

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 05/14/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Application to State of California Employment Development Department (EDD) for Green Jobs Corps Initiative Grant

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Approve the submission of a regional Green Jobs Corps Initiative Grant application to the EDD in the amount of \$1,000,000 to serve 120-160 at-risk youth for technical, construction and other skilled jobs in eco-friendly industries.

DISCUSSION: EDD and California Volunteers in coordination with the California Workforce Investment Board and the Labor and Workforce Development Agency announced the availability of up to \$10 million of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Workforce Investment Act funding. The source of the grant funds is Governor's Discretionary 15%. The program will fund up to 10 regional Green Jobs Corps pilot programs throughout the state (one grant per region), to place at least 1,000 at-risk youth ages 16-24 into green jobs over the next 20 months. The pilot program will train at-risk youth for technical, construction and other skilled jobs in eco-friendly industries that are expected to help fuel economic recovery. Green Jobs Corps recruits will be expected to continue their education and contribute to communities through community service while being provided job training and assistance with job placement.

Only Local Workforce Investment Boards or Community Colleges are allowed to apply for this funding. In the San Joaquin Valley region, the Central California Workforce Collaborative will apply to serve 120-160 youth. Merced County Workforce Investment Board will be the lead applicant. The amount requested through this Solicitation for Proposal (SFP) is \$1,000,000 with May 26, 2009 as the deadline for proposal submissions. Due to limited timeframes, a regional approach and the looming deadline, the application is in the process of being completed. This application is also being coordinated through the Merced County Board of Supervisors for submission through www.grants.gov.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A