



MEMORANDUM

TO: Workforce Development Board Executive Committee

FROM: Christopher Donnelly

SUBJECT: Approval to Execute a High RoadSM Construction Careers Agreement with the Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund for Northern California

DATE: May 21, 2026

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Executive Committee approves staff to execute an agreement with the Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund for Northern California to provide one cycle of pre-apprenticeship training and placement services, effective June 1, 2026, through December 31, 2026, for an amount not to exceed \$19,700.

BACKGROUND:

The State of California's 2023 High RoadSM Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund (HRCC: RWF) grants provide funding for pre-apprenticeship training services to prepare participants for careers in the building trades. In August 2023, the Monterey County Workforce Development Board (MCWDB) executed an agreement with the Monterey/Santa Cruz Counties Building Trades Council Training & Education Fund for a term from June 12, 2023, through March 31, 2026, to provide cohort-based pre-apprenticeship training services to a total of 126 participants. However, after one complete training cycle, the Building Trades Council notified the MCWDB that the agreement for HRCC: RWF services would be terminated effective February 15, 2024.

On June 25, 2024, the Monterey County Board of Supervisors authorized the MCWDB Executive Director to sign an agreement, effective June 25, 2024, through March 31, 2026, to continue the pre-apprenticeship training program with the Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund for Northern California, as approved by the Monterey/Santa Cruz Counties Building & Construction Trades Council.

The MCWDB serves as the lead and fiscal agent for the Monterey Bay Collaborative's HRCC: RWF program, which primarily focuses on women but also seeks to serve disaffected youth, lower income and unhoused individuals, racial and ethnic minorities, and formerly incarcerated individuals. The program's outcomes included 87 participants to receive the industry-recognized Multi Craft Core Curriculum (MC3) certificate in preparation for their apprenticeships, thereby building the infrastructure workforce in the program's three-county region. During the grant term, MCWDB and the Laborers were able to graduate 93 participants with the MC3 certificate, thus exceeding the program goal of 87.

At the end of the grant term, MCWDB was notified that bridge funding in the amount of \$73,207 was available to extend the HRCC program for an additional cycle, that MCWDB's proposal for the additional cycle would be evaluated quickly, and that notice of award would be immediate for a start date of June 10, 2026.

DISCUSSION:

MCWDB provided its grant proposal by the May 6 due date and received notice on the following day, May 7, 2026, that it would be awarded a total of \$73,207 to continue the HRCC program, with \$19,700 to be allocated to the Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund for Northern California to provide the pre-apprenticeship training (\$17,500), as well as testing and instructional materials for the program (\$2,200).

NEXT STEPS:

If the recommendation to execute an agreement with the Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund is approved by the Executive Committee, it will be forwarded to the Monterey County Board of Supervisors for the next available meeting date, and to the full board for ratification at its next available meeting date.