



# CITY MANAGER

Annual Salary:  
\$180,000 - \$220,000 DOE/DOQ



**Are you a collaborative, strategic leader who can modernize operations, strengthen community relationships, and drive inclusive growth?** If so, apply to be Battle Creek's next City Manager!

We're looking for an exceptional public sector executive who is:

- A servant leader committed to transparency and community engagement
- Skilled in fiscal management and operational efficiency
- Experienced in economic development and cross-sector partnerships

Battle Creek is a vibrant and innovative community at the heart of southwest Michigan – read on to learn more about this exciting opportunity!

# ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

Battle Creek, Michigan, is a vibrant and diverse city of nearly 53,000 residents spread across 44 square miles, making it one of Southwest Michigan's most significant population and economic centers. Nicknamed the "Cereal Capital of the World," it's the proud headquarters of the W.K. Kellogg Company and features a strong presence from Kellanova and Post Foods, with a deep-rooted legacy of innovation, philanthropy, and entrepreneurial spirit.

As the anchor city of Calhoun County, Battle Creek's municipal organization delivers a full spectrum of services—public safety, infrastructure, transit, community development, parks and recreation—to support a growing community that punches well above its weight. The city operates with a forward-focused mindset, backed by over \$100 million in downtown redevelopment and a major presence of global employers such as DENSO and Duncan Aviation, along with the influential W.K. Kellogg Foundation. Battle Creek is home to the state's largest contiguous industrial park representing multiple international companies and nearly 14,000 employees and includes a strong military presence (Air National Guard, Army National Guard, Marine Corps Reserve, Defense Logistics Agency and more).

Quality of life in Battle Creek is exceptional, with more than 30 parks, hundreds of acres of natural trails, nationally recognized events like the Field of Flight Air Show and Balloon Festival, and family favorites like Binder Park Zoo. It is a designated Tree City USA and Silver Bicycle Friendly Community, with investments in electric vehicle infrastructure, alternative fuels, and multi-modal connectivity.

The city's strategic location—just over an hour from Detroit and under three from Chicago—adds to its accessibility and appeal. With a median value of owner-occupied housing units, 2019-2023 = \$303,400 (US Census QuickFacts), Battle Creek offers a cost of living that makes high quality of life both attainable and sustainable.



POPULATION  
**52,505**



MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD  
INCOME  
**\$51,699**



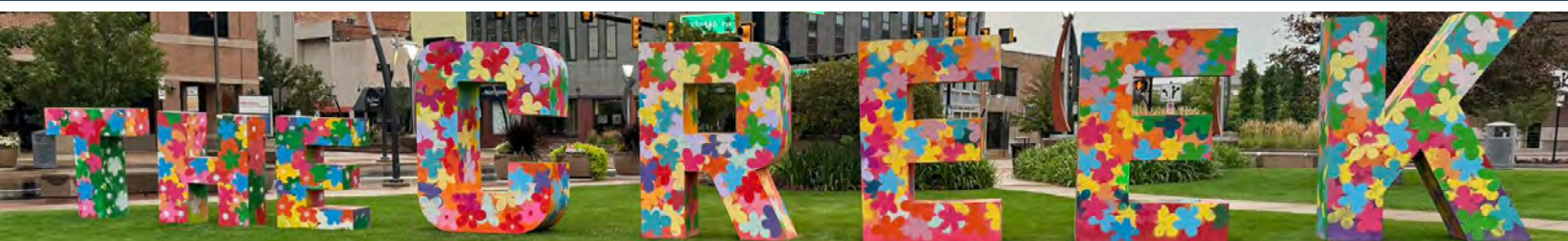
AVERAGE HOME VALUE  
**\$127,600**

AVERAGE MONTHLY RENT:  
**\$934**

History



Tourism



## GOVERNANCE & ORGANIZATION

Battle Creek operates under a Commission-Manager form of government. The Mayor is elected by popular vote for a two-year term. The City Commission comprises nine members—four elected at-large and five from geographic wards—each serving a two-year term.

**The City delivers a full range of services, including:**

- Police and Fire
- Public Works and Infrastructure
- Water, Wastewater, and Airport





## THE JOB

The City Manager's Office provides strategic leadership, policy implementation, and administrative oversight across all city departments.

**Reporting to the City Commission, the new City Manager will:**

- Implement Commission goals and community priorities
- Oversee daily operations and a \$61M General Fund budget
- Engage residents and partners to drive civic trust
- Lead citywide initiatives for housing, infrastructure, and sustainability
- Strengthen interdepartmental collaboration and culture

## ORGANIZATION QUICKFACTS



EMPLOYEES

**531**



DEPT. BUDGET

**\$ 61**

M I L L I O N

## KEY PROJECTS FOR 2025

- Modernize internal operations and workforce structure
- Advance Capital Improvement Plan (FY2026–2031)
- Expand housing development and streamline permitting



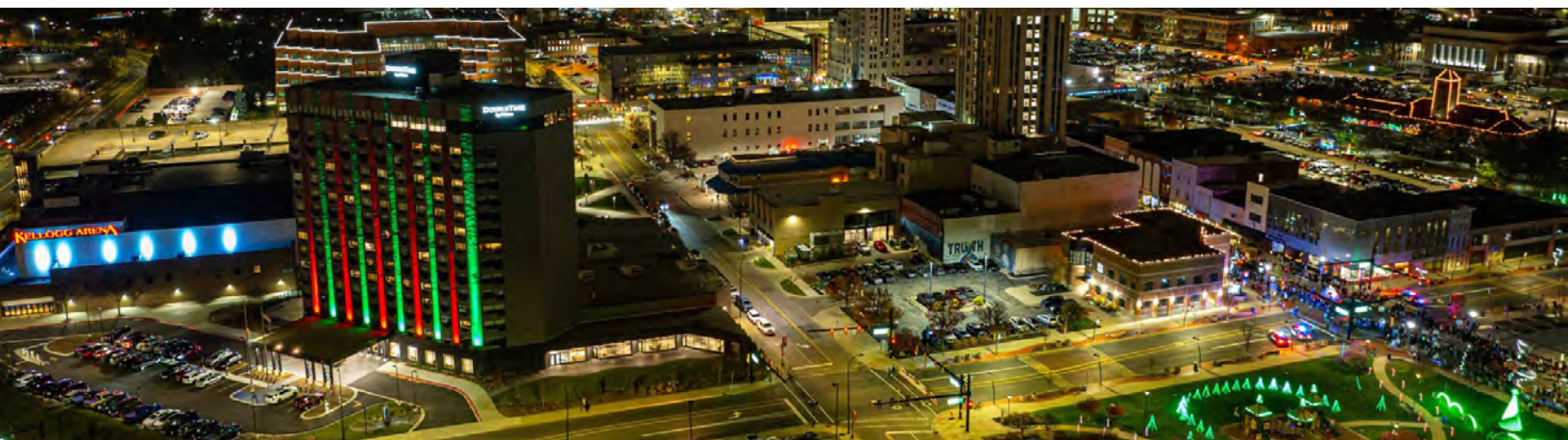


## THE IDEAL CANDIDATE

The ideal candidate will have experience in full-service municipal management and be deeply committed to public engagement, equity, and service excellence.

**They will demonstrate:**

- Strong communication and relationship-building skills
- Integrity, adaptability, and strategic vision
- Technical expertise in budgeting and economic development
- Leadership in organizational culture and workforce development



## EXPERIENCE & QUALIFICATIONS

### **REQUIRED:**

- Bachelor's degree in public administration or related field
- 10 Years of progressive local government management
- Experience at division manager or department head level

### **PREFERRED:**

- Master of Public Administration (MPA) or equivalent
- ICMA-CM Certification
- Experience as an Assistant City Manager or City Manager





## SALARY & BENEFITS

**Compensation:** \$180,000 - \$220,000 DOE/DOQ

**Health Benefits:** Medical, dental, vision, and life insurance

**Paid Leave:** Vacation, sick leave, and holidays per city policy

**Retirement:** Defined benefit pension plan through MERS

**Additional Perks:**

- Opportunities for flexible work arrangements
- Professional development support
- Relocation assistance may be considered

## HOW TO APPLY

Apply Here



For more information on this position, contact:

Clay Pearson, Senior Vice President

[ClayPearson@GovernmentResource.com](mailto:ClayPearson@GovernmentResource.com) | 713-816-8639

The City of Battle Creek is an Equal Opportunity Employer and values diversity in its workforce. Applicants selected as finalists for this position will be subject to a comprehensive background check.