

## Position Description



Hudson River Park Trust

Legal

### Deputy General Counsel

**Reports to: General Counsel**

**Hours/Week: 37.5**

**FLSA: Exempt**

Hudson River Park Trust (“HRPT” or the “Trust”) seeks a Deputy General Counsel (“DGC”) to become a key member of our team, providing legal advice to all departments across HRPT and responsible for devising innovative solutions and practices to challenges regarding park operations, management and compliance. The DGC will work on exciting projects in a wide range of legal practice areas including but not limited to: developing permits for use of park property for concessions, events and movie shoots; negotiating corporate sponsorship and partnership agreements; and monitoring and working with outside counsel on environmental issues, employment law and labor policies, and tort litigation. The DGC will also ensure compliance with HRPT governance, procurement and employee policies and regulations. Excellent drafting and negotiation skills are necessary to develop contracts, leases and a variety of other agreements. This position will also interact with city, state and federal governmental agencies, as well as public interest groups and the general public.

#### **Background:**

The Trust is a public benefit corporation created in 1998 by an Act of New York State. The mission of the Trust is to design, construct, and maintain a prominent four mile long waterfront park on the west side of Manhattan. Hudson River Park is the second largest park in Manhattan with 150 acres of land and 400 acres of estuarine waters. The park features landscaped public piers and display gardens, lawn areas, ecological planting zones, athletic fields, esplanades, docks, public art, and other special features. There are limited commercial operations inside the park that generate revenue to support park operations. The Trust is charged with generating income sufficient to support its operations, so revenue from commercial tenants is critical to fund the \$25 million annual operating budget. Over 75% of the public open space for the park has been completed. Total investment within the park stands at over~\$540 million, with another several hundred million dollars of construction in the design and construction phases. Current and future funding for capital projects comes from a combination of governmental sources, philanthropic funds, grants, and the sale of development rights.

#### **Responsibilities/Duties:**

The Deputy General Counsel’s responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Work across the organization to creatively advise on, prepare, and implement internal and public facing Trust policies
- Interact with numerous other city, state and federal agencies on a variety of legal matters
- Handle any manner of legal inquiry including drafting of contracts, licenses, leases, grants, permits, and addressing legal matters encountered in the HRPT organizational environment, e.g., environmental, compliance, insurance, maritime and employment/labor
- Supervise outside counsel representing HRPT in litigation and other important matters

- Partner with General Counsel on FOIL requests and responses
- Supervise paralegal(s)/insurance coordinator/legal assistant(s)/interns, as needed

**Required Education and Experience:**

- At least five years of related legal experience in one or more of the following areas: commercial real estate, construction, contracts, corporate, environmental, employment, and insurance
- Experience with New York State, City and/or Federal agencies or public authorities is required
- Must be a J.D. and in good standing to practice law in New York State
- Ability to conduct research using Lexis Nexis
- Must have excellent writing and analytical research skills

**Essential Traits and Functions:**

- Ethical person with a strong work ethic
- Excellent drafting skills
- Strategic thinker and decision maker
- Problem solver with ability to think critically
- Team player
- Detail-oriented and organized

**Compensation/Benefits:**

Competitive annual salary of \$120,000 - \$130,000, depending upon qualifications, and a competitive benefits package including paid holidays, vacation time, sick and personal time, medical, dental, and vision insurance, and participation in New York State Pension System.

**Application Process:**

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter outlining their interest in this position and a resume to Kate Yarhouse, Director of Human Resources at [resumes@hrpt.ny.gov](mailto:resumes@hrpt.ny.gov). Indicate Job Code: Deputy Counsel in the subject line of the email.

No phone calls please.

**More information on the Hudson River Park is available at: [www.hudsonriverpark.org](http://www.hudsonriverpark.org)**

**The Hudson River Park Trust is an Equal Opportunity Employer**

*Pursuant to Executive Order 161, no State entity, as defined by the Executive Order, is permitted to ask, or mandate, in any form, that an applicant for employment provide his or her current compensation, or any prior compensation history, until such time as the applicant is extended a conditional offer of employment with compensation. If such information has been requested from you before such time, please contact the Governor's Office of Employee Relations at (518) 474-6988 or via email at [info@goer.ny.gov](mailto:info@goer.ny.gov).*