

Alex Moore

Summer 2014- City of Lincoln

Engineering Services- Construction and Design

My experience working for the City of Lincoln this summer was not a new one. This was my third year as an inspector within the Construction and Design department of Public Works. This made the transition into being a MATC intern very easy because I knew my coworkers very well and had a very good idea of what was expected and how to do my job. In my first year as an intern I work on the final stage of the Antelope Valley Project. The project was from 17th to 21st (on O Street) and north south road K to Q Street. This gave me my first experience on the job and I learned about a wide range of jobs that are done on a work site. My second summer, I was involved in the Lincoln Citywide resurfacing. This exposed me to rebuilding sidewalk ramps and replacing base to overlay with asphalt. This was key experience for this summer. Those two projects were both federal aid projects so it required a lot of documentation and extra work.

This summer I was on the Lincoln Airport Corridor Entryway project. This project covered a long stretch of Cornhusker highway and West Adams Street to the airport. The contractor on the job was Constructors, which were very easy to work with. The scope of work was wide-ranging. It included base patching, asphalt overlay, new turn lane construction, new curb and median curb, new electrical, new sprinklers, landscaping, and custom donated 15-foot Lincoln district markers for the median. My job had two main parts: document in the field and then electronically input it into a computer program. While on the job I got to experience many tasks. My main job was to help the inspector for the city, Dale Gebhard, manage and track the daily work done by the contractor. We had to do a lot of documentation and tracking of over 200 concrete pavement repairs, the electrical work, and so on. It takes great organizational skills to accomplish this. After we would measure and gather the information for the day, we would input it into MasterWorks, which tracks the budget and submits all items for payment. Each day a

daily work report had to be submitted to show what was happening on the job site and what the contractor and subcontractors were doing.

One of the most important experiences I gained was being able to observe the communication and organization between many different entities. I was able to sit in on every progress meeting and observe how complicated project management is and how many people have a stake in what is going on with a major project like this. It shows the true importance of communication and being able to learn communication skills in college. I also had experience in working with the public. It is no secret that the public gets frustrated with long construction sites and stoppage time in their commute. I had multiple times where I had to address an issue or explain what is happening to the general public and local business owners. During this summer, Reid and I were in charge of the inspection for a week on this job. This was an exciting week because I could apply all that I had learned because I was running the job site, and I also got to work directly with a fellow MATC intern and we were able to work through problems and solve them to the best of our ability. We handled all of the daily work reports and payment to the materials testing and cylinder making. We also got to be in very close communication with the contractor for a week.

Working for the City of Lincoln Construction and Design has been a wonderful experience. The people are a joy to be around every day and really make the internship process a valuable one. There is a desire to develop the interns and employees and Thomas Schafer is a big part of that. They never had a problem getting the interns involved in what was happening in the office and outside of the office. I also got to work with a great group of interns that also enhanced my experience. This summer MATC gave me an opportunity to build on past experience and gain very relevant experience in construction management, design, and

inspection. This will prove very worthy as I continue to study architecture and community and regional planning.