

Director of Public Services and Safety

St. Bernard, OH

Director of Public Services and Safety, St. Bernard OH (Population 4,070)

St. Bernard is looking for a results-oriented, strategic visionary to address community issues and advance opportunities. The Director of Services and Safety reports directly to the Mayor and has executive level responsibility for the administration of the Police, Fire, Service and Building, Planning and Zoning Departments. This person will bring new ideas and a forward-thinking approach to the organizational and governance structure of the Village. The successful candidate will have a wide range of experience and skills, including an in-depth knowledge of planning, economic development, and community revitalization strategies.

Located in the heart of Hamilton County, Ohio, approximately 6 miles from downtown Cincinnati, St. Bernard has 4,070 people (2020 Census), and a total land area of 1.56 miles.

Despite its small size, it is blessed with abundant strengths, the most prominent of which is its strategic geographic location in the center of Hamilton County. With easy access to three interstate highways and two expressways, St. Bernard is in an ideal location for commercial and industrial development. This has also enabled the Village to sustain a strong tax base and revenue stream and maintain its reputation for providing outstanding, high-quality public and safety services.

St. Bernard is an extremely close-knit community with an engaged citizenry, many of whom come from families who have called the Village home for multiple generations. In recent years, many young professionals, and new families from throughout the region are beginning to uncover the unique charm and amenities of the Village, as well. The compact nature of St. Bernard makes it very safe and walkable.

The Village is a short commute to downtown Cincinnati, and just two miles from two major universities (the University of Cincinnati and Xavier University). St. Bernard is also just a few miles from the area's premier hospitals and medical facilities, including the region's only academic medical center and Level I adult trauma center (UC Medical Center) and the nation's top ranked Children's Hospital (Cincinnati Children's).

The Village of St. Bernard is a home-rule incorporated charter form of government. The Village Charter, which was originally adopted in 2003 retained the Mayor-Council structure of government. The Charter also retains much of the statutory model of government as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

The legislative authority is vested in a seven-member Village Council. Village Council is elected at large to four-year overlapping terms.

The Mayor, who was recently elected to a new four-year term, serves as the Executive of the Village. The Mayor has the authority to appoint the Director of Public Service and Safety and the heads of the Police, Fire and Service Departments and the Tax Commissioner, as well as Members to the Planning Commission, Recreation Commission, Civil Service Commission, and a Community Improvement Corporation.

A Director of Law, Auditor, and Treasurer are elected to four-year terms and have the powers and duties accorded to each position as prescribed by the Ohio Revised Code.

The Village has explored making modifications to the Charter, in an effort to move forward with the creation of a Chief Administrative Officer position, as a Village Manager or Municipal Administrator. This position is envisioned to have greater responsibility for the overall day-to-day operations of the Village and this recruitment process, and the hiring of a new Director of Services and Safety is envisioned as a critical step and catalyst in this direction.

The new Director of Public Services and Safety for St. Bernard will be a dynamic, visionary, servant leader who can lead staff, craft a big picture vision, build alignment around that vision and turn it into reality. They will strongly desire the opportunity to create a historic new role and administrative and governance structure for the Village by providing professional leadership, coordination and expert advisory direction to the Mayor and other elected officials that ensures the long-term success of the community.

A bachelor's degree in public administration, urban planning, business administration, or related field from an accredited college or university is required. A master's degree is preferred. The successful candidate will have five years of progressively responsible local government or business management and leadership experience as a minimum. ICMA-CM is preferred but not required. Extensive public sector experience, expertise, and skills may be considered as substitute for other preferred qualifications.

This is a full-time, exempt position, and the salary and final compensation package will be commensurate with the knowledge, skills, and abilities of the selected candidate. A maximum salary of \$130,000 is expected while other components of the compensation package may be negotiable. The Village of St. Bernard offers an excellent benefits program, including vacation, sick leave, paid holidays, medical and dental insurance, participation in the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (OPERS), and travel and training support.

There is no residency requirement for the new Director of Public Services and Safety.

The Director of Public Services and Safety position is open until filled with the first review of candidates taking place on March 20. Candidates are encouraged to apply early. A detailed Community and Position Profile can be found at Sagoraa.com.

To apply, please email in one combined PDF, a cover letter, resume, and five professional references to: mth@sagoraa.com. The Village of St. Bernard will not accept applications or

calls of inquiry on the status of this recruitment. All candidate communications will be provided by Strategic Agora Advisors, LLC.

Questions should be directed to: **Michael Hinnenkamp, President, Strategic Agora Advisors LLC, 513-616-1321. Faxed or mailed applications will not be accepted.**