

pipelines for the innovation economy; and

- Placing new employees into immediate job openings with regional employers in need of STEM talent.

Competition applicants may request up to \$500,000 for implementation of a 24-month program. A 1:1 funding match is required.

The STEM Talent Challenge is authorized under Section 28 of the Stevenson-Wydler Technology Innovation Act of 1980 (15 U.S.C. § 3723).

The Monterey Bay Drone, Automation and Robotics Technologies (DART) has established itself as a leader in advanced manufacturing and STEM education, providing crucial resources and training for the next generation of skilled workers. Through its expanding partnership with Joby Aviation, Farm N-G, and the Salinas Inclusive Economic Development Initiative; The Monterey Bay DART will build a more effective and impactful coalition and improve economic and environmental resiliency in Monterey County.

The potential for this grant to support job growth and workforce development in the region is high. By providing training and resources for high-demand jobs such as advanced manufacturing, the grant will help to create well-paying and sustainable careers that can support families and drive economic growth.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

Staff consulted with County Counsel. This letter of support was recommended by the Economic Development Committee.

FINANCING:

Receiving this report has no financial impact.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC INITIATIVES:

Approval of this letter supports the Board approved strategic initiatives.

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Initiatives

Economic Development

Administration

Health & Human Services

Infrastructure

Public Safety

Prepared by: Isela Sandoval, Management Analyst II, x7214

Approved by: Richard Vaughn, Economic Development Manager, x5602

Attachments:

MDART Support Letter

Executive Summary

FY 23 STEM Talent Challenge Notice of Funding Opportunity

