

Job Title: Community Relations Specialist

Location: Clear Lake – Greater Houston Area, Texas

Employment Type: Full-Time

Travel Required: Must be able to attend events after-hours and on weekends. Mileage is reimbursable.

About the Role:

We are seeking a Community Relations Specialist with strong political acumen and well-established community connections in Harris County, Texas. As a strategic liaison and trusted representative of our organization, the ideal candidate excels at building trust, fostering collaboration, and navigating the complex landscape of local politics.

As a key representative of the District, the Community Relations Specialist will join a rapidly growing organization and play a pivotal role in advancing public understanding, stakeholder engagement, and community support for the Gulf Coast Protection District's mission and the Coastal Texas Project—the largest coastal protection project in U.S. history.

This role is ideal for someone who thrives in social settings, understands the nuances of public affairs, and is enthusiastic about building strong relationships with elected officials, civic leaders, community organizations, and other stakeholders.

Must be able to attend events in Galveston County, TX and Harris County, TX oftentimes after hours or on the weekends.

Key Responsibilities:

- **Public Engagement & Outreach:**
 - Develop and maintain relationships with local leaders, elected officials, nonprofit organizations, and other key stakeholders.
 - Implement strategic outreach campaigns that inform and engage regional stakeholders.
 - Monitor and respond to local political and community developments that may impact the organization.
- **Stakeholder Communications:**
 - Serve as a liaison between GCPD and community stakeholders, including elected officials, environmental groups, industry leaders, and residents.
 - Organize public meetings, town halls, and informational sessions in coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Texas General Land Office.

- Collaborate with internal teams to align community engagement activities with the GCPD's External Communication Strategic Plan.
- **Strategic Partnerships:**
 - Collaborate with federal, state, and local agencies to align messaging and ensure consistent public communication across all Coastal Texas Project components.
 - Interface with GCPD leadership and the Board of Directors by preparing reports and presentations on community engagement activities and outcomes.
 - Interface with local media outlets and serve as a spokesperson when appropriate, ensuring consistent and positive messaging.
- **Content Development:**
 - Create compelling communications materials (e.g., newsletter articles, press releases, social media content, Op-Eds, and headline hook graphics) that highlight GCPD activities.
 - Assist with GCPD social media by taking photos, videos, and creating engaging content from the community events attended.

Qualifications:

- **Education:** Bachelor's degree in communications, public relations, political science, or a related field. Or 5+ years' experience in a government relations or community relations role in lieu of education.
- **Experience:** 5 - 7 years of experience in community relations, public affairs, government relations, or a similar role.

Preferred Skills:

- Strong understanding of local political landscapes and community dynamics.
- Comfortable speaking in public and engaging with diverse audiences.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends, to attend events.
- Experience contributing to or managing an organization's social media presence.

Preferred Traits:

- Charismatic and approachable personality.
- Strategic thinker with a knack for navigating complex social and political environments.
- Passionate about community development and civic engagement.

How to Apply:

Interested candidates are encouraged to submit a resume outlining their qualifications and experience, as well as two professional references who can attest to their experience related to this position. Send your resume and references to emily.mcginity@gcpdtexas.com. Please apply by October 15, 2025.