

**CITY OF CLEVELAND
PROJECT MANAGER, NORTH COAST CONNECTOR**

MGT

CITY OF CLEVELAND PROJECT MANAGER, NORTH COAST CONNECTOR



Cleveland, OH (372,624) seeks an experienced, decisive, and dynamic Project Manager to oversee the North Coast Connector project to completion. The successful candidate will manage all aspects of the project, including coordination among City departments, consultants, and federal and state agencies. This senior leadership role will involve ensuring adherence to scope, schedule, and budget while maintaining compliance with federal, state, and local funding requirements. This position is a Grant Funded position and will report directly to the City's Chief Operating Officer.

Apply online at www.GovHRjobs.com with a resume, cover letter and contact information for five professional references. This position is open until filled with first reading on June 23, 2025. Confidential inquiries may be directed to the City's recruiter: Maureen Barry, Senior Consultant, MGT, at 847-380-3240, x116.

More information about the City of Cleveland can be found at: clevelandohio.gov.



THE CITY

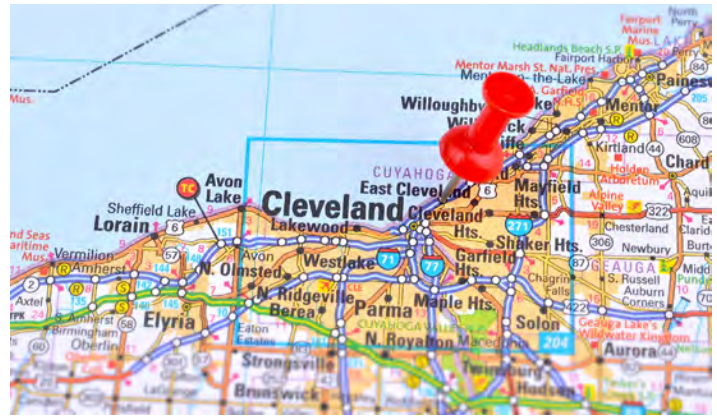
The [City of Cleveland, Ohio](#) (population 372,624), is the 18th largest city in the United States. It is the birthplace of the Environmental Protection Agency and the healthcare capital of the world. Top attractions include Rock & Roll Hall of Fame Museum, Rockefeller Park, West Side Market and Cleveland Metroparks Zoo. Cleveland, a dynamic and vibrant city located in northeast Ohio, offers abundant amenities in the metro area, including three major professional sports teams, world class museums and arts institutions, and easy access to the region's international airport.

Cleveland was founded in 1796, the result of a Connecticut Land Company survey of a 3.3-million-acres tract on the shores of Lake Erie that was originally called, "The Western Reserve." Named after General Moses Cleaveland, the City of Cleveland was incorporated in 1836. As a pivotal Great Lakes trade hub, the city surged into prominence, powered by booming iron, steel and oil industries.

Major reinvestment across Cleveland more recently has uniquely positioned the city to thrive in the new era of the "Mid-Size" metropolis. As a city that continues to undergo economic transformation, Cleveland is home to a large share of young and emerging talent, enthusiastic entrepreneurs, and skilled workers, with leading-edge sectors in healthcare, biotech, and higher education. Driven by further investment, Cleveland's business community is attracting, retaining, and growing a stronger workforce, creating a dynamic network of thriving employers and job opportunities.

Cleveland benefits from 14 miles of coastline along Lake Erie, one of the five Great Lakes that comprise the largest source of fresh water in the world. Lake Erie also flows into the Cuyahoga River, where the two waterfronts constitute both a thriving shipping port and fun places to enjoy the City's most abundant natural resource and newly created parks.

Today, the city stands at a confluence of "Midwestern grit" and metropolitan vibrancy, with revitalized neighborhoods, a lively culinary scene, and celebrated public spaces that reflect its history and its future-forward spirit.





THE ORGANIZATION

The [City of Cleveland](#) is governed by a Mayor, currently Justin M. Bibb, and 17 city council members representing the 17 wards. Each ward has approximately 25,000 people. The Mayor's Chief Operating Officer reports directly to the mayor and is responsible for directing the activities of the City's approximately 7,400 employees providing public services to the residents and businesses of the city. The City's 2024-2025 budget is \$2.12 billion. The City's strong financial management practices have ensured its ability to fulfill its obligations to operate within a balanced budget and continue to provide essential services to its residents. The City began to develop and adopt a Structurally Balanced Budget (SBB) policy, per GFOA, to ensure that its recurring revenues are equal to its recurring expenditures in the adopted budget. As evidence of its financial stewardship, in 2022 the City received an upgrade from Moody's Investors Service on the series 2022 General Obligation Bonds from A1 to Aa3.

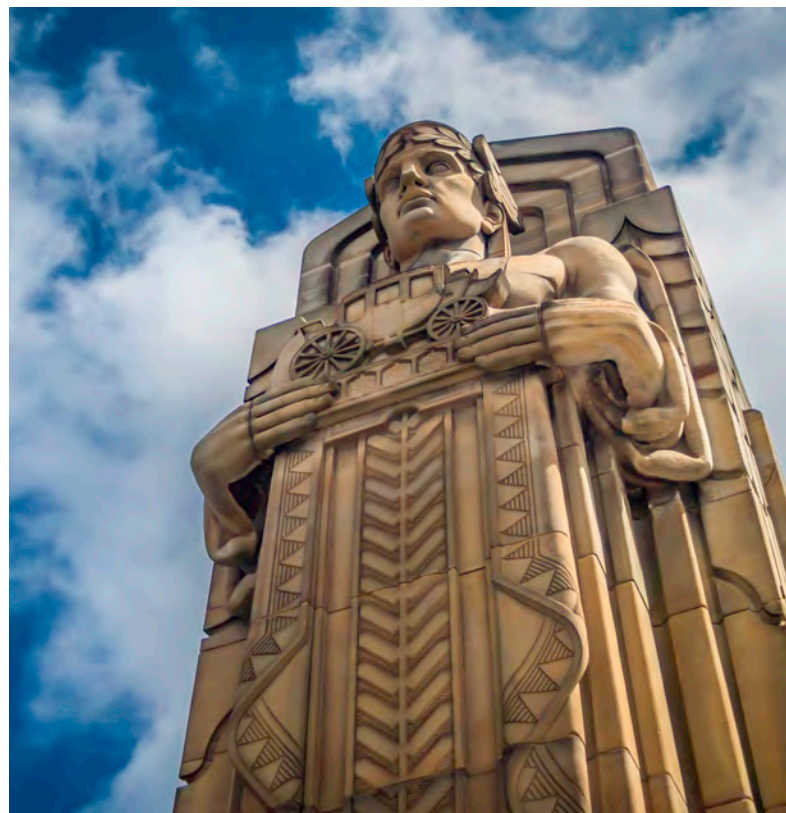
Current city-wide priority initiatives identified for 2025 include:

- Cleveland's Southeast Side
- Police Reform and Violence Prevention
- Shore-to-Core-to-Shore

THE CITY'S GUIDING PRINCIPLES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- Placing Clevelanders at the Center
- Empowering Employees to Do Purposeful Work
- Defining Clear and Pragmatic Objectives
- Leading with Trust and Transparency
- Striving for Equity in All We Do
- Embracing Change.

All City employees are responsible for embracing and carrying out these principles in all that they do.



THE NORTH COAST CONNECTOR PROJECT

Shore-to-Core-to-Shore

Cleveland's Shore-to-Core-to-Shore initiative comprises innovative transportation and redevelopment projects focused on three key areas: the Lakefront (Shore), Downtown (Core), and Riverfront (Shore).

These projects aim to enhance safe access and efficient connections to Cleveland's waterfronts while unlocking economic development opportunities by repurposing vacant and underutilized land to stimulate economic growth and enhance the quality of life for residents.

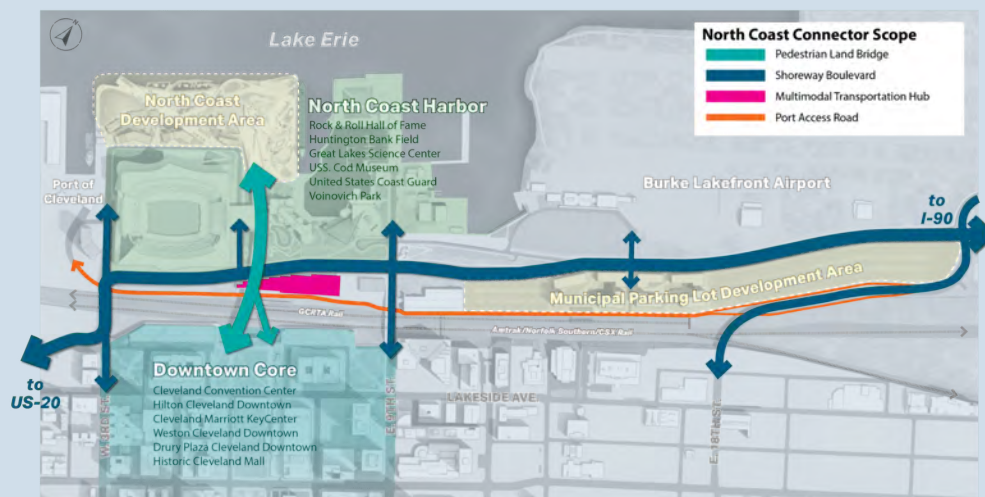
The City has taken an innovative approach to financing by adopting a [tax-increment financing](#) (TIF) district over its downtown. Over 42 years, the TIF District is estimated to generate between \$3.3B and \$7.5B. The primary goal for the [TIF District](#) is to fund the Shore-to-Core-to-Shore public improvements.

Lakefront Masterplan and North Coast Connector

Since 2022, the City of Cleveland and its partners have surveyed more than 5,000 people in order to develop a plan for redeveloping a lakefront area for all Clevelanders. The resulting [North Coast Master Plan](#) is the guiding vision for Cleveland's lakefront transformation, laying the foundation for a more connected, inclusive and vibrant lakefront area. The plan encompasses a host of strategic initiatives aimed at improving access, boosting economic development and promoting environmental stewardship along the shores of Lake Erie.

The [North Coast Connector](#) is a transformative infrastructure project designed to enhance connectivity between downtown Cleveland and its lakefront. The North Coast Connector includes a proposed land bridge connecting the grassy lawns of Mall C and City Hall to the lakefront. It will span over the railroad tracks and the Shoreway to restore access and repair more than a century-old divide, opening up new land for community gatherings and future economic development. State Route 2 will be reduced from a limited access freeway to a safer, lower-speed local boulevard. The North Coast Connector also integrates a new multi-modal transit facility in its design that will connect the existing Amtrak and light rail tracks and other modes, including bike and pedestrian paths.

The initiative aligns with Cleveland's long-term goals of fostering equitable access, enhancing mobility, and advancing environmental resilience. Construction is planned to commence in 2027 and is estimated to be completed within four years after commencement. The project budget is \$447M and primary funding sources for the initial \$284M phase include approximately \$60M from the Infrastructure for Rebuilding America (INFRA) grant program, approximately \$69M from Reconnecting Communities Pilot (RCP), and \$20M from the State of Ohio One-Time Community Investment Fund. The State grant is the source of funds for this position. Financing for the remaining portion of the first phase will be funded through the Shore-to-Core-to-Shore TIF.





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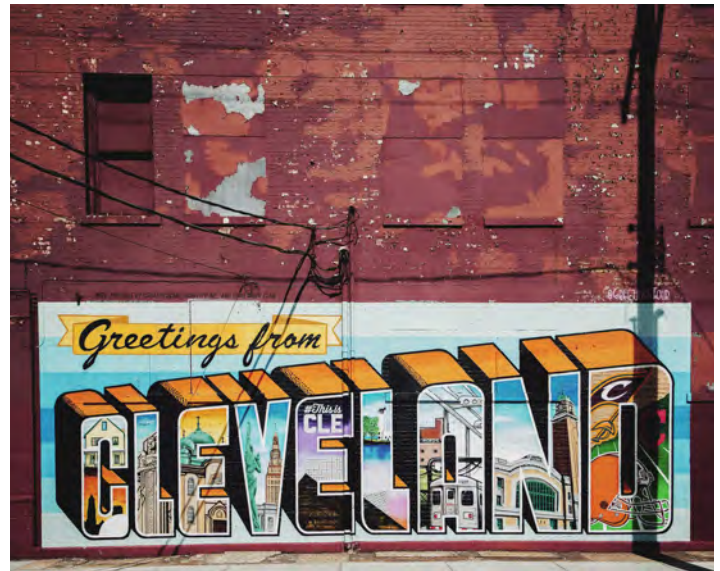


THE POSITION

The City seeks an experienced and dynamic Project Manager to oversee the North Coast Connector project to completion. This position is a Grant Funded position, operating from the Mayor's Office of Capital Projects, and will report directly to the City's Chief Operating Officer.

Key Responsibilities

- Perform the full range of project management and oversight duties, including overseeing work product and workload distribution to an Owner's Representative, Design Builder, and other consultants. The Project Manager will be involved in the process of hiring the Design Build team and necessary consultants.
- Convene and lead multidisciplinary teams of City of Cleveland staff, including staff in the Mayor's Office of Capital Projects, Finance Department, Planning Department, and Building and Housing, as well as consultants and external partners.
- Review, refine, and monitor project scope, budget, schedule, documentation, plans, contracts, change orders, cost-effectiveness, etc.
- Consult and collaborate with federal agencies, state agencies, in-house staff, and external professionals to launch pre-construction and construction activities, including the delivery of FHWA Major Project requirements, completing the NEPA process and executing the right of way phase of the project.
- Other external stakeholders include: private railroad companies, GCRTA, Amtrak, and current lakefront organizations (e.g., the North Coast Waterfront Development Organization and the Port of Cleveland).
- Coordinate and conduct briefings and public engagement activities for a variety of audiences, including public officials, media, residents, and agency staff on project scope and status.
- Continuously evaluate project team for performance and recommend staffing or consultant changes as needed to ensure the project is within budget and schedule.
- Participate in formal pre-claim and claims hearings, negotiating settlements for dispute resolutions.
- Provide technical expertise in evaluating errors or omissions by contractors or engineers and reviewing proposed changes in materials, methods, or designs.



Qualifications

- Bachelor's degree in Civil/Transportation Engineering, Construction Management, Public Administration, or related field.
- At least 10 years of relevant experience in project management, including 7 years of management level experience, consisting of general contracting, owner's representation, commercial development, engineering and design, or similar.
- Certified Construction Manager (CCM) Certification preferred.
- Knowledge of FHWA and/or ODOT design standards and processes preferred.
- Demonstrable track record of achieving scope, schedule, and budget goals on complex projects from design phase through implementation and operation.
- Experience managing large-scale design-build and/or federally funded projects and ensuring regulatory compliance.
- Proven success in communicating project requirements and collaborating with various audiences (e.g., senior management, peers, public officials, vendors, etc.).



THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The successful candidate will also have:

- Exceptional communication and leadership skills, with experience engaging diverse stakeholders.
- Demonstrated history as a pragmatic problem solver who will identify solutions and manage processes to facilitate successful completion of the project.
- The ability to engage the Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff and other team leaders when recommending and debating issues to ensure the best options are considered and discussed.
- Knowledge of standard office procedures, practices, and adept use of technology tools (e.g. Microsoft Office 365, Adobe Suite, etc.)
- Demonstrates a commitment to public involvement, ethics and customer service.
- Experience in value engineering processes.
- In addition to the qualifications listed, the City encourages applicants from diverse professional backgrounds to apply. We welcome candidates with experience in non-traditional disciplines, including but not limited to:
 - Individuals with a background in city management who bring a strong understanding of urban planning, policy implementation, and cross-departmental coordination.
 - Professionals who have worked with the legal and regulatory compliance aspects of project management.
 - Licensed architects with hands-on construction experience, particularly in managing complex design-build projects.

COMPENSATION AND BENEFITS

The salary range is \$140,000 – 175,000 +/- DOQ. The City of Cleveland offers a comprehensive benefits package, [CLE Total Rewards](#) that includes “top notch” health insurance through a choice of 3 PPO plans, paid leave time, a student loan forgiveness program, and professional development opportunities. Lifestyle rewards in the forms of pet insurance, corporate partner discounts, financial wellness programs, concierge services, and other benefits are available.

The position will also be eligible for participation in the City’s Pension Plan through OPERS, the nation’s Premier Public Pension System, and additional retirement savings through the Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Plan.

HOW TO APPLY

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