



September 3, 2019

Associate Engineer Working to Ensure Fontana Stays in Motion



Fontana, Calif.- From traffic signals and roadway signage to major road projects and grant applications, Associate Engineer Dave Teater has played an immense role in how Fontana moves...literally! He takes pride in working to improve infrastructure throughout the City. Dave believes that it's always good to have a strong work ethic and to go out of your way to help others.

Dave began his career with the City of Fontana nearly 19 years ago as an Engineering Technician. As a technician, he was out in the field providing maintenance on traffic signals, along with processing shipments of signal gear and assisting in organizing inventory. Currently, he reviews traffic plans for major road projects, which includes design and specifications to ensure everything goes smoothly. His goal is to minimize the impact to the public during the construction phase.

His day begins at 7:00 a.m. and consists of a variety of duties including responding to public requests and complaints, assisting in preparation of grant applications, maintaining speed zones, maintaining the electronic filing system including various databases and working with City attorneys in resolving traffic-related liability claims and assisting with updating permit applications and

procedures. One of his proudest accomplishments includes creating the city's current traffic engineering electronic filing system.

"The filing system comes in handy while on the phone discussing a traffic issue, because it's easy to access the entire history of a location, including prior complaints, studies, and the collision history," explains Dave.

Dave is a valuable member of the engineering department and considered the go-to person by many of his colleagues when it comes to getting things done. "I like the variety and the dynamic growth environment," shares Dave. "The main reason I enjoy the job is that everyone here is great to work with. I feel very fortunate that we have a super team here at the City."

Dave's advice to new employees is to have a good attitude and be able to work with all different types of people. "[Work] is much easier if you can accept people as they are and understand that they are entitled to their beliefs, feelings, and opinions."

Coworkers may be surprised to learn about his unusual healthy approaches to eating. He used to grow and juice wheatgrass. After realizing that wild plants are more nutritional, he started juicing whatever grows in his yard, such as his St. Augustine lawn, dandelions, weeds, aloe vera, and habanero peppers.

When he's not at work, you'll find Dave exploring places with his wife and spending time at their favorite local destinations including Old Town Pasadena, the Huntington Library and the beach.

Dave is known for his sense of humor, remaining humble and always being extremely helpful. Please join us in congratulating Dave Teater for being nominated by his peers to be the Employee Spotlight recipient for September.

For more information about the Engineering Department or to submit a traffic request visit fontana.org.