



Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District

Bridge Tender

Purpose

Under direction and general supervision of the Superintendent, Transportation, the Bridge Tender position is responsible for monitoring and directing the marine and train traffic around and safely operating a lift bridge.

Description

This position will be responsible for facilitating the efficient, orderly and safe passage of waterway traffic and trains. This will be accomplished by following Federal Railway Administration regulations and guidelines, United States' Coast Guard regulations and Guidelines as well as SMART's policies and procedures. **This is a limited term position.**

Duties and Responsibilities include, but are not limited to the following:

Class specifications are intended to present a descriptive list of the range of duties performed by, and minimum requirements required of, employees in the class. Specifications are not intended to reflect all duties performed within the job. SMART reserves the right to determine and amend job responsibilities.

- Operates the drawbridge properly and safely in accordance with regulations of the United States Coast Guard (CFR 33, Parts 117.1 to 117.59 and 117.187), Federal Railroad Administration (CFR 49, Parts 213 and 214) and the State of California.
- Raises and lowers span of bridge to allow passage of marine traffic to include all vessels (private and commercial boats, barges, personal watercraft, and emergency traffic).
- Sounds warning siren, operates flashing warning lights.
- Activates interlocking railroad signals to protect approaching railroad traffic.
- Unlocks and locks span.
- Communicates and/or signals to marine vessels to coordinate passing through the draw.
- Records all openings of drawbridge including date, time, and reason for opening in a neat and legible manner.
- Records all passage of vessels through the draw including time, direction, and vessel type.
- Prepares reports of accidents occurring on or to bridge and to the bridge fender system.
- Inspects drawbridge, track, passing railway cars and auxiliary equipment for defects or debris.
- Completes Bridge Tender Report daily including condition of the building, lights, wind indicators, and weather conditions.
- Operates and monitors maritime and railroad communication channels from marine vessels, Central Control and train units.
- Responds to telephone and marine radiotelephone calls from vessel operators, Coast Guard and law enforcement agencies.
- Handles all communication in a polite, courteous, responsive and professional manner using the appropriate terminology as needed for rail traffic and for marine traffic.
- Will perform visual inspection of the rack, operating machinery, and miter joints to verify no obstructions.

- May perform graffiti removal and painting of bridge structures.
- Will perform minor maintenance on structures, including but not limited to cleaning oiling and greasing machinery.
- Coordinates with maintenance crews to check auxiliary generator function on a weekly basis for use in the event of a power failure.
- Writes and submits maintenance work requisitions.
- Keeps operator house, machinery room and bridge free of debris.
- Works closely with Central Control and follows all Railroad Worker Protection regulations (49 CFR Part 214) while working on or near the right-of-way.
- Assists other workers and departments in routine and emergency situations affecting the safe movement of trains or vessels.
- Assists Signal Technicians as needed.
- Adheres to SMART, FRA, CPUC standards and regulations.
- Maintains work area in a clean and orderly fashion.
- Safely operates equipment.
- Performs other related duties as required.

Qualifications, Skills, Knowledge and Abilities

Minimum Qualifications:

- Must possess a high school diploma, GED or recognized equivalent.
- Possession of a valid California's drivers' license (or ability to obtain one within 60 days of employment);

Skill in:

- Interpreting and applying oral and written instructions in a consistent manner;
- Basic computer usage;
- Creating and maintaining effective working relationships with those contacted in the performance of work duties and responsibilities;
- Problem solving and troubleshooting.

Knowledge of:

- Drawbridge and safety equipment desirable;
- Safe working practices, including techniques for safely lifting and moving heavy objects with proper body movements and equipment.

Ability to:

- Operate a marine radio following proper USCG practice and procedures;
- Learn and adhere to General Code of Operating Rules, current SMART Employee's Timetable, Special Instructions and General Orders;
- Pass a General Code of Operating Rules training course and proficiency examination;
- Communicate effectively with marine vessel operators using correct inland navigation procedures, and with SMART Central Control using correct railroad procedures;
- Ability to work alone for extended periods, and make independent decisions;
- Identify unsafe work conditions and react appropriately;
- Be aware and alert at all times;
- Stay calm under pressure;

- Work at various heights above ground and over water;
- Work and walk on a bridge to perform routine inspection or light maintenance;
- Perform work on uneven surfaces;
- Climb ladders;
- Wear protective equipment such as fall protection and hard hat;
- Carry out oral and written directions;
- Understand, read and communicate (both orally and in writing) in Standard English
- Make quick decisions that evince sound thinking within a framework of rules
- Distinguish between colors;
- Maintain accurate records and files, and prepare written reports;
- Identify and resolve problems;
- Make logical decisions and sound judgments using common sense;
- Perform the physical requirements of the job;
- Plan, organize and establish reasonable priorities;
- Ability to work in a team environment fully supporting the goals and objectives of the maintenance and rail operations;
- Adapt in a work environment requiring concentration, teamwork, attention to safety and detail;
- Successfully pass a pre-employment medical exam that uses the standards of the California Commercial Driver's License;
- Work in accordance with 49 CFR 214 Sub Part B-Bridge Worker Safety Standards;
- Demonstrate a satisfactory driving record;
 - No more than two moving violations and/or "at fault" accidents within the last 3 years;
 - No "at fault" in a fatal accident within the past 5 years;
 - No leaving the scene of an accident within the past 3 years;
- Complete SMART's Safety and Track Worker Rules examinations;
- Read and comprehend government regulatory manuals, rules, regulations, and procedures;
- Work irregular work hours, early and late shifts, holidays and weekends.

Physical Working Conditions

The physical work environment is outside regardless of weather conditions. This position will be working on elevated structures and over water. This position will operate from an Operator's House located near the bridge.

Physical Requirements

On a daily basis the essential functions of the position require incumbents to climb, stoop, kneel, crouch, bend, hold, grasp, turn, pull, stand and walk. To sit for extended periods of time, to push, pull and carry boxes and other objects weighing up to 50 pounds without assistance. To climb ladders and perform work on uneven surfaces. Able to visually distinguish among red, blue, green and yellow colors. Able to visually distinguish small vessels at distances of up to 2,500 feet.

Position Details:

- **This is a Limited Term, Temporary, Full Time position.**
- Base hourly wage: \$28.14 per hour.
- There is a 12-month probationary period following appointment to this position.
- FLSA Status: Non-Exempt.
- A thorough background check will be required including, but not limited to: current and past employers, personal contacts, education verification. A credit report will be required for positions covered under Labor Code 1024.5.
(A complete list of background checks documents will be provided upon request)
- Position subject to Hours of Service DOT and FRA Regulations.
- Position subject to DOT and FRA Drug and Alcohol Testing Regulations.
- A pre-employment physical, including a urinalysis drug screen, will be required
- A pre-employment psychological screening, administered by a licensed/certified psychologist, will be required

The Sonoma Marin Area Rail Transit District is an Equal Opportunity Employer