practices of municipal government administration.
- Principles and practices of governmental accounting, public finance administration and budgeting, auditing, and reconciliation; municipal taxation and revenue management.
- Applicable Federal, State, and local laws, regulatory codes, ordinances, and procedures relevant to assigned area of responsibility.
- Principles and practices of employee supervision, including work planning, assignment, review and evaluation, and the training of staff in work procedures.
- Methods and techniques for the development of presentations, contract negotiations, business correspondence, and information distribution; research and reporting methods, techniques, and procedures.
- Record keeping principles and procedures.
- Modern office practices, methods, and computer equipment and computer applications.



- English usage, grammar, spelling, vocabulary, and punctuation.
- Techniques for effectively representing the City in contacts with governmental agencies, community groups, and various business, professional, educational, regulatory, and legislative organizations.
- Techniques for providing a high level of customer service by effectively dealing with the public, vendors, contractors, and City staff.

Ability to:

- Develop and implement goals, objectives, policies, procedures, work standards, and internal controls for the department and assigned program areas.
- Provide administrative and professional leadership and direction for the department and the City.
- Prepare and administer large and complex budgets; allocate limited resources in a cost effective manner.
- Interpret, apply, explain, and ensure compliance with Federal, State, and local policies, procedures, laws, and regulations.
- Plan, organize, direct, and coordinate the work of management, supervisory, professional, and technical personnel; delegate authority and responsibility.
- Select, train, motivate, and evaluate the work of staff and train staff in work procedures.
- Research, analyze, and evaluate new service delivery methods, procedures, and techniques.
- Effectively administer special projects with contractual agreements and ensure compliance with stipulations; effectively administer a variety of finance programs and administrative activities.
- Conduct effective negotiations and effectively represent the City and the department in meetings with governmental agencies, contractors, vendors, and various businesses, professional, regulatory, and legislative organizations.
- Prepare clear and concise reports, correspondence, policies, procedures, and other written materials.
- Conduct complex research projects, evaluate alternatives, make sound recommendations, and prepare effective technical staff reports.
- Establish and maintain a variety of filing, record-keeping, and tracking systems.
- Organize and prioritize a variety of projects and multiple tasks in an effective and timely manner; organize own work, set priorities, and meet critical time deadlines.
- Operate modern office equipment including computer equipment and specialized software applications programs.
- Use English effectively to communicate in person, over the telephone, and in writing.
- Use tact, initiative, prudence, and independent judgment within general policy, procedural, and legal guidelines.
- Establish, maintain, and foster positive and effective working relationships with those contacted in the course of work.

Education and Experience:

Any combination of training and experience that would provide the required knowledge, skills, and abilities is qualifying. A typical way to obtain the required qualifications would be:

Graduation from an accredited four-year college or university with major coursework in finance, accounting, economics, business or public administration, or a related field and seven (7) years of progressive management and/or administrative experience in municipal finance and accounting, including at least five (5) years of supervisory experience at a mid-management level.



Licenses and Certifications:

- Possession of, or ability to obtain, a valid California Driver's License by time of appointment.
- Certification as a Certified Public Accountant in the State of California is desirable.

PHYSICAL DEMANDS

Must possess mobility to work in a standard office setting and use standard office equipment, including a computer, to operate a motor vehicle, and to visit various City and meeting sites; vision to read printed materials and a computer screen; and hearing and speech to communicate in person, before groups, and over the telephone. This is primarily a sedentary office classification although standing and walking between work areas may be required. Finger dexterity is needed to access, enter, and retrieve data using a computer keyboard or calculator and to operate standard office equipment. Positions in this classification occasionally bend, stoop, kneel, reach, push, and pull drawers open and closed to retrieve and file information. Employees must possess the ability to lift, carry, push, and pull materials and objects weighing up to 25 pounds.

ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

Employees work in an office environment with moderate noise levels, controlled temperature conditions, and no direct exposure to hazardous physical substances. Employees may interact with upset staff and/or public and private representatives in interpreting and enforcing departmental policies and procedures.