

**COMPETENCY MODEL FOR
CHIEF HARBOR ENGINEER
CLASS CODE 9286**

The following competencies have been identified as those that best separate superior from satisfactory job performance in the class of **CHIEF HARBOR ENGINEER**. (Numbers refers to the order of competencies in the Competency Bank.)

- 17. Innovation
- 20. Job Knowledge
- 28. Supervision
- 31. Results Orientation
- 40. Credibility
- 45. Oral Communication
- 47. Written Communication
- 52. Workforce Management Probation.
- 59. Strategic Planning

On the following pages are descriptions of each competency, including a definition, the level of the competency required for the class (*italicized*, **bolded**, and underlined), examples of behavioral indicators, and satisfactory and superior performance levels.

17. INNOVATION – Seeks out and/or develops drastically different work products or ways of doing work in order to improve services and/or increase productivity.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Identify different means of doing work or suggest changes in work product that significantly improve productivity, work product, or service provided.
- Level 2: Re-engineer processes and practices to increase efficiency and/or productivity and/or to improve work product or service.**
- Level 3: Re-conceptualize purpose of function and/or how to achieve it in a way that improves efficiency and effectiveness.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Notes inefficiencies/unnecessary steps in work processes for elimination.
- Suggests different, more expedient means of doing work.
- Conducts thorough review of work practices to identify possible points of increased efficiency in work flow and/or product/service quality.
- Identifies opportunities to increase breadth or depth of impact.
- Determines/implements novel means of accomplishing work.
- Reconfigures existing resources to improve work flow, work product, or service.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Maintains constant awareness of ways to improve quantity and quality of work. Identifies and is willing to suggest changes no matter how radical a departure from current practice.

Superior

Deliberately seeks out or develops new and improved ways of doing work and/or alteration of/addition to current work product or service to vastly improve organizational performance and the "bottom line."

20. JOB KNOWLEDGE – Knows information required to perform a specific job. Includes both widely available courses of study (for example, chemistry, human resources management, graphic arts) and City-specific information (parking regulation and ticketing practices; purchasing procedures; provisions of the City Charter).

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Knowledge is concrete, factual, and/or procedural and may be defined by the organization. Situations in which it is applied are quite consistent.
- Level 2: Knowledge is substantive and may be defined by an external trade, field, or profession. Situations in which it is applied vary and, as such, require breadth and depth of understanding.**
- Level 3: Knowledge is abstract, conceptual, and/or complex and may be supported by a well-defined academic discipline or authoritative sources (e.g., laws, ordinances, government guidelines/regulations/codes). Situations in which it is applied may vary greatly or be novel.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Performs work correctly/avoids technical (job content related) errors.
- Answers technical questions about work accurately.
- Asks few technical questions about the performance of routine work activities.
- Offers advice (“coaching”) to new employees regarding their work.
- Develops training programs for other employees.
- Sought out as a source of information by others.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Sufficient job knowledge to perform work correctly independently. Answers technical questions about work correctly.

Superior

Expertise in technical job information sufficient to serve as a resource to others. May develop training manuals/ programs and/or give internal and/or external presentations related to work.

Job Knowledge Areas

1. Knowledge of engineering principles and practices as applied to the design, construction, and operation of a large harbor and marine terminal facility sufficient to evaluate technical proposals in relation to soundness of engineering features, economic feasibility, and conformance to Harbor Department policies and accepted practices in order to develop the port's infrastructure to meet the needs of stakeholders and future growth.
2. Knowledge of construction materials and practices sufficient to direct the preparation of engineering plans and specifications.
3. Knowledge of sources of engineering information as related to harbor and marine terminal facilities
4. Knowledge of Engineering Standards and Federal, State, and City laws and regulations applicable to the design, construction, and operating functions of the Harbor Department sufficient to ensure infrastructure meets all applicable requirements.
5. Knowledge of Federal, State, and City legal requirements for contracts, leases, and permits applicable to the Harbor Department activities sufficient to provide direction to subordinates.
6. Knowledge of safety principles and practices related to harbor infrastructure and facilities sufficient to ensure the structural safety to those working at or visiting harbor department facilities, staff, tenants, and the public in large harbor and marine terminal facilities.

Commented [1]: Add more detail, is this Cal/OSHA and related to construction? Let's add examples.

Commented [2R1]: This is to ensure the building doesn't fall down and is safe to use at the harbor.

28. SUPERVISION – Ability to assume direct responsibility for all aspects of the performance of a work group, which requires knowledge and/or ability in the areas of:

- Planning and goal setting
- Creating a safe and positive work environment
- Establishing standards and training employees
- Motivating employees and teambuilding
- Performance Management (assigning, monitoring, facilitating, reviewing and evaluating work, and providing feedback)
- Supporting and developing employees through delegation and participation
- Taking disciplinary action including progressive discipline
- Provisions of employees' MOU's and handling grievances
- Legal requirements including EEO, ADA, FLSA, FMLA, and Workers' Compensation provisions
- Civil Service Commission Rules and Policies related to the management of employees
- Administrative Code provisions related to the management of employees
- Budget processes sufficient to request and justify expenditures in a correct and timely manner

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Supervises small workgroup of employees performing the same or highly related work.
- Level 2: Supervises a larger workgroup of employees performing various types of work.
- Level 3: Supervises employees including provision of coaching and advice to subordinate supervisors.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Plans, assigns, and monitors work progress.
- Trains employees to do work.
- Evaluates work and gives positive and negative feedback.
- Displays knowledge of legal requirements including applicable Federal and State laws, Administrative Code provisions, Civil Service Commission Rules and Policies, and MOU provisions.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Proficiency in supervision sufficient to supervise a workgroup in terms of task

orientation, interpersonal concerns, and personnel administration.

Superior

Proficiency in supervision sufficient to serve as a resource to others and/or

represent department position in a public forum.

31. RESULTS ORIENTATION – Maintains a focus on objectives to be achieved and acts accordingly to ensure their accomplishment.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Remain focused on the task at hand and its purpose. May alter activities if the same result will be achieved. Does not become distracted by extraneous information, events, or details.
- Level 2: Remain focused on the objectives to be achieved and take all reasonable actions necessary to achieve them. If initial activities to achieve objectives are unsuccessful, tries other approaches.**
- Level 3: Remain focused on outcome and not process, when possible, in the monitoring and evaluation of staff work. Encourage staff to maintain focus on the objectives of their work and not to be overly affected by nuisances or frustration.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Clearly understands the purpose/objectives of work assignments.
- Recognizes that there are typically many ways to achieve the same objective.
- Makes multiple attempts to achieve objectives when necessary.
- Does not become distracted by unimportant or irrelevant issues.
- Ignores distracters in order to maintain pursuit of the desired outcome.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Maintains a focus on desired outcomes and makes every reasonable attempt to achieve them. Always recognizes the purpose or objective of work activities.

Superior

Maintains a clear focus on desired results, and is persistent in attempts to achieve them. Insistent that all work activities lead to goal accomplishment; expresses dissatisfaction with activities that have no apparent impact.

40. CREDIBILITY – Is truthful and sincere; objectively and clearly provides all pertinent information rather than being vague, omitting negative information or only stating what listeners “want to hear.”

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Freely and openly share accurate job-related information with co-workers.
- Level 2: Provide complete, accurate information to other City employees and members of the public.**
- Level 3: Represent department to the Mayors’ Office, City Council, City Commissions, and/or department heads, and/or to external organizations, professional associations, and/or the media.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Admits mistakes.
- Information provided is consistent (not contradictory or stating different things to different people).
- Answers questions directly and thoroughly.
- Shares credit for achievements.
- Acts in the best interest of the organization, not self interest.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

“Tells the complete story” from the onset. Is forthcoming with full information when questioned. Statements are consistent. Readily admits mistakes and gives credit to others.

Superior

Information provided is complete and accurate, and includes any negative information or information contrary to self interest. Does not attempt to be vague or put a “spin” on negative information to make it appear more positive.

45. ORAL COMMUNICATION – Communicates orally in a clear, concise, and effective manner.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Exchange specific, job-related information orally with others in the immediate work environment or via telephone and/or radio.
- Level 2: Obtain/provide/present general and/or job-specific information orally to a variety of others in various situations.
- Level 3: Obtain/provide/present a diverse array of information orally at varying levels of complexity to a wide range of others across many different situations and circumstances.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Audience clearly understands the intended message.
- Rarely must repeat information in response to questions.
- Refrains from use of unnecessary words, phrases, or jargon.
- Provides a level of detail appropriate to the situation (avoids too much or too little detail).
- Speaks at a level appropriate to the audience in terms of terminology, sentence structure, and simplicity/complexity of ideas expressed.
- Uses words with precision (vocabulary) to convey exact information.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Speaks clearly and audibly, providing the appropriate information and level of detail. Typically conveys the message on the first attempt. Answers questions accurately and directly.

Superior

Speech is direct and to the point. Speaks convincingly and with authority when appropriate. Maintains sensitivity to the audience while providing thorough information with the appropriate level of detail through the use of precise language.

47. WRITTEN COMMUNICATION – Communicates effectively in writing.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Write notes/e-mails. Completes forms with some open-ended responses (sentences).
- Level 2: Write letters, articles/reports, and/or detailed descriptions of activities/occurrences.
- Level 3: Write lengthy reports, instruction manuals, in-depth analyses/ reviews of complex issues and/or articles for publication. Reviews the written work of others.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Writing includes the necessary information to convey the intended message.
- Sufficiently few errors in spelling, punctuation, grammar to not interfere with the intended message or distract the reader.
- Little editing or re-writing needed to produce a final product.
- Composes materials efficiently.
- Information is presented in a well organized manner.
- Tone and degree of formality are appropriate to the purpose and audience.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Writes material that clearly communicates the necessary information; needs little editing.

Superior

Precisely uses words and organizes information in a way that enhances presentation of the message. Virtually no editing needed.

52. WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT – Structures workgroups and their interrelationships in a way that facilitates accomplishment of organizational goals; attracts talent and places individuals in positions to maximize productivity and staff development. Ensures proper training is provided.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Ensure various workgroups are staffed sufficient to accomplish their respective missions and with complementary skills where appropriate.
- Level 2: Examine the structure of each workgroup to ensure optimal staffing, the interrelationships of workgroups to maximize coordination and efficiency, and the placement of individuals to optimally use or develop their capabilities; make adjustments as warranted.
- Level 3: Ensure that structure, staffing, interrelationships, and placement of individuals for productivity/development are optimal. Identify needed competencies and ensure well-qualified candidates are recruited. Identify problems with the operation and/or staff performance and determine a solution.**

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Considers the workforce and its operation as a whole.
- Recognizes the need to balance optimal placement of staff for the organization with individual developmental needs.
- Recognizes the tradeoffs of bringing in new staff versus developing existing staff.
- Re-assigns staff as warranted.
- Re-structures the organization as warranted.
- Addresses problem performers.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Ensures efficient operation of the organization and makes necessary adjustments. Balances productivity and staff development.

Superior

Redesigns organization as necessary to achieve maximum productivity and staff development. Balances bringing in new staff with developing current employee

59. STRATEGIC PLANNING – Establishes plans in a way that will achieve vision for the future.

Level of Competency Required by Job:

- Level 1: Recognizes that no work organization is static, so identifies how an improved organization would function and develops plans to create such an organization.
- Level 2: Considers factors in the external environment, best practices, and internal organizational factors to develop a vision for the future; identifies feasible changes/innovations in support of the vision.**
- Level 3: Considers social, economic, legal, and political trends and the “big picture” of the organization to establish a vision for its effective operation in the world of the future.

Examples of Behavioral Indicators:

- Establishes and keeps up-to-date a “strategic plan.”
- Articulates how current trends and anticipated future events are expected to impact the organization.
- Identifies actions the organization can take to accommodate or leverage trends and future events.
- Recognizes that evolution/change will occur, and without an attempt to manage it, that it is unlikely to be in the best interest of the organization.
- Accepts that even when many factors are unknown or their certainty is questionable, that which is known with any degree of certainty can be effectively used to formulate plans.

Performance Levels:

Satisfactory

Considers the future when establishing current day-to-day operational practices. Envisions an improved organization and identifies specific actions to help create it.

Superior

Understands that the larger environment in which the organization exists is influenced by and influences the organization. Notwithstanding uncertainties, formulates a vision and plans to achieve it.