



City of Santa Ana
20 Civic Center Plaza, Santa Ana, CA 92701
Staff Report
May 2, 2023

TOPIC: Biennial Modification to the PY 2021-24 Regional and Local Workforce Plan

AGENDA TITLE

Biennial Modification to the Program Year (PY) 2021-24 Regional and Local Workforce Plan for Grant Funds Received from the Federal Title I Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act

RECOMMENDED ACTION

1. Approve the modification to the Regional and Unified Local Plan for PY 2021-24 and direct staff to submit to the California Workforce Development Board and State of California Employment Development Department.
2. Authorize the Mayor to execute all documents necessary for the submission of the PY 2021-24 modified Regional and Unified Local Plan.
3. Authorize staff to submit revisions to the PY 2021-24 Regional and Unified Local Plan should they be necessary as requested by the California Workforce Development Board or California Employment Development Department.

DISCUSSION

Under the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA), a biennial update of region and local workforce plans is required to ensure plans remain current and account for changes in labor market and economic conditions or other factors affecting the implementation of the local plan (29 U.S. Code 3123).

The California Unified Strategic Workforce Development Plan (State Plan) is an overarching state policy document that provides a conceptual outline for Local Workforce Boards and their partners as they jointly develop regional and local plans. The State Plan policy objectives, developed in collaboration with WIOA partners and Local Boards, work towards the shared vision of creating a comprehensive system that impacts poverty, promotes income mobility, and embeds equity as a cornerstone of service-delivery.

As outlined under WIOA Section 106, Regional Plans provide a roadmap for alignment of resources and investments to meet specific outcomes within the 15 Regional

Planning Units (RPU). Regional Plans are used to articulate how RPUs will build intentionality around industry sector engagement, drive workforce development outcomes across multiple jurisdictions, and expand on-ramps to career pathways for individuals who experience barriers to employment.

WIOA Section 108 requires Local Plans to provide an action plan for operationalizing the roadmap laid out in the Regional Plan by describing how individuals access services through their local America's Job Center of California (AJCC) system. Local Plans articulate how Local Boards will coordinate with local partners to ensure person-centered service-delivery.

In alignment with the recently revised State Plan, the draft Regional and Unified Local Plans (Exhibit 1 and Exhibit 2) focus on the development of partnerships to create a coordinated service delivery approach to targeted populations, including individuals with barriers to employment and hard to serve populations.

In order to develop a Regional and Local Plan that represents all the moving parts involved in the workforce system, staff from the Anaheim, County of Orange, and Santa Ana Workforce Boards (Orange Region Planning Unit - ORPU) proactively engaged community leaders and key partners through a series of community stakeholder engagement sessions held in the fall of 2022. The ORPU collectively approached leaders and decision makers as one workforce system. For this reason, the ORPU also collaborated on the preparation of a Local Plan to develop a Unified Local Plan.

The draft Regional and Unified Local Plan concluded a 30-day public review and comment period with no formal comments received. The Executive Committee of the Santa Ana Workforce Development Board met on March 22, 2023 to approve the Plan documents as presented and forward a recommendation to City Council to approve the Regional and Unified Local Plan and authorize the Mayor to execute all documents to allow staff to submit to the state by a June 30, 2023 deadline.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact associated with this action.

EXHIBIT(S)

1. Exhibit PY 2021-24 Two Year Modification - Regional Plan
2. Exhibit PY 2021-24 Two Year Modification - Local Plan

Submitted By: Michael L. Garcia, Executive Director of Community Development

Approved By: Kristine Ridge, City Manager