



Memorandum

TO: MAYOR LICCARDO

FROM: Councilmember Sylvia Arenas

SUBJECT: BUDGET DOCUMENT

DATE: 5/25/21

Approved *Sylvia Arenas*

Date *5/25/2021*

RECOMMENDATION

That the following recommendation be enacted.

Proposal

Program/Project Title: Re-envisioning Workforce Development Programs

Amount of City Funding Required: \$256,500

This change is:

One-time Ongoing

Cost Estimate Number (if applicable): 99

Proposal Description, including the reason for the need and anticipated outcomes (Please describe how the proposal will affect services for San José residents, community groups, businesses, etc.):

In City Manager’s Budget Addendum #9, the administration lays out a clear path forward for improving the ways that our career readiness programs collaborate and deliver on objectives. It is a major step forward in improving our effectiveness. Staff strongly recommend adding a College and Career Readiness Community Programs Administrator.

MBA #9 lays out the steps to a strong step forward, however, I recommend providing additional consulting support to this work. This stands to potentially deliver a much greater return on investment. Exciting new approaches to integrating programs are being developed in cities such as Austin, Philadelphia, Seattle, and Los Angeles County, and bringing in consulting support stands to give us a major opportunity to maximize the value of our future investments.

According to the administration, a consultant would facilitate the coordination across City and community programs to expand curated employment and education pathways for residents. The additional expertise provided by a consultant will expedite the primary goals of:

- Engagement of all appropriate City and community partners (including the Opportunity Youth Partnership) to create an integrated program approach;
- Research relevant best practices and current improvements in peer cities (such as Austin, Philadelphia, Seattle, and Los Angeles County);
- Development of a framework to braid funding and create a system-of-care approach with programs that help move targeted individuals from where they currently are to where they're hoping to get to;
- Recommendations for data management to track participation and outcomes across the broader system; and
- Assistance in creating a system of care and MediCal reimbursement sustainable funding stream for youth intervention programs (likely with a partnership with Santa Clara County Behavioral Health).

The pandemic's impact on lower wage earners, female workers, and workers who are people of color is well documented. By utilizing ARP funds to improve our ability to deliver an effective ecosystem of jobs and workforce development programs, we can move the needle forward for the communities most negatively affected by the pandemic while creating long lasting systems improvements.

Funding Source

Essential Services Reserve:

Other (Please specify program/project/fund): American Rescue Plan

Department or Organization Contact

Please list the contact information for the individual that certified cost estimates contained within your recommendation:

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