

TO: Workforce Investment Board

DATE: 11/18/10

FROM: Executive Committee

For Discussion

For Action

For Information

SUBJECT: Relocation of the Merced One-Stop

PROPOSED MOTION(S): Ratify the Executive Committee's decision to approve the Merced Worknet One-Stop currently located at 1200 W. 16th Street be collocated at the Department of Workforce Investment (WI) facility at 1880 Wardrobe Avenue in Merced thus relieving WI of costs associated with the 1200 W. 16th Street facility.

DISCUSSION: On September 15, 2010, the Quality Employment Development (QUED) ad hoc committee was noticed that the WI was considering relocating its facilities as a cost saving measure due the reduction/elimination of contracts, increase costs, reductions in funding from the Federal and State Governments and the possibility of future reductions.

Several options were presented to the committee from staff. Included were the closing of the Los Baños Worknet One-Stop, combining the Wardrobe facility located at 1880 Wardrobe with the Merced Worknet One-Stop located at 1200 W. 16th Street, and finding other buildings that were suitable at a lesser cost.

The QUED offered a variety of recommendations including the following: The Los Baños Office serves a substantial portion of the Merced County customer base and needs to have a presence on the Westside. The QUED asked that the WI research the price and availability of other properties for rent/lease that would meet the requirements of WI in Merced, check on availability and cost of other options (such as space at Merced College, the County Library, the previous Castle Air Force Base facility), and any other location opportunities while keeping in mind the availability of technology and moving costs for other facilities considered.

On October 4, 2010, the Executive Committee was informed of the same information presented to the QUED at the September meeting.

The Executive Committee asked that the WI consider the accessibility of facility options and consider the notoriety of the current Worknet One-Stop location in Merced. A recommendation was made to negotiate lower rents and other accommodations that will be cost effective and conducive to serving customers. Parking, public transportation and high speed internet access should also be a consideration.

At the October 13, 2010, QUED meeting staff presented information gathered taking into consideration all of the points made above. The QUED recommended taking forward an action item to the Executive Committee to approve the Merced Worknet One-stop currently located at 1200 W. 16th Street be collocated at the Department of Workforce Investment facility at 1880 Wardrobe Avenue in Merced.

At the November 1, 2010 Executive Committee Meeting, the committee approved the above motion.

ATTACHMENT(S): N/A