



The Western New York Land Conservancy is an accredited, regional not-for-profit land trust that permanently protects land with significant conservation values in Western New York for the benefit of future generations. We envision a future in which forests, farms, meadows, and waterways are connected, cherished, and protected in Western New York. Our clean air, clean water, and fertile soils will equitably support the health and wellbeing of future generations of every living thing.

**Title:** **The Riverline Director**  
**Reports to:** Deputy Executive Director  
**Location:** The Riverline is based in Buffalo, NY. The Land Conservancy's main office is in East Aurora, NY. The organization is currently working remotely and various hybrid working arrangements are being considered as public health conditions improve.  
**Salary:** \$70,000-\$80,000 plus comprehensive benefits package  
**Start Date:** July 2021

### **Overview:**

The Riverline Director will lead the planning and implementation of The Riverline, a planned iconic, innovative, and inspiring nature trail and greenway in central Buffalo along the Buffalo River, embedded in the Old First Ward, Perry, and Valley neighborhoods.

This job is an opportunity to be a part of Buffalo's waterfront and community revitalization. The Riverline will connect people to nature and to each other, demonstrating how to use natural regeneration and new public space to create a more welcoming, inclusive, and healthy city.

The emerging designs for The Riverline are being developed by an award-winning multi-disciplinary team. With the support of other Land Conservancy staff and project consultants, The Riverline Director will be the primary staff responsible for the success of The Riverline project through completion of the design and construction phases. The director will ensure the project aligns with the community vision plan and equitable development framework and will develop and advance partnerships with key constituencies - including but not limited to neighborhood, municipal, state, and federal government entities, public authorities, conservation organizations, foundations, academia, neighborhood, and faith-based groups. This position will simultaneously handle the complexities of a multi-million-dollar construction project while engaging the surrounding communities to ensure local benefits and opportunities.

The Riverline is part of the High Line Network, a group of infrastructure reuse projects transforming underutilized infrastructure into new urban landscapes. These hybrid spaces redefine what public space can be, and include public squares, open-air museums, botanical gardens, social service organizations, walkways, transit corridors, and more. This network of 37 similar high-profile projects across North America in places like Manhattan, Toronto, Los Angeles, and Mexico City provide an extensive peer learning opportunity for this position.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Engage key constituencies to nurture and expand a network of diverse local, regional, state, and national partners and funders
- Direct negotiations with key constituencies

- Coordinate all fundraising related activity for The Riverline, including grant writing, donor solicitations, press, communications, and events
- Develop and manage project budgets
- Hire and manage contractors, including but not limited to managing the design consultants and their deliverables
- Hire and supervise future staff for The Riverline
- Lead internal and external grant and progress reporting
- Ensure program compliance with internal policies and external requirements
- Ensure the project is guided by the principles of diversity, equity, and inclusion
- Attend and participate in Land Conservancy meetings of staff, Board, and committees, and lead all meetings of The Riverline LLC, a subsidiary of the Land Conservancy
- Assist with other Land Conservancy work as needed

**Qualifications:**

- Relevant work experience in community or economic development, community and government relations, policy, fundraising, organizational development, and/or non-profit management
- Familiarity or demonstrated interest in architecture, landscape architecture, design, construction, transportation planning, outdoor recreation, conservation and/or ecology
- Project management and project leadership skills, showing ability to see complex projects through from start to finish
- Experience managing staff, contractors, workloads, and finances under deadlines
- Demonstrated ability to work across race, class, gender, sector, and educational attainment diversity
- Ability to communicate clearly to multiple audiences in writing and verbally
- Comfort with presenting to and facilitating diverse internal and external groups such as donors, partners, community members, and staff
- Ability to manage conflict and build consensus
- Multi-lingual and cross-cultural experience a plus

**To Apply:**

You can apply for this position through the following link:  
[www.wnyc.org/work-with-us](http://www.wnyc.org/work-with-us)

Please also submit a cover letter and resume with “The Riverline Director” in the subject [jobs@wnyc.org](mailto:jobs@wnyc.org). Applications are only accepted electronically. No phone calls please. **The Land Conservancy is accepting applications until June 30th.** The Western New York Land Conservancy is committed to enhancing diversity and inclusion in our organization and in land conservation. Multiple perspectives and experiences help strengthen our work as an organization and enhance our relevance throughout communities currently underrepresented in the land conservation sector. People of color, women, LGBTQIA+ individuals, and people with disabilities are encouraged to apply.