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TO: Conan Smith, Chair
Ways & Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert E. Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Trenda Rusher, Director
ETCS

DATE: February 18, 2009

SUBJECT: FY 2009 No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) General Fund/General
Purpose (GF/GP)

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

It is requested that the Board of Commissioners (BOC) ratify the signature of the Chair of the Board on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) Funding from the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) for the time period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 in the amount of \$38,450.

BACKGROUND:

Governor Granholm announced the No Worker Left Behind (NLWB) initiative on August 1, 2007, an ambitious plan to train 100,000 citizens in three (3) years for jobs in high demand occupations and emerging industries or entrepreneurial endeavors. The NWLB initiative gives Michigan workers the opportunity to acquire the skills they need to win good-paying jobs in today's global economy. By reorganizing and augmenting federal funds currently used for workforce development, NWLB will provide \$5,000 per year for up to two (2) years of free tuition per participant (for a total of \$10,000 of free tuition) at any Michigan community college, university, or other approved training program for qualifying participants.

The Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) is the state department that is charged with overseeing the NWLB program. Enabling workers to acquire the skills necessary to succeed in the fast-changing global economy of the 21st Century is the foundation for the Governor's NWLB initiative. Having an adaptive, highly skilled workforce is central to Michigan's strategy for economic transformation. The NWLB initiative aligns all federal workforce dollars used for worker training into a unified workforce development strategy.

The federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) is the primary funding source for the NWLB program. WIA was mandated on August 7, 1998 and provides the framework for a unique national workforce preparation and employment system designed to meet both the needs of businesses and the needs of job seekers and those who want to further their careers.

Public Act 251 of 2008 appropriated \$15 million in FY 2009 GF/GP funding to the DELEG to support the Governor's NWLB initiative. DELEG Policy Issuance (PI) Number 08-17 awards \$2 million of this funding to the 25 Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs), of which ETCS is one, for use during FY 2009.

DISCUSSION:

ETCS is the administrator and operator of employment and training programs in Washtenaw County. It is funded by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA), the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), and the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) to provide employment training and placement services. The Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board (WDB) and the Board of Commissioners (BOC) oversee, recommend and approve employment and training programs throughout Washtenaw County. ETCS is also referred to as the local Michigan Works! Agency (MWA).

This is the second year of NWLB GF/GP funding. These funds will be used to provide allowable training activities to individuals identified as NWLB program participants. Allowable training activities includes tuition of up to \$5,000 per year for up to two (2) years of free tuition per participant (for a total of \$10,000 of free tuition) at any Michigan community college, university, or other approved training program for qualifying participants. With this funding, approximately eight (8) additional participants will be served. MWAs will leverage other available NWLB funding to provide participants with "wrap-around" services, including, but not limited to, assessments, training referrals, job placement assistance, and follow-up services. Individuals served with the funding awarded in this policy issuance must meet all NWLB requirements.

To qualify for the NWLB program, workers must:

- Take a skills assessment test, which will be administered by the local Michigan Works! Agency (MWA/ETCS); and
- Pursue a degree or other occupational certificate in a high-demand occupation, emerging industry, or in an entrepreneurship program. Although there is flexibility to account for individual worker's needs and interests, the emphasis is on connecting workers to education and training programs that will lead to a certificate or degree of value and a job in a growing sector of the economy.

The NWLB tuition program is a one-time offer. Eligible participants have three (3) years to register as of the program implementation date of August 1, 2007.

Eligibility

The following Michigan residents are eligible for NWLB tuition assistance:

- Any individual who is currently unemployed, regardless if the individual qualifies for Unemployment Insurance (UI) benefits. Individuals who accepted a buy-out are eligible for the program regardless of their UI status. The Michigan Works! Agency (MWA) will assist these individuals with the utilization of any available buy-out funding for training before expending other sources of funding for training; or
- Any person who has received a notice of termination or layoff from employment; or
- Any employed person whose family income is \$40,000 or less.

Dependents, age 18 – 23, must include their parent's income in determining family income regardless if they live with their parents or not.

Young People (Ages 18-23)

- Must be at least 18 years old,
- Must not have graduated from high school in the last two years, and
- Must not be a full-time college student.

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 will approve the ETCS Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) budget in the amount of \$38,450 in Federal revenue. County funds and match are not required.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

Indirect costs are not included in 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:

The requested Board action is in conformity with County policies.

ATTACHMENTS:

FY 2009 NWLB GF/GP Funding Budget

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE CHAIR OF THE BOARD'S SIGNATURE ON THE FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2009 NO WORKER LEFT BEHIND (NWLB) GENERAL FUND/GENERAL PURPOSE (GF/GP) FUNDING FROM THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY, LABOR AND ECONOMIC GROWTH (DELEG) FOR THE TIME PERIOD OF OCTOBER 1, 2008 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2009 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$38,450 FOR THE EMPLOYMENT TRAINING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES (ETCS) DEPARTMENT; AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AMENDING THE BUDGET, AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE DELEGATE CONTRACTS.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

March 4, 2009

WHEREAS, ETCS submitted a plan to the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) in the amount of \$38,450 for the period of October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009; and

WHEREAS, ETCS is the administrator and operator of employment training programs in Washtenaw County and it is funded by the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) of 1998, the United States Department of Labor (USDOL), and the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) to provide employment training and placements services; and

WHEREAS, the Washtenaw County Workforce Development Board (WDB) and the Board of Commissioners (BOC) oversee, recommend, and approve employment and training programs throughout Washtenaw County; and

WHEREAS, enabling workers to acquire the skills necessary to succeed in today's 21st Century knowledge economy is central to Michigan's strategy for economic transformation and is the foundation for the Governor's No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) initiative; and

WHEREAS, the NWLB initiative aligns all federal workforce dollars used for worker training into a unified workforce development strategy; and

WHEREAS, DELEG Policy Issuance (PI) Number 08-17 awards \$2 million of this funding to the 25 Michigan Works! Agencies (MWAs), of which ETCS is one, for use during FY 2009; and

WHEREAS, ETCS is required to submit a budget to the DELEG for the FY 2009 NWLB GF/GP funding; and

WHEREAS, it is anticipated that approximately eight (8) eligible participants will be served with this funding; and

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners (BOC) hereby ratifies the Chair of the Board's signature on the Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) General Fund/General Purpose (GF/GP) Funding from the Michigan Department of Energy, Labor and Economic Growth (DELEG) for the time period of

October 1, 2008 through September 30, 2009 in the amount of \$38,450 for the Employment Training and Community Services (ETCS) Department, 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. Authorize the Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Amend the budget, as attached hereto and made a part hereof
3. Authorizing the Administrator to sign the delegate contracts upon review by Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk.

Washtenaw County ETCS
 No Worker Left Behind (NWLB) General Funds/General Purpose (GF/GP)
 Business Unit: 2410089130
 Fiscal Year: 10/01/08 – 09/30/09

Revenues		Original	Revised	Variance
50100	Federal Revenue	\$ 0	\$38,450	\$38,450
 Expenditures		 Original	 Revised	 Variance
80750	Administration	\$ 0	\$ 1,154	\$ 1,154
80770	Participant Training	\$ 0	\$37,296	\$37,296
		\$ 0	\$38,450	\$38,450