



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor Laurel Lunt Prussing and Members of the City Council
FROM: William R. Gray, Public Works Director and City Engineer
DATE: November 14, 2013
RE: Mayoral Appointments for Two Assistant City Engineers in the Public Works Department

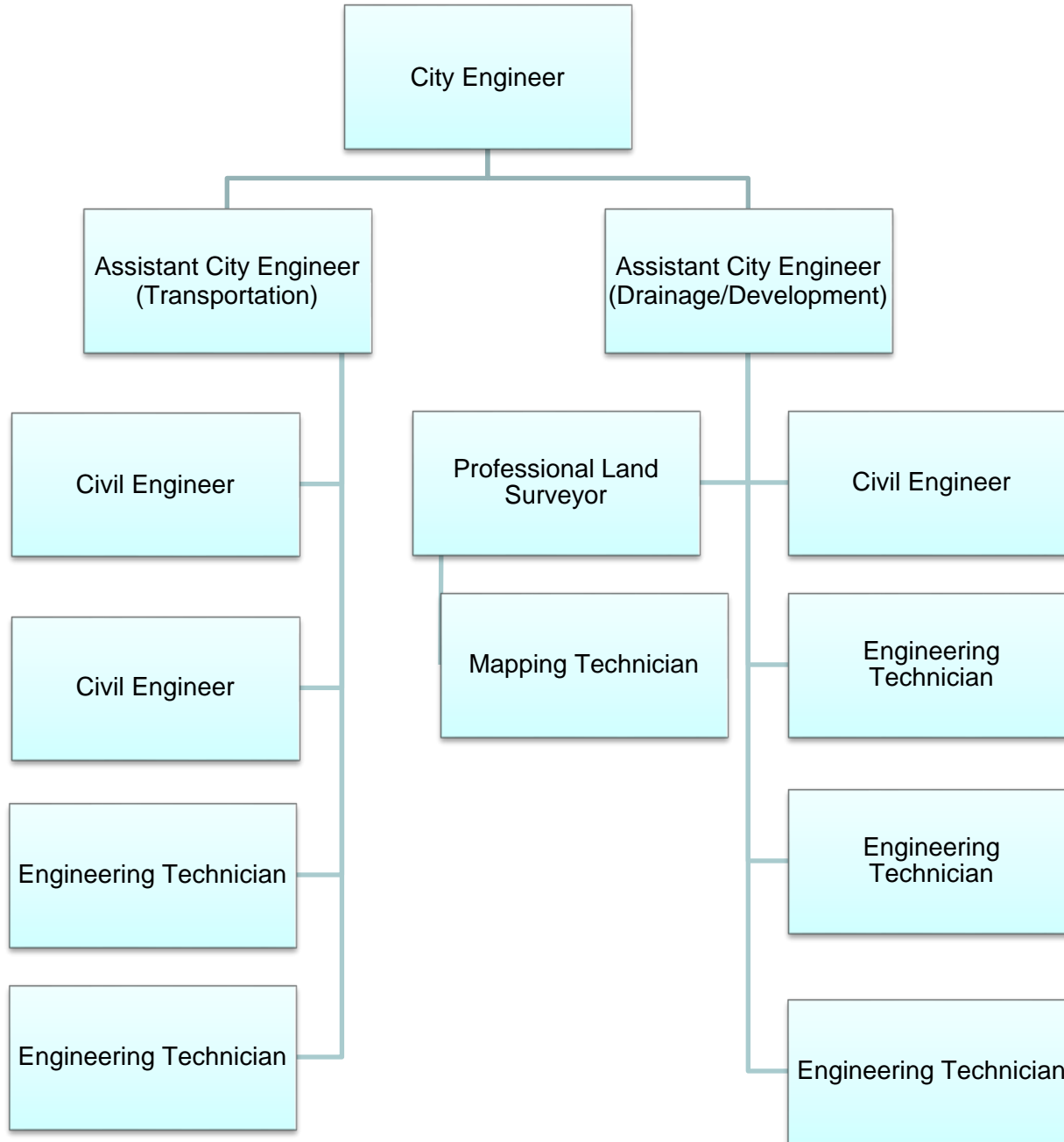
After serving over eleven years with the City of Urbana, the current Assistant City Engineer, Mr. Gale Jamison will be retiring at the end of this calendar year. In addition, Senior Civil Engineer, Mr. Joseph Smith will retire in July 2014 after serving the City of Urbana for over thirty-nine years. For the last two years, the Engineering Division managers have been engaged in succession planning in anticipation of these retirements. I am pleased to recommend two exceptional internal candidates, Mr. Brad Bennett and Mr. Craig Shonkwiler, to assume the leadership of the twelve-person Engineering Division. It is recommended that Mr. Bennett would be appointed as Assistant City Engineer in charge of drainage and development and that Mr. Shonkwiler would be appointed as Assistant City Engineer in charge of transportation. Both Mr. Bennett and Mr. Shonkwiler have faced ever increasing engineering and management responsibilities with admirable skill and poise. They will do a great job continuing to provide professional engineering services for all city infrastructure.

Attached please find a proposed reorganization chart of the Engineering Division. As part of this reorganization, both positions would report directly to the City Engineer.

It is recommended that the approval of the appointments of Brad Bennett and Craig Shonkwiler as Assistant City Engineers be effective immediately after Gale Jamison's retirement.

Proposed Engineering Division Organization Chart

Revised October 2013



Brad Bennett

Brad Bennett obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Marquette University (Milwaukee, Wisconsin) and a Master of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Iowa State University (Ames, Iowa). His academic studies focused on water/wastewater treatment and conveyance systems. Prior to his employment with the City of Urbana, his professional experience included over eight years as a project engineer for consulting firms. In 2000, he became a licensed professional engineer in the State of Illinois.

Mr. Bennett was hired as Civil Engineer by the City of Urbana in 2004. He was promoted to Senior Civil Engineer in 2011. His duties at the City have included managing the storm and sanitary utilities, bridge inspection and landfill remediation projects. Some of the specific projects he has managed while at the City of Urbana are:

- Site Plan Development Review
- Boneyard Creek Improvement Project
- Landfill Leachate Pre-Treatment Project
- Vine Street Pump Station Project
- Bradley Avenue Storm Sewer Project
- Crystal Lake Drive Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project
- Stormwater Utility Fee Program Implementation
- Fairlawn, Lanore, Adams Multi-Use Path

Mr. Bennett is a member of the Bike and Pedestrian Advisory Commission for the City of Urbana and a member of the Planning Commission, Zoning, and Signs Board of Appeals for the City of Tuscola, Illinois. He is a member of the American Public Works Association and will serve as Vice President of the Illinois Chapter of the American Public Works Association in 2014.

Craig Shonkwiler

Craig Shonkwiler obtained an Associate of Science degree in Engineering Science at Parkland College (Champaign, Illinois) and a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering at the University of Illinois (Urbana, Illinois). His academic program was focused with a primary field of specialization in transportation engineering and secondary in structural engineering. He gained invaluable experience while working with the Illinois Department of Transportation as a co-op student. In 2000, he became a licensed professional engineer in the State of Illinois. Mr. Shonkwiler is a nineteen year veteran of planning, designing, and managing the construction of roads, streetscapes, bicycle, and pedestrian infrastructure. The experience gained from over ten years in the private sector has helped him successfully manage a variety of projects.

Mr. Shonkwiler joined the City of Urbana in 2005 as Civil Engineer. In 2011, he was promoted to Senior Civil Engineer. In 2012, Mr. Shonkwiler was named the American Public Works Association Illinois Chapter Engineer of the Year for his efforts in managing the Windsor Road Reconstruction Project and the Urbana-Champaign Big Broadband (UC2B) Project in Urbana. Some other projects he has managed while at the City of Urbana are:

- High Cross Road Bikepath and Pedestrian Bridge
- South Philo Road Reconstruction Project
- Washington Street Bicycle Lanes
- Philo Road Improvements (Colorado Avenue to Windsor Road)
- Fire Station Signals (Stations #2 and #3)
- Windsor Road and Philo Road Improvements for the Meijer's Store.

Mr. Shonkwiler has served his community as a Plan Commission member and Zoning Board member for the Village of St. Joseph. He is a member of the Institute of Transportation Engineers. He and his family have been lifelong residents of central Illinois.