

GRO MARSHFIELD

Serving Marshfield, Missouri

Economic Development Director

Compensation: Salary is negotiable and competitive

GRO Marshfield is looking for an experienced, highly motivated self-starter economic development professional. Marshfield, Missouri is the County seat of Webster County and is located in beautiful Ozark region of southwest Missouri. Over the past few years, Webster County has been the second fastest growing county in the State of Missouri and the Marshfield community is helping to lead this growth due to its location on I-44, available rail service and its close proximity to the growing greater Springfield metropolitan area. In addition, Kansas City, Saint Louis, and Tulsa are only a three-hour drive. Marshfield offers a low cost of living and high standard of living resulting in a variety of businesses expressing interest in the community.

Marshfield is looking forward to continued growth and increased economic expansion. As a result, the community is putting the pieces in place to attract this growth. Within the next 2 ½ years a second Marshfield interchange on I-44 will be completed that will open up additional land for commercial, industrial and residential development. In advance of this growth the following has either been completed or is underway:

- ❖ Completion of a Market Study, which identified the amount of demand for future industrial, commercial and residential development around the new interchange.
- ❖ Completion of a Phase 1 environmental study of the interchange area.
- ❖ The city and utility providers are in the process of designing for the extension of infrastructure improvements to serve future development around the new interchange so that services will be in place in advance of the interchange opening. Financing for these infrastructure extensions has also been identified.
- ❖ Work is progressing to obtain designation of the future industrial area adjacent to the new interchange as a Missouri Certified Development Ready Site through the Missouri Department of Economic Development as well as the Springfield Regional Economic Partnership.

In addition to the opening of a second interchange on I-44, the City is in the process of updating its Growth Plan for the entire community. The Growth Plan will set the stage for long-term community growth and economic expansion beyond the next few years. The Growth Plan includes the following components:

- ❖ Updated Community Vision Casting;
- ❖ Expansion of the City's existing industrial park;
- ❖ Rail coordination plan focusing on expanded rail access to an existing BNSF rail line that extends through the existing industrial park;
- ❖ Transportation plan that includes a future third interchange on I-44 that will provide improved truck access for the city's existing and expanded industrial park;
- ❖ Community wide economic and market analysis;
- ❖ Housing component;
- ❖ Downtown development plan;
- ❖ Infrastructure expansion plan; and
- ❖ Annexation plan.

In addition, the Growth Plan will set the stage to have the city's expanded industrial park designated as a Missouri Certified Development Ready Site through the Missouri Department of Economic Development and the Springfield Regional Economic Partnership. The city has also begun discussions with the BNSF Railroad to have the expanded industrial park designated as certified development site by the BNSF Railway.

Perhaps most importantly, Marshfield is wanting to expand its marketing as a pro-business approach to development through its invigorated economic development partnership composed of the City, business, utility, and regional leadership working together through GRO Marshfield, a not-for-profit tax-exempt Missouri corporation pursuant to Section 501 (c) of the Internal Revenue Code. GRO Marshfield is the first point of contact with existing and prospective businesses, property owners, community organizations, and the general public for economic development services in Marshfield. It is the community's primary catalyst for economic growth. The Economic Development Director is a new position reporting directly to GRO Marshfield's Board of Directors. The person selected will lead the development, organization and facilitation of ongoing economic growth and development; work collaboratively with other community partners to meet current and long-range needs and the community's economic goals. GRO Marshfield, the Marshfield Development League (a private, not-for-profit organization of business and professional people dedicating to maintaining a thriving economy and improving the quality of life for everyone in Marshfield) and the City; will work with the selected person to manage the development and implementation of economic change through retention, expansion, attraction of commerce and industry including the creation of incentive zones and lending programs. Duties include helping to identify sites suitable for small or large development activity; identifying developers and users whose skills or preferences fit an identified need in the community; soliciting, refining and negotiating preliminary development proposals; performing entitlement and financial feasibility studies; maintaining an existing directory of available sites, property owners, developers, and major tenants; and coordinating the efforts of the developers with the property owners, City officials, lenders and builders.

The position requires a motivated self-starter with a demonstrated successful economic development track record. A Bachelor's degree from an accredited college plus at least four (4) years of experience in economic development, business development, marketing or a closely related field is preferred; though any equivalent combination of education and experience which provided the applicant with the knowledge, skills and abilities required to succeed in this critical position will be seriously considered. Demonstrated experience working in a collaborative culture with other community partners including but not limited to: municipal government, utility providers, local chamber of commerce, community volunteers, etc. is a strong plus.

This position is open until filled. If you are interested, please send your cover letter and resume with current salary without delay to:

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