

COUNCIL AGENDA: 09/21/2021 FILE: 21-2046 ITEM: 2.13

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Nanci Klein

SUBJECT: SEE BELOW

DATE: September 3, 2021

Approved Date 09/10/21

SUBJECT: GOOGLE DONATION TO WORK2FUTURE TO FUND THE SAN JOSÉ JOB CENTER RELOCATION COSTS

RECOMMENDATION

Adopt a resolution accepting a donation of \$300,000 from Google for moving, tenant site improvements, and technology upgrades to the new work2future San José Job Center location.

OUTCOME

The recommended action will recognize and make available the \$300,000 for work2future to use for the relocation of the San José Job Center to the Environmental Innovation Center located at 1608 Las Plumas Avenue.

BACKGROUND

The City of San José'swork2future is a recipient of a federal grant under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act ("WIOA"). WIOA is designed to strengthen and improve our nation's public workforce system and help get Americans, including youth and those with significant barriers to employment, into high-quality jobs and careers and help employers hire and retain skilled workers. work2future serves WIOA eligible clients within the San José Silicon Valley Workforce Development Area which includes cities of San José, Gilroy, Campbell, Los Gatos, Saratoga, Morgan Hill, Monte Sereno, Los Altos Hills, and unincorporated areas of Santa Clara County.

As part of federal regulations, a one-stop delivery system is required to be created and maintained by State and Local Boards to bring together workforce development, educational, and other human resource services in a seamless customer-focused service delivery network that enhances access to the programs' services and improves long-term employment outcomes for individuals receiving assistance.

California's one-stop delivery system, America's Job Center of California, is a locally driven system which develops partnerships and provides programs and services to achieve objectives set by California Workforce Development Board.

WIOA mandates that the system must include at least one comprehensive physical center in each local area. The center is accessible to all current and potential individuals and businesses who are seeking assistance with finding a job, building basic educational and occupational skills, earning a post-secondary certificate or degree, obtaining guidance on how to make career choices, and seeking to identify and hire skilled workers.

At its meeting on June 17, 2021, the work2future Board voted to recommend the relocation of the center from 1601 Foxworthy Avenue, San José, CA 95125 to 1608 Las Plumas Avenue, San José, CA 95133.

ANALYSIS

work2future provides services to underserved populations across all programs and provides services to "hard-to-serve" individuals, i.e., individuals who reflect one or more of the following barriers: recipients of public assistance, low-income individuals, individuals who are basic-skills deficient or lacking needed educational credentials, older individuals, long-term unemployed, and/or individuals with English language fluency challenges or other barriers to being fully competitive in the employment market.

work2future's WIOA participant demographics demonstrate the following: 90% of youth are low-income and 87% are youth of color, 75% of our adult clients are people of color, and approximately 60% of adult clients are low-income or basic skills deficient. work2future's San José Works program participant demographics on the other hand comprise of over 92% lowincome youth and approximately 85% youth of color. work2future, through its contractors and partners, continues to meet and exceed all federally mandated performance outcomes related to its clients securing employment, one-year retention, and overall wage increase. Due to this, the State of California recently designated work2future as a high-performing local workforce development board. The certification was received last April 7, 2021.

To better reach vulnerable communities impacted by years of systemic inequities, work2future has been looking for career center locations that could better meet residents where they are. (e.g., East San José, an area which has also been one of the county's areas hardest hit by the pandemic).

Specifically, work2future will move the comprehensive one-stop, the San José Job Center from its current location in San José's Cambrian area to the City's East Side. work2future has worked with many Community Based Organizations in low resource census tracts and will continue focusing and expanding these relationships and add new partnerships with the move to the East Side.

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With the anticipated relocation, Google offered to donate \$300,000 to help with the costs associated with the move which will happen later this year (December 2021) or early next year (January 2022). The donation is in relation to Google's commitment to partner with work2future in its efforts to help Santa Clara County residents get the skills and coaching they need to find a new job, get a promotion, or start a new career and to support provision of client services at the new job center.

CONCLUSION

work2future's job center, in partnership with business and other organizations, provides services that helps Santa Clara County residents get the skills and coaching they need to find a new job, get a promotion, or start a new career. With the expected relocation of the one-stop center to the East side of San José, work2future is expected to serve more clients in the low resource census tracts.

Approval of this action will ensure enough funds to cover for the necessary costs associated with the move which will then lead to better program services offered at the center.

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW-UP

No additional follow-up actions with the City Council are expected at this time. work2future will communicate informational updates about relocation progress and costs to the work2future Board.

CLIMATE SMART SAN JOSÉ

The recommendation in this memo aligns with one or more Climate Smart San José energy, water, or mobility goals.

PUBLIC OUTREACH/INTEREST

This memorandum will be posted on the City's Council Agenda Website for the September 21, 2021, City Council Meeting.

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COORDINATION

This memorandum is coordinated with the City Attorney's Office, City Manager's Budget Office, Department of Public Works, and Department of Planning, Building and Code Enforcement.

FISCAL/POLICY ALIGNMENT

This action supports Initiative 7 of the City's Economic Development Strategy, "Prepare Residents to Participate in the Economy through Training, Education, and Career Support."

COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION/INPUT

No commission recommendation or input is associated with this action.

COST SUMMARY/IMPLICATIONS

The recommendation in this memorandum will allow the City to accept \$300,000 from Google to support the relocation of the work2future San José Job Center. Budget actions associated with the acceptance of funds will be brought forward for City Council approval as part of a future budget process.

CEQA

Not a Project, File No. PP17-010, City Organizational & Administrative Activities resulting in no changes to the physical environment.

/s/ NANCI KLEIN Director of Economic Development

For questions, please contact Monique Melchor, work2future Director, at 408-794-1108.