

**TO: Workforce Investment Board**

**DATE: 3/08/07**

**FROM: WIB Staff**

**For Action**

**For Information**

**For Discussion**

**SUBJECT: Northern San Joaquin Valley Partnership Manufacturing Grant Award**

**PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information only.**

**DISCUSSION: The Merced County Local Workforce Investment Area (LWIA), in partnership with the LWIAs of Madera, San Joaquin and Stanislaus Counties have been awarded a \$600,000 Employment Development Dept grant to connect workforce investment resources to the manufacturing industry, which is expected to play a major role in the expansion of the Northern San Joaquin Valley economy and where current skill shortages are hampering business growth. The four LWIAs of the Northern San Joaquin Valley Partnership will provide employment and training services to 90 Workforce Investment Act eligible participants in order to place them in high growth, high demand, and high wage jobs in the manufacturing industry. Occupations include industrial machinery mechanics, maintenance and repair and repair workers, and welders.**

**The grant will run from January 1, 2007 through December 31, 2008, and will provide \$90,000 to Merced County for on-the-job training to 20 participants.**

**ATTACHMENT(S): N/A**