

BAYWORK SPOTLIGHT WOMEN IN TRADES



Shrimathi Balasubramanian

Sanitary Engineer
Capital Improvement Program, Environmental Services

Shrimathi, from the City of San Jose, was nominated by her peers and the members of BAYWORK for her commitment to service and passion for women in the trades.

BAYWORK proudly honors
"Empowering Women, Inspiring
Change: Recognizing the Pioneers of
Today and Tomorrow. A tribute to
Women's History Month.



San José-Santa Clara
Regional Wastewater Facility

Shrimathi has been with the City of San Jose for 4 years. With a total of 7 years in her career, she started with her first internship while in college and later worked through internships/fellowships with agencies such as Valley Water and San Matero County Public Works.

Responsibilities:

"I help in the development and delivery of multiple capital infrastructure improvement projects ranging from design through construction and commissioning. This involves supporting project management activities such as negotiating, preparing and managing consultant agreements and construction contracts; collecting and analysis of field data and preparing recommendations; interfacing with the public, consultants, contractors, other City departments, and other agencies; assembling plans and specifications, preparing engineer's estimates and bidding documents; soliciting bids, award contracts, administering the contract; budget and schedule tracking, etc."

What interested you to pursue a career in the field?

"I got inspiration from my dad who used to be a Civil Engineer back in my home country of India. Growing up, I used to accompany my dad to construction sites and have been awestruck about how things are being built and enjoyed observing things in action from a distance. Eventually graduated with a Civil engineering bachelor's degree in India, immigrated to the US in 2014, and pursued master's degree in Civil & Environmental engineering at SJSU, and received my first internship opportunity. That is how I got into the industry here."

If you can provide one piece of advice for women entering the field, what would it be?

"As a woman, who is usually considered a minority in the construction industry, my one piece of advice would be: Don't shy away from any opportunities that come your way, be it big or small. Build confidence, break free from stereotypes, be yourself, and try to empower other women."

To learn more about BAYWORK, or how to nominate a woman in trade or water, go to www.baywork.org