



Position: Construction and Field Specialist (1 Year Contract Position)

Open to: Landscape architects or Architects

Term: January 01 2017 - December 31 2017

Office Location: Downtown Los Angeles, CA

Project Location: North Shore, Eastern Coachella Valley, CA

Organization: Kounkuey Design Initiative (KDI)

Closing date: When Filled

About KDI:

KOUNKUEY DESIGN INITIATIVE (KDI) is an award-winning non-profit design and community development organization that partners with underserved communities in the US, Africa, and Latin America to physically transform communities and in the process, improve environmental, economic, and social quality of life. The architects, urban planners, community organizers, and engineers that make up our team believe participatory design and long-term investment are key to sustainable development. Working collaboratively with communities, we help residents identify priority needs and create and implement design-based solutions that meet those needs. KDI is headquartered in Los Angeles and has a thriving office in Nairobi, Kenya. For more information about the organization, please visit www.kounkuey.org.

Position Summary:

KDI is currently seeking an architect or landscape architect with ***construction administration experience for a 1 year contract position*** to oversee the construction of a 5 acre park in the Coachella Valley beginning in January of 2017.

This is a fantastic opportunity for the applicant to collaborate with the project design team led by KDI, Dudek the construction manager, and the owner, Desert Recreation District. The applicant will serve as the main point of contact between the design consultants and the construction management project manager. The applicant's main responsibility will be ensuring the highest quality of construction and conformance to the contract documents.

Job Responsibilities:

- Attend weekly OAC site meetings in North Shore and/or conference calls.
- Manage projects using a variety of project management tools including spreadsheets, timelines, work plans, databases, and budgets.
- Schedule meetings, create agendas, take notes of meeting with contractors.

- Respond to RFI's, Submittals.
- Review shop drawings.
- Review and check for compliance with contract documents including drawings and specifications.

Qualifications:

- 3+ years of direct construction administration experience in the United States
- AutoCAD, MS Office, Adobe Creative Suite.
- Weekly travel to the Coachella Valley.
- Experience working with California public agencies, a plus
- Bilingual (Spanish-English), a plus

The project: *Nuestro Lugar, North Shore, CA*

The candidate's initial responsibility will be overseeing the construction of a 5 acre park in the rural desert community of North Shore, an unincorporated community in Riverside County's Eastern Coachella Valley (ECV), about 2.5 hours east of Los Angeles. Perched on the edge of the Salton Sea, North Shore was once a storied tourist destination for Angelenos but is now a near barren stretch of land. The community is 90% Latino and most are seasonal workers that support the lucrative Coachella agricultural and tourist economies. Yet these residents face poor access to schools, healthcare, and employment (the unemployment rate is currently 23.9% in North Shore) and endure dangerous exposure to pesticides and air pollution, water contamination, and inadequate housing. Building public spaces that directly address these core concerns can greatly increase the quality of life in North Shore and other Eastern Coachella Valley communities.

Designed through a continuous participatory process, all park components were selected by residents. Park features include a shaded pavilion, a restroom/bike shop building, soccer field, skate plaza, sport court, playground, walking path, and native plantings. The project goals are to maximize resident desire, create a harmonious design between the natural desert landscape and the designed park elements, and to showcase innovative ways to design for water management, habitat enhancement, and climate control in the unique Salton Sea ecosystem.

Compensation:

The Field and Construction Specialist position is a 1 Year contract position. Salary is based on qualifications and experience and ranges from \$65,000-\$70,000.

Application Procedure:

Interested parties should submit (1) a cover letter that includes relevant experience, achievements, salary history, and 3-5 professional references; (2) resume; (3) portfolio that includes at least 2 completed projects. Please clearly state the size, budget and location of project, your role and the aspects where you had a significant role in project progress. Documentation should include design drawings, construction photos, and completed work with a focus on details (PDF preferred):

Please send electronic copies ONLY:

Jennifer Toy
 Design Director, KDI
jen@kounkuey.org

All qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to their race, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, age, disability, marital status or medical condition.