

**TO: Workforce Investment Board**

**Date: May 24, 2001**

**For Action**  
 **For Information**  
 **Meeting Notes**

**FROM: Finance Committee**

**SUBJECT: Transfer of Vans to FIRM BUILD**

**PROPOSED MOTION: That the Board instruct the WIA Title I Provider to affect the transfer of two surplus vans to FIRM BUILD provided that such transaction results no exposure to liability to either the Board or Merced County.**

**DISCUSSION: Merced County Housing Authority's FIRM BUILD program was developed with two distinct goals in mind. First to promote individual self sufficiency and second to assist in the campaign of welfare to work. FIRM BUILD participants are public housing and Section 8 residents looking to learn a job skill. Residents work on a wide variety of HA modernization and repair projects. The program is a self paced, work first process that includes extensive on the job training supplemented by some basic classroom instruction.**

**Residents of the Authority are selected, trained and employed in modernization work for the agency. Each resident trainee is given formal and on-the-job instruction in the construction field. Progress is monitored closely and assignments and responsibilities are changed as needed. Upon completion of the self-paced training, residents are given referrals to private employers or assistance in starting their own businesses.**

**PITD will shortly be replacing two of its vans. These vans could be put to use by FIRM BUILD to transport participants and their equipment to worksites.**