City Planner Interview Questions

1. Share an experience in which your ability to consider the costs or benefits of a potential action helped you
choose the most appropriate action.
2. Share an experience in which you held a public meeting which helped you to develop or address issues
regarding land use or community plans.
3. Share an experience you had in dealing with a difficult person and how you handled the situation.
4. Share an experience in which you successfully shared a difficult piece of information. (Make sure that the
candidate has open lines of communication.)
5. Tell me how you organize, plan, and prioritize your work.
6. What are some long-range objectives that you developed in your last job? What did you do to achieve
them?
7. Share an experience when you applied new technology or information in your job. How did it help your
company?
8. Tell me about an experience in which you analyzed information and evaluated results to choose the best
solution to a problem.
9. Would you consider analyzing data or information a strength? How so?
10. In your experience, what is the key to ensuring your company was compliant with all laws, regulations and
standards that were applicable to your area of responsibility?
11. Share an effective approach to working with a large amount of information/data. How has your approach
affected your company?
12. Share an example of a time you had to gather information from multiple sources. How did you determine
which information was relevant?
13. Name a time when you identified strengths and weaknesses of alternative solutions to problems. What was

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the impact?
14. Please share an experience in which you presented to a group. What was the situation and how did it go?
15. Provide an example of a time when you were able to demonstrate excellent listening skills. What was the
situation and outcome?
16. Provide an example of a time when you successfully organized a diverse group of people to accomplish a
task.
17. What is the key to success when communicating with the public.
18. Share an experience in which your understanding of a current or upcoming problem helped your company
to respond to the problem.
19. How would you rate your writing skills? (Ask for an example that demonstrates great writing skills.)
20. Provide an example when your ethics were tested.
21. Give me an example of when you thought outside of the box. How did it help your employer?
22. Share an experience in which your attention to detail and thoroughness had an impact on your last
company.
23. Provide a time when you were able to identify a complex problem, evaluate the options, and implement a
solution. How did the solution benefit your employer?
24. Share an example of when you went above and beyond the "call of duty". (Look for answers that show the
candidate is dependable.)
25. Share an experience in which you successfully coordinated with others. How about a coordination effort
that was not as successful?
26. How do you balance cooperation with others and independent thinking? Share an example. (Try to

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determine if the candidate has a cooperative attitude or is otherwise good-natured.)
27. Share a time when you willingly took on additional responsibilities or challenges. How did you
successfully meet all of the demands of these responsibilities? (Make sure the candidate is a self-starter and
can demonstrate some initiative.)
28. Provide an example of when you were persistent in the face of obstacles.
29. Describe a time when you successfully persuaded another person to change his/her way of thinking or
behavior.
30. Name a time when your patience was tested. How did you keep your emotions in check?