



ABAG



MEMORANDUM

TO: Regional Prosperity Plan Steering Committee

DATE: September 5, 2014

FR: Vikrant Sood, Program Manager

W.I.: 1611

RE: Recommendation for Award – Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative of Contra Costa County (\$30,000)

Background

The Economic Opportunity Initiative (EOI) of the Regional Prosperity Plan was allocated \$1.1 million by the Project Steering Committee to fund pilot projects that address the need to increase economic mobility and opportunities for low- and moderate-income workers in the Bay Area. Pilot projects will also support capacity-building in communities to participate in local and regional planning and decision-making processes.

On Friday, January 10, 2014, the Steering Committee approved a total of \$1.05 million in awards to ten (10) pilot projects. These projects are currently underway, and are expected to be completed by March 2015. On Friday, July 11, 2014, the Steering Committee approved a contract for a Facilitator/Researcher position to develop the Final Capstone Report, which was partly funded through the Economic Opportunity Initiative (a total of \$20,000).

Recommendation

The Joint Projects Team (JPT), composed of co-chairs of the three Prosperity Plan workings groups as well as staff from ABAG and MTC, is recommending that the Steering Committee award the remaining \$30,000 allocated for the EOI pilot projects to Contra Costa County for the Northern Waterfront Economic Development Initiative (NWEDI).

As a condition of approval, Contra Costa County must use these grant funds to develop an Action Plan, conduct outreach to low- and moderate-income workers in the project area, and engage Contra Costa County Health Services on public health concerns.

Proposed Project

The Contra Costa County will partner with the Contra Costa Transportation Commission, local jurisdictions, employers and business groups, stakeholders and community groups, the health department and policymakers to develop an action plan that addresses economic development for low- and moderate-income workers, implements of Plan Bay Area by providing jobs close to where residents live, promotes clean-technology industries and businesses, and creates support for these efforts among multiple stakeholders groups.