



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Elizabeth Pauli, City Manager
FROM: Deborah Trevorror, Contract & Program Auditor, Community & Economic Development
Jeff Robinson, Director, Community & Economic Development
COPY: City Council and City Clerk
SUBJECT: Request for Resolution to Accept Award of Environmental Protection Agency Cooperative Agreement for Grant Funds for Brownfields Job Training Program – January 9, 2024
DATE: December 18, 2023

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

The Community and Economic Development Department requests a Resolution authorizing the execution of a Cooperative Agreement awarded by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), for grant funds in the amount of \$500,000.00, to support a Brownfields Job Training Program (BJTP).

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On: The Community and Economic Development Department’s Local Employment and Apprenticeship Training Program (LEAP) has successfully managed eight EPA-funded Brownfields Job Training Programs over the past 22 years. Staff presented before the Economic Development Committee on July 26, 2023, noting a grant proposal would be submitted for a 2023 EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant. On December 14, 2022, notice was received that the City of Tacoma was chosen to begin negotiations to receive the funding via a Cooperative Agreement. Our program workplan was accepted in October of 2023 and the Cooperative Agreement was finalized.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Tacoma residents will be positively impacted by this proposal which will provide opportunities for job training. Direct engagement with local community-based organizations was conducted. It was found there is a need for the program and that recruitment of trainees should focus on underrepresented communities for equitable opportunities.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

This program will focus recruitment of trainees on underrepresented communities. It will provide equity and inclusion of these communities in obtaining the job training and job placement opportunities, impacting the local workforce and economy.

Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase the number of Tacoma households that have livable wage jobs within proximity to the city.
Increase the availability of industry-specific education programs to support identified growth sectors.

Education: *Equity Index Score:* High Opportunity

Increase the number of quality out of school time learning opportunities distributed equitably across the city.
Increase the number of adults with post-secondary degrees or certifications.

Civic Engagement: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the percentage of residents who believe they are able to have a positive impact on the community and express trust in the public institutions in Tacoma.



Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase positive public perception of safety and overall quality of life.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

This training will provide trainees with education, industry certifications, and the ability to make a positive impact to the health and vitality of our community with the understanding that the City of Tacoma strives to do the same by implementing this program.

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. Do not accept the award	None	The training and job opportunities will not be available
2. Accept as presented	Residents receive free job training and industry certifications	None

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP: Participants will be tracked for one year post graduation. The successful number of graduates and those placed in jobs will be reported to the Economic Development Committee.

STAFF/SPONSOR RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends the grant award be accepted and the Cooperative Agreement executed so the City can receive the funds and carry out the Cooperative Agreement, providing free environmental training to residents and preparing them for living wage jobs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The fiscal impact is a small portion of the Program Manager’s time and would be paid with grant funds.

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
Revenue - 1500 Local Employment & Apprenticeship Training Program	450001	4331260 (Direct Federal EPA 66.815)	\$500,000.00
TOTAL			

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
Expense - 1500 Local Employment & Apprenticeship Training Program	450001	Various	\$500,000.00
TOTAL			



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Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

YES

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

NO

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

YES

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

NO

ATTACHMENTS:

- **EPA Notification Letter (noting City of Tacoma was chosen to begin negotiations for award)**
- **Cooperative Agreement**
- **Workplan**