



lacounty.gov

Hilda L. Solis  
Mark Ridley-Thomas  
Sheila Kuehl  
Janice Hahn  
Kathryn Barger

# COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT, AGING AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

3175 West Sixth Street • Los Angeles, CA 90020

Tel: 213-738-2600 • Fax 213- 487-0379

*To enrich lives through effective and caring service*



wdacs.lacounty.gov

Cynthia D. Banks  
Director

Otto Solórzano  
Chief Deputy

March 10, 2017

TO: Los Angeles County Workforce Development Board

FROM: Josie Marquez  
Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS)

SUBJECT: **RECOMMENDATION ON STANDING COMMITTEES FOR BUSINESS  
ENGAGEMENT AND CAREER PATHWAYS AND EDUCATION**

This memorandum responds to the Workforce Development Board's (WDB) discussion at the last WDB meeting related to the formation of a committee structure that would focus on business engagement and system alignment, as well as career pathways and services to targeted populations. At the last meeting of the WDB, commissioners expressed that a deeper and more deliberate level of engagement is needed to gain insight into the strategies the County has in place through its Business Services Division and system alignment.

The WDB has instituted an ad-hoc workgroup approach to address important matters such as the County Budget and the Regional and Local Plans. This approach has been a very effective short-term forum for engaging the board commissioners on topical issues and to gain a better understanding of the County WDACS processes.

While workgroups have been effective, a committee structure will help the WDB develop strategies and action plans in the areas of employer engagement and career pathways.

It is therefore recommended the WDB establish two Standing Committees<sup>1</sup>; one for *Business Engagement*, and, one for *Career Pathways and Education*.

## **Purpose and Activities of the Committees:**

***Business Engagement Committee:*** This committee will be composed of WDB members and external business partners, and will be staffed by WDACS Business Services team members. The following are proposed committee activities:

---

<sup>1</sup> Taken from Section 679.360 of the WIOA Final Rule: "Standing committees may be established by the Local WDB to provide information and assist the Local WDB in carrying out its responsibilities under WIOA sec. 107. Standing committees must be chaired by a member of the Local WDB, may include other members of the Local WDB, and must include other individuals appointed by the Local WDB who are not members of the Local WDB and who have demonstrated experience and expertise in accordance with § 679.340(b) and as determined by the Local WDB."

- I. Development and approval of a Business Engagement Plan that consists of the following strategies:
  - a. Use of Labor Market Information and business intelligence to develop regional strategies to engage industries and businesses;
  - b. Lead engagement of industry leaders and economic development organizations to build strong sector based workforce programs;
  - c. Foster and develop relationships with industries and employers in order to promote access and use of our County AJCC System;
  - d. Provide services to and for employers, including training of incumbent workers, new hires and potential hires.
  - e. Develop methods to meet the workforce needs of high demand sectors by preparing skilled workers for employment in competitive and emergency industry sectors.

### ***Career Pathways and Education Committee.***

In alignment with the California Workforce Investment Board, it is recommended we mirror the work of their “***Career Pathways and Education Committee (CPEC)***” to identify and implement comprehensive strategies to align education with career preparation as a catalyst for economic prosperity and to successfully compete within the 21st Century workplace.

The CPEC/s identified the following three key objectives:

- **Objective 1:** Expand Career-Based Education Opportunities for All Learners
- **Objective 2:** Create Opportunities for All Students to Receive Nationally-Recognized, Industry-Valued Certifications/Credentials
- **Objective 3:** Build Regional Linkages Between Public Education and Growth/Demand Industry Sectors

The County’s alignment with the state creates a comprehensive coordinated effort which would involve the WDB, educational leaders on our WDB board as well as external partners in adult schools, community colleges and career technical education.

### **Recommendation:**

1. Approve the formation of two WDB Standing Committees, as stated above: 1) Business Engagement; and 2) Career Pathways and Education.