

TO: Executive Committee

DATE: 10/05/09

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Report

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Enterprise Zone Management

PROPOSED MOTION(S): None. Information only.

DISCUSSION: The Enterprise Zone (EZ) Program targets economically distressed areas throughout California. Special State and local incentives encourage business investment and promote the creation of new jobs. The purpose of the program is to stimulate development by providing tax incentives to businesses and allow private sector market forces to revive the local economy.

An information paper was included in the September 3, 2009 WIB packet stating the Director of the Merced County Department of Workforce Investment is the new Merced County EZ Manager. As the new EZ Manager, the Department will assist the seven jurisdictions (Merced County and the cities of Atwater, Los Banos, Dos Palos, Gustine, Livingston and Merced) with the ongoing process of implementing, reviewing and evaluating the EZ Marketing Plan and Strategy, Financing Plan, Job development Plan, along with Planning and Local Incentives.

Current projects include: The expansion of the current EZ, constructing a website, developing memorandums of understanding for the jurisdictions, marketing, and training Department employees.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A