



THE CITY OF
PLANT CITY, FLORIDA

invites your interest in the positions of
City Engineer &
Assistant City Engineer

THE COMMUNITY

HISTORY

Plant City has a rich history dating back to the mid-1800s when settlers first began to populate Florida. Plant City was incorporated in 1885. Plant City derives its name not from the surrounding agricultural industry which greatly added to the City's growth, but from Henry Bradley Plant.

Plant City's original name was Ichepucksassa after the Indian village that once occupied this territory. So much confusion was created with the spelling and pronunciation that the Irish postmaster renamed the village Cork, after his home city. In 1884, Henry B. Plant extended the South Florida Railroad into the town and one year later, when the town was incorporated, it was once again renamed – this time in honor of Henry B. Plant.

Originally Plant City was a large cotton center. Changing its major crop to strawberries has brought it national recognition. Having been dubbed the Winter Strawberry Capital of the World, today, over three-quarters of the nation's midwinter strawberries come from Plant City. At the Florida Strawberry Festival, held each winter, you can taste some of the finest shortcake, pie, and cobblers made from the freshest strawberries in the land.



Plant City's current population of slightly over 35,000 reside in a geographic area of about 28 square miles. The population has doubled since the early 1980s and is projected to exceed 70,000 by 2040. In this regard, two new large residential developments are expected to begin work in 2016. Both are located within the Northeast Master Plan area, the first being North Park Isles, which is 397± acres and is approved for almost 1,000 units, while Varrea is 1008± acres and is approved for over 2,600 units. Varrea will be Plant City's first Traditional Neighborhood Development.

INFRASTRUCTURE

Plant City enjoys the benefits of a strategic location and excellent transportation connections. It is located in eastern Hillsborough County (pop. 1.3 million) partway between

Tampa and Lakeland. US 92; state roads 39, 60, and 574; and Interstate-4 (I-4) all traverse Plant City, making the trip to Tampa about 30 minutes and rendering Orlando to the east and the Gulf beaches to the west only about an hour's drive away.

In addition to the highway system, Plant City is serviced by railroad, with both a CSX north-south line and a CSX east-west line. The Plant City Airport has a 3,950 foot runway with beacon, lighted windsock, and pilot instrument approach, and provides service and maintenance for private plane owners. In combination, these transportation assets not only add convenience and accessibility for residents, but also have significant economic development value which has not yet been fully tapped.



The City owns and operates its own water, wastewater, and solid waste systems. Four deep wells supply the water, while wastewater is treated at the City's Water Reclamation Facility, with a capacity of 10 MGD, estimated to accommodate growth through 2025.



QUALITY OF LIFE

Whether it's community amenities, wholesome family-oriented activities, or authentically friendly and welcoming people, Plant City is abundantly blessed with quality of life attributes.

- Municipal library with over 120,000 items

- 158 acres of public passive and active parks playgrounds, athletic fields, and courts
- 6,700-seat softball stadium, that is home to the International Softball Federation
- Six miles of recreational trails
- A regional campus of Hillsborough Community College
- Adult softball for men and women (including a Halloween All-Night Women's Softball Tourney)
- Two adult recreation centers with a wide variety of activities



- Extensive city-sponsored youth athletics and activities program that includes basketball; soccer; tennis; youth flag football; developmental golf; and punt, pass & kick
- Extensive private-public partnership supported youth athletics, including Plant City Colts Football/Cheerleading, Plant City Futbol Club Lancers Competitive Soccer, Plant City Futbol Club Los Toros Competitive Soccer, and Liga Futbol Plant City
- Monthly Strawberry Classic Car Show



- Plant City Entertainment, a community theatre
- Plant City Farmer's Market
- Yearly Planes, Trains, & Automobiles
- Yearly Romp in the Swamp, including 5K and Kids' activities
- Yearly Pig Jam - BBQ Contest

- Monthly Bike Fest

As can be seen from this PARTIAL list of community activities, there is little time for individuals and families to sit idle – unless, of course, they want to. Many of these activities occur in the lovely preserved downtown, equally valued by residents as a place to shop and stroll. So large that it stands totally on its own is the yearly Strawberry festival that includes nationally prominent entertainers and last year drew over 600,000 visitors.



Of course, amenities and activities are only part of what makes a place a good one to live and have a family. Then, there are the people. Suffice it to say that if you talk to those who were born here or those who came later in life, they all seem to have a consistent message: Plant City is a place where people care about each other, where volunteerism is rampant, where friendships are close-knit and long-lasting, and where newcomers are welcomed with open arms. While this may seem too good to be true, just pick a few employees at random and ask them – the message will be the same.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The City of Plant City operates with a Commission-Manager form of government. The current City Manager is highly experienced and recently replaced the prior long-time City Manager. In fact, both the elected Commissioners and administrative leadership have enjoyed long tenures with the City, with most of the senior administrative staff having been with the City for over 20 years.



The City Commission enjoys the reputation of being very stable, progressive in its thinking, and supportive of staff. The Commission embodies the City's motto of "embracing the future while preserving the past."

While the City is experiencing some of the same financial issues faced by other municipalities across the country, it is engaged in exploring strategic initiatives to move toward a strong financial position.

THE POSITIONS

The City of Plant City is seeking qualified candidates to fill two vacant positions: (1) City Engineer, and (2) Assistant City Engineer. Applicants may qualify by verifying highly relevant experience in either the public or private sector.

ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

The City's Engineering Department has responsibility for:

- Coordination of the City's CIP
- Design and Construction management
- Development Review Process
- Stormwater Management
- Streets
- Traffic

CITY ENGINEER MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- Must have or be eligible for Florida PE
- At least 5 years of highly relevant experience
- Must have experience with stormwater
- Must have experience with SWFWMD or similar agency
- Must have experience with coordination of CIP
- Must have experience with the development review process
- Must have project management experience
- Must have design and construction management experience

CITY ENGINEER DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Florida experience highly preferred
- Streets experience
- Traffic experience
- Openness to the public
- Openness to staff
- Customer service orientation
- Team player
- Supportive of staff
- Commitment to developing staff
- Public speaking skills

ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

- At least 2 years of highly relevant experience
- Must have strong experience with at least two of the following:

- stormwater
- SWFWMD or similar agency
- coordination of CIP
- development review process
- project management
- design and construction management
- streets experience
- traffic experience

ASSISTANT CITY ENGINEER DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

- Possession of or eligibility for Florida PE highly desirable
- Florida experience highly preferred
- Building Department experience
- Openness to the public
- Openness to staff
- Customer service orientation
- Team player
- Supportive of staff
- Commitment to developing staff
- Public speaking skills

COMPENSATION

The starting salary for the City Engineer will be between \$90,000 and \$100,000, DOQ. For the Assistant City Engineer, the starting salary will be between \$70,000 and \$85,000, DOQ. Benefits are excellent, including an employee self-directed pension plan, generous vacation and sick leave allowances, and cafeteria-style health care options.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Under Florida law, all applications are a public record once submitted. As a practical matter, the media generally does not show interest in department or division level positions.

HOW TO APPLY

E-mail your cover letter and resume to Recruit24@cb-asso.com by February 6, 2015. Copy the e-mail to TFreijo@cb-asso.com for quick review. Faxed and mailed resumes will not be considered. Questions should be directed to Tom D. Freijo, Ph.D. of Colin Baenziger & Associates at (863) 289-0665.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

The City of Plant City is an Equal Opportunity Employer and strongly encourages minorities and women to apply. It is also a drug-free workplace. A Veteran's preference will be awarded per Florida Law.