



Posted: Thursday, March 13, 2008

## **Manager, Public Outreach**

The Regional Transportation Authority (RTA), located in downtown Chicago, is currently accepting applications to fill the position of Manager, Public Outreach.

Under the direction of the Director of Communications, leads, coordinates and implements public outreach activities to engage the general public and key stakeholders to sustain and enhance support for a coordinated and sufficiently funded regional transit system. Primary responsibilities include the design and development of public input programs, projects and activities to support the achievement of strategic plan goals that include: 1) provide transportation options; 2) ensure financial viability; 3) enhance livability and economic vitality; and 4) demonstrate value. Incumbent will also develop and disseminate communications and measure and monitor public opinion.

Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

1. Manages, expands and diversifies Partners for Transit coalition that operates as key transit advocacy group. Supports efforts of similar coalitions such as the Transit Riders Alliance.
2. In support of the public input needs of the agency's programs, establishes and maintains communications and conducts outreach to key stakeholders that primarily includes elected officials, municipalities, county boards, planning and transportation agencies, transit interest groups, business, labor, senior citizen, paratransit and civic groups.
3. Develops, convenes and manages a Citizen's Advisory Board that represents the six-county RTA region.
4. Coordinates and manages public outreach meetings including RTA budget hearings, forums and other special events.
5. In partnership with RTA and Service Board staff, ensures the RTA's strategic plan, programs, services and advocacy campaigns are broadly promoted and utilized by preparing and delivering presentations and developing related print and web-based communications.
6. Pursues and manages external speaking engagements for senior RTA officials to engage the general public and key stakeholders regarding the agency's programs and activities.
7. Utilizes database technology to target communications and influence advocacy by commuters, residents and transit supporters.
8. Conducts ongoing measurement and research. Gauges and monitors public opinion and disseminates feedback as it relates to RTA programs, policies and initiatives through meetings, forums and surveys.
9. Procures, supervises and monitors consultants and vendors.

The ideal candidate must possess a Bachelor's degree in Public Administration, Public Relations, Journalism, Communications or related field with emphasis in the community outreach/public involvement or public policy fields, or equivalent work experience required.

The ideal candidate must possess a minimum of five (5) years of progressively responsible experience ideally in the transportation industry or with a public service agency required. Experience in a large transit organization or public agency and an existing strong outreach network in the public transit or regional planning fields and familiarity with key influencers are desirable. Strong decision-making and workload management skills, ability to exercise prudent independent judgment, budget management, excellent verbal and written communications skills, strong interpersonal skills, and proficiency in Microsoft Office suite.

Minimum Starting Salary: \$70,383

The RTA offers a competitive compensation and benefits package. Relocation is not available. For more information about the RTA, visit our website at [www.rtachicago.com](http://www.rtachicago.com).

**Please submit a cover letter, resume and salary history to:**

Regional Transportation Authority  
Human Resources, Attn: 08-MPO  
175 W. Jackson, Suite 1550  
Chicago, IL 60604

To apply online, go to: <https://www.rtachicago.com/jobposting/?job=14>

**An Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer**