

CITY OF LONG BEACH

R-20

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

333 WEST OCEAN BOULEVARD - LONG BEACH, CALIFORNIA 90802

January 20, 2009

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL City of Long Beach California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute all documents with the Orange County Workforce Investment Board to receive Workforce Investment Act funds totaling \$519,008 for a Veterans Employment Assistance Program, to execute a contract with the California State University Long Beach Foundation in the amount of \$253,000, and to execute any subsequent grant and contract amendments that change the terms or funding. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The Orange County Workforce Investment WIB (OCWIB) and the Pacific Gateway Workforce Investment Network/Board (Network) collaborated on a grant proposal to the State's Labor and Workforce Development Agency to implement a regional approach to the delivery of services to veterans returning from service. The two workforce boards received notice at the end of November that the project was funded for \$1,000,000 over two years. Of that \$1,000,000, the Network is receiving \$519,008.

The Orange County/Pacific Gateway regional project will serve 150 veterans – including at least 100 recently separated veterans – through a comprehensive approach to addressing employment transition and re-entry into the local workforce in demand occupations. Services, including employment assistance, training opportunities and social services, will be provided through a collaborative partnership between the two workforce boards' one-stop career centers, the Joint Forces Training Base in Los Alamitos, California State University Long Beach's Veterans University, U.S. Veterans Initiative, the V.A. Hospital in Long Beach, the Housing Authorities in Long Beach and Orange County, and Managed Care Solutions Vocational Rehabilitation.

The Network will target outreach and recruitment to appropriate veterans and coordinate the provision of services for 60 veterans through its four One-Stop Career Centers. In addition, the Network will oversee \$253,000 in contracted activities for an additional 30 veterans within their final year of completing their post-secondary degree

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at California State University Long Beach (CSULB), who have exhausted other G.I. benefits and lack the financial resources to continue on otherwise. A total of \$253,000 will be allocated to CSULB over two fiscal years.

This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Gary J. Anderson on January 5, 2009 and by Budget Management Officer Victoria Bell on January 2, 2009.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action is requested on January 20, 2009 in order to facilitate processing of required documents.

FISCAL IMPACT

Sufficient funds are currently appropriated in the Community Development Grants Fund (SR 150) in the Department of Community Development (CD). A portion of these funds will be appropriated in FY 10. There is no impact to the General Fund.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,

DENNIS J. THYS

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

DJT:BSR:sjg

1-20-09 Veterans Employment Assistance Program Orange Cty v5.doc

APPROVED:

CITY MANAGER