



Workforce Investment Board

COUNTY OF TULARE AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

LARRY MICARI
District One

PETE VANDER POEL
District Two

AMY SHUKLIAN
District Three

EDDIE VALERO
District Four

DENNIS TOWNSEND
District Five

AGENDA DATE: March 4, 2025

Public Hearing Required	N/A
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	N/A
Published Notice Required	N/A
Advertised Published Notice	N/A
Meet & Confer Required	N/A
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	N/A
Personnel Resolution attached	N/A
Agreement(s) attached	Yes

CONTACT PERSON: Edith Hernandez PHONE: 559-713-5219

SUBJECT: Approve and Sign the Application for the Workforce Investment Board to Act as the America's Job Center of California Operator for the Employment Connection System

REQUEST(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the application for the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County to continue to act as the America's Job Center of California (AJCC) Operator for the Employment Connection System in Tulare County.
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board to sign two (2) originals of the application.

SUMMARY:

The WIB is requesting a waiver from the Governor to be the AJCC Operator for the Employment Connection System in Tulare County for program years 2025-2028 through a noncompetitive designation based on its proven leadership, system expertise, and commitment to collaboration within Tulare County's workforce development system. Local boards are required to procure an AJCC Operator every four years.

Background

Since 2017, the WIB has held Governor-approved authority as the AJCC Operator, first contracting with an external entity and later assuming direct responsibility in 2020 to enhance system efficiency. Through this transition, the WIB leveraged existing expertise, strengthened partner coordination, and improved integration service delivery across the Employment Connection System.

The WIB oversees key system functions, including:

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- AJCC Certification & Continuous Improvement – ensuring high-quality service delivery.
- Cost-Sharing & Infrastructure Funding Agreements – aligning cost share with system needs.
- Partner Coordination & Onboarding – facilitating seamless collaboration among AJCC partners.
- Cross-Training & Professional Development – Enhancing staff expertise and service effectiveness.

Why the WIB is Best Positioned as the AJCC Operator

The WIB has successfully led system integration and service alignment across Tulare county's two comprehensive AJCCs (Visalia and Porterville) by prioritizing:

- Strong partnerships – regular convenings to foster collaboration and accountability.
- Customer-focused service delivery – ensuring universal access and seamless referrals.
- Data-driven decision-making – using insights to enhance program effectiveness.
- Innovation workforce strategies – implementing modernized, skill-focused approaches.

Noncompetitive Justification

The competitive RFP process in 2017 failed due to insufficient qualified proposals. As a result, the WIB entered into a sole-source contract with an organization to act as the one-stop operator, which ultimately demonstrated that an external provider could not match the WIB's effectiveness in driving system integration. Direct oversight by the WIB has reduced costs, strengthened service alignment, and ensured seamless coordination across partners. The WIB's leadership has led to system improvements that a third-party provider could not replicate. Replacing the WIB at this stage would disrupt progress and risk diminishing service quality.

Public Comment and notification to WIOA mandatory AJCC partner programs:

- A 30-day Public Comment period on the request for approval of the WIB to be the AJCC Operator through noncompetitive procurement was available electronically from January 8, 2025, to February 4, 2025, on www.tularewib.org.
- Employment Connection MOU partners received a personalized email with an explanation of the WIB's plans to request approval to be the AJCC Operator. Partners were given the opportunity to provide letters of support and/or express their views electronically.

The Request for Approval to be an AJCC Operator application is due to the California Workforce Development Board by March 1, 2025.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

None

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

N/A

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ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

/s/Adam Peck
Adam Peck
Executive Director

Cc: County Administrative Office

Attachments: America's Job Center of California Operator Application