

TO: Program Planning & Development

DATE: 8/25/05

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Economic Development Action Team

PROPOSED MOTION(S): That the PP&D Committee re-establish its Economic Development Action Team with the intent to work with key Economic Development organizations to review the status and possibly update the Merced County Economic Development Strategic Plan.

DISCUSSION: Economic Development is a key activity in the WIB's Implications for Action as published in the 2004 State of the Workforce. An analysis of the implication reveals that most of the suggested actions have been completed. The first action – studying successful models of regional economic development collaborations and partnerships was accomplished thru visits of WIB members Andrea Baker, John Fowler, and Scott Galbraith to Kings, Tulare and Stanislaus Counties. Additionally, the Director for Workforce Investment in Stanislaus County presented their model to the WIB Executive Committee. The second action – develop and recommending a formal partnership has been accomplished by installing Economic Development partners as members of the WIB. Those partners are now offering an expanded relationship between the Economic Development professionals of the cities and the county to the WIB, specifically through the Program Planning & Development Committee.

An Implication action which needs attention concerns “Ensure the complete implementation of the Merced County Economic Development Strategic Plan by:

- **Reviewing status and recommending action.**

The action was recently reviewed during an Economic Development “Brown Bag” meeting attended by five (5) members of the Program Planning & Development Committee and WIB staff. A question arose as to whether the Strategic Plan should undergo a plan update, and if an update is undertaken, who would help with the update.

The WIB members present felt the Plan should undergo an update and that the WIB would want to participate. It is suggested that the Program Planning & Development Committee re-establish its Economic Development Team for this purpose.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A