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## *WHO IS YOUR TOWNSHIP ENGINEER, AND WHAT DOES HE DO?*

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First and Second Class Township codes generally state that the appointed position of “Township Engineer” is created and charged with the general responsibility of “superintendence, direction and control of the engineering matters of the Township.” Some of the duties the Township Engineer include land development, building permits, capital improvements program, wastewater, and general consultation. Because of the vast involvement of this position, the relationship between the Engineer, his staff and the Township, along with its administrative staff, public works department, building and code department, and planning, is very vital.

The Township Engineer is charged with the overall responsibility of the daily operations of servicing the municipality. No one engineer possesses all the technical knowledge and experience required to satisfy the diverse, and sometimes complicated, needs for townships, therefore, a team of professionals that are experts in their various technical fields is assembled to assist in serving the Township’s needs. Individual tasks and duties can then be assigned by the Engineer to his or her staff, yet the Engineer remains personally involved in everything.

A diverse team that can provide **MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING** will assist the Township with engineering problems involving the maintenance of, and improvement to, public works systems. Issues often include road and stormwater maintenance, traffic safety, signing and signalization, waste management studies, building inspection, parks and recreation, plan and code review, grantsmanship and regulatory application coordination. A strong team can also provide **PLANNING**, which is the effective integration of many diverse elements in the complex dynamic system comprising our physical environment. **TRANSPORTATION**, another

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essential part of the team, can provide sound municipal traffic engineering services. A final key discipline to the team is **WATER/WASTEWATER ENGINEERING**, which consists of providing design services, construction supervision, management, maintenance, and operations support.

The Township Engineer is responsible for this vast range of tasks. The goal of the Engineer is to always consistently provide high-quality, efficient, and timely service. Although it may seem routine, the life of a Township Engineer is dynamic. Each land development project is different, and the state and federal regulations, technology, and needs of the townships and their residents, are constantly changing. Township Engineers strive to evolve and meet these needs.

In summary, the Township Engineer is relied upon to make sure that the safety and welfare of the Township and its residents are protected. That's what we do.