

January 29, 2024

The Honorable City Council
c/o Office of the City Clerk
Room 395, City Hall
Mail Stop 160

Honorable Members:

Subject: Approval of Salary Setting for Proposed New Duties Description Record for Senior Architect "A" for the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power

This letter recommends the City Council approve the salary setting for the proposed new Los Angeles Department of Water and Power (LADWP) Duties Description Record (DDR) 95-79271 for Senior Architect (SA) "A" (Class Code 7927). The proposed DDR is attached for your review. This approval is consistent with the bargaining instructions received and salary setting request approved by the Executive Employee Relations Committee (EERC) at its meeting on October 13, 2023.

The SA job classification is currently represented by the DWP Management Employees Association (MEA). LADWP has discussed the proposed salary for SA "A" with MEA and does not anticipate any objections from labor regarding the proposed salary.

Background

Currently, LADWP employs the SA job classification, which only has one (1) DDR level. The existing DDR is responsible for the supervision of architectural and engineering staff engaged in the preparation of architectural designs, engineering specifications, cost estimates, and technical and administrative reports regarding LADWP facilities.

Currently, LADWP does not have a high-level architect manager responsible for executing multiple large projects. The proposed SA "A" DDR will bridge the gap between the current SA and the Capital Facilities Construction (CFC) Division Director. As the LADWP General Manager and the Board of Water and Power Commissioners (Board) continue their support for expanding the Department to meet future sustainability goals, infrastructure may either need to be built and/or renovated. This may include reengineering and reconstructing the power distribution system, creating additional transmission capacity for renewable energy corridors, and/or replacing water trunk lines. Duties may also include assisting with Operation NEXT and its goal to diversify the City of Los Angeles's water supply portfolio by developing and maximizing Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant's effluent as a sustainable local water supply.

The SA "A" position in LADWP would serve as the head architect of the CFC group and be responsible for overseeing large budget programs and initiatives involving multiple projects; for which current estimates approach, approximately \$2,000,000,000 over the next ten (10) years. The SA "A" would also be responsible for working with administrative staff on complex budget issues involving funding for design and construction management programs across the Water, Power, and Joint Systems.

The position would be tasked with managing a comprehensive design and construction management program for new LADWP facilities, and renovations and refurbishments for existing ones. The position would be responsible for managing up to twenty (20) staff members engaged in the development of studies, designs, details, specifications, and estimates of new and/or existing Department buildings and related equipment; this includes the review and approval of architectural plans and the management of large benches of professional and open bid construction contracts. The SA "A" would also serve as an advisor to executive management and/or the Board when planning building projects.

Salary Proposal

The proposed SA "A" salary, set at Salary Range 9237, is 15 percent above the existing SA DDR. The salary reflects the increase in staffing oversight, additional responsibilities, and the necessity to execute programs critical to meeting Department goals. The proposed new DDR and salary will become effective upon final City Council approval.

Classification / DDR	Current		Proposed		Salary Range
	Monthly Salary*	Annual Salary*	Monthly Salary*	Annual Salary*	
Senior Architect "A" 95-79271	N/A	N/A	\$19,968.24	\$239,618.88	9237
Senior Architect "B" 95-79270	\$17,363.46	\$208,361.52	N/A	N/A	8032

Note: Salaries are depicted at the top salary step (Step 5) of the MEA MOU for the Cost of Living Adjustment, effective 10/1/2023.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact to the City's General Fund, as all funds are budgeted under LADWP. LADWP expects to budget funds to cover one (1) position.

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Recommendation

LADWP respectfully requests approval from the City Council relative to the proposed salary summarized above.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Mr. Thomas Simonovski, Director of Labor Relations, at (213) 367-1951.

Sincerely,



Martin L. Adams
General Manager and Chief Engineer

TS:mc/nd
Attachment

c: Mr. Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer
Mr. Paul A. Girard, Employee Relations Chief
Ms. Deitra O. Barnett
Mr. Thomas Simonovski