

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR 220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645 ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48107-8645 (734)222-6850 FAX (734)222-6715

TO: Barbara Levin Bergman, Chair

Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel

County Administrator

FROM: Trenda Rusher, Director

ETCS

DATE: November 7, 2007

SUBJECT: Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incumbent Worker Program

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners ratify the signature of the Chair of the Board on the ETCS plan application to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth's for the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Incumbent Worker Program in the amount of \$194,212 for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008; authorize the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award; approve the budget; and authorize the Administrator to sign delegate contracts.

BACKGROUND:

The Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth (MDLEG) has identified \$5,000,000 in federal funds for the WIA Incumbent Worker Program. This program will address the goals of local strategic plans and the needs of local employers for a trained workforce.

DISCUSSION:

The Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board (WDB) has a unique working partnership called the MEGA P, a model regional economic and workforce development effort with community leaders from Washtenaw-based organizations. Representatives from a number of organizations, including Ann Arbor SPARK and both the Ann Arbor Area and the Ypsilanti Area Chambers of Commerce, work together to provide innovative workforce and economic development solutions to Washtenaw County. The working partnership consists of the partners sharing information on job seekers and employers to facilitate linkages between the organizations. It is anticipated that the partners will help generate the referrals of employers to benefit from this new program and result in additional economic benefits to the region. The Chambers of Commerce will work actively to inform its members about the program and to encourage member participation. The WDB will assist

the Chambers by communicating information about career opportunities in small and medium-sized businesses to its customers.

One of the five goals identified by the MEGA P and the Washtenaw County WDB in their strategic planning process was to assist small and medium-sized businesses in developing their workforce needs. To qualify for funding, a business must have at least twenty-five (25) full-time employees. The Incumbent Worker Program will provide a solid tool in which to address this goal.

This funding will be used to provide employers in the Washtenaw County area with training services to upgrade existing employee skills in an effort to avoid layoff situations. Employers who benefit from this service will then work with the local Michigan Works! Service Center to fill any positions created by the promotion of incumbent workers who were trained through the program. Special emphasis will be placed on the hiring of both WIA and JET/Work First Program participants and persons with disabilities.

For Fiscal Year (FY) 06-07, Washtenaw County ETCS received \$115,798 in WIA Incumbent Worker Program funds. ETCS mailed letters and published a notice requesting applications from employers interested in providing training with these funds. Requests were limited to mini-grants of up to \$10,000 per employer. ETCS rewarded funds to twelve (12) companies throughout Washtenaw County to provide training for 230 individuals.

For FY 07-08, ETCS will receive \$194,212, which is an increase of \$78,414. ETCS will again accept applications from employers interested in providing Incumbent Worker training. With these funds, ETCS will provide mini-grants of up to \$15,000, an increase of up to \$5,000, for each interested employer. ETCS plans to award mini-grants to twelve (12) employers, which is the same number as FY 06-07. With the increase in funding per mini-grant, however, the employers will be able to provide training for more individuals.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

The requested Board action has no impact on Washtenaw County positions, personnel policies or procedures.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

The requested Board action approves the FY 07-08 WIA Incumbent Worker Program budget in the amount of \$194,212. There are no county funds, nor match required for this program.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

The requested board action has no indirect costs associated with this budget.

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS OR OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

The requested Board action has no impact on other County Departments or outside agencies.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This matter has been reviewed by the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board, Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, Human Resources, the County

Administrator's Office and the Ways and Means Committee. The requested Board action is in conformity with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS/APPENDICES:
FY 07-08 WIA Incumbent Worker Program Plan FY 07-08 WIA Incumbent Worker Budget

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON THE FISCAL YEAR 07-08 WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT INCUMBENT WORKER PROGRAM PLAN TO THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$194,212 FOR THE PERIOD OF JULY 1, 2007 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2008 FOR ETCS; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; APPROVING THE BUDGET; AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

November 14, 2007

WHEREAS, ETCS serves employers and job seekers under State direction, through grants to local Michigan Works! Agencies, administered locally by the Washtenaw County Workforce Development; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth has identified \$5,000,000 in federal funding for the implementation of the Workforce Investment Act Incumbent Worker Program; and

WHEREAS, this program will address the goals of local strategic plans and the needs of local employers for a trained workforce; and

WHEREAS, one of the five goals identified by the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board, in their strategic planning process, was to assist small and medium-sized businesses in developing their workforce needs; and

WHEREAS, this funding will be used to provide employers in the Washtenaw County area with training services to upgrade existing employee skills in an effort to avoid layoff situations; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Workforce Development Board, Corporation Counsel, the Finance Department, the Human Resources Department, the County Administrator's Office, and the Ways and Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the Chair of the Board's signature on the Workforce Investment Act Incumbent Worker Program Plan to the Michigan Department of Labor and Economic Growth in the amount of \$194,212 for the period of July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2008 for Washtenaw County ETCS, as on file with the County Clerk

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the application:

- 1. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
- 2. Amending the budget as attached hereto and made a part hereof
- 3. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the delegate contract upon review by Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk

Washtenaw County ETCS WIA Incumbent Worker 07/01/07 – 06/30/08

BU: 2330079100

Revenues	Federal Revenue	Original	Revised	Variance
50000		\$0	\$194,212	\$194,212
Expenditure:	s	Original	Revised	Variance
	Other Services & Charges	\$0	\$194,212	\$194.212