

TO: Program Planning & Development

DATE: 8/25/05

FROM: WIB Staff

For Action

For Information

For Discussion

SUBJECT: Update on Implications for Action – Education & Workforce Housing

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Information Only.

DISCUSSION: The WIB presented three Implications for Action as a part of the 2004 State of the Workforce for Merced County. The Implications for Action were offered as “... opportunities and recommendations to be considered and supports the following actions that need to happen as any action plans are framed around the Regional Strategic Issues.”

Education: At the July 14, 2005 meeting of the WIB, the WIB members who chose to evaluate progress concerning the Education Implication for Action decided to rewrite the Implication. The new verbiage follows:

The Merced County Workforce Investment Board strongly recommends that two related organizations be established and strengthened in order to improve the quality of education in Merced County and as a result improve Merced County’s workforce and economy.

The first of these organizations, and essentially an umbrella for the second, is a Preschool Through 16 Council (P-16). The Council’s goals include:

- **Supporting continuous increases in academic performance (as outlined in the Merced County Economic Development Strategic Plan, Goal 4.30).**
- **Including stakeholders from all levels of education, workforce development organizations, economic development organizations, businesses and others as interested.**
- **Focusing on “macro” issues relevant to schools and the community.**
- **Promoting P-16 communication and collaboration.**
- **Sharing and using data to promote and demonstrate school achievement progress.**

The second organization is the Community Business Alliance. Still in the conceptual stage, it is expected that the Alliance will be linked closely with the P-16 Council, sharing many of the same goals and some of the same members. Planning for the Alliance will focus on:

- **Supporting the development of comprehensive career education services for K-14 students, dropouts and underemployed individuals.**
- **Services will include K-12 career/technical education, career/technical education curriculum development, career/technical student awareness – particularly of career pathways and instruction in adult basic skills (including English as a second language, and Vocational English as a second language).**

- Membership from business in industry will be targeted.

Workforce Housing: The Workforce Housing Implication for Action has been active. On June 28, 2005, the BOS approved the creation of a Workforce Housing Taskforce. By the first week in August, the Board had appointed Supervisor Deidra Kelsey as its representative to the Taskforce. At the present time the following individuals have agreed to serve on the Taskforce:

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| Atwater | Moe Khatami | Asst City Manager |
| Dos Palos | Everett Younce | City Council Member |
| Gustine | Don Hutchins | City Manager |
| Livingston | Gerald Forde | City Manager |
| Los Banos | Ken Hubler | Redevelopment Director |
| Merced | Masoud Niroumand | Housing Program Coordinator |

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|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Christina Alley | Member at Large |
| Don Borgwardt | Housing Authority |
| Nelson Crabb | Insurance Industry |
| Ray Rodriquez | Real Estate Industry |
| Joe Ramirez | Finance Banking Industry |
| Don Bergman | Workforce Investment Board |
| Rolli Smith | HUD (Advisor to the Taskforce) |

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A