



Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Community Planning & Economic Development

Date: July 6, 2009

To: Council Member Scott Benson, Health, Energy & Environment Committee

Referral to: Council Member Paul Ostrow, Ways & Means/Budget Committee

Subject: Acceptance of Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development funds for the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership.

Recommendation: Authorization to enter into a contract with the Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development to accept \$189,520 for the time period of July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010 for the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership.

Previous Directives: None

Prepared by: Deb Bahr-Helgen, METP (612) 673-6226

Approved by: Cathy Polasky, Director of Economic Policy and Development

Presenters in Committee: Deb Bahr-Helgen, Director, METP

Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval _N/A_ Date _____
- Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval _N/A_ Date _____

Financial Impact

- No financial impact

Community Impact

- City Goals – One Minneapolis
- Living Wage/Business Subsidy Agreement Yes _____ No **X**

Supporting Information

The City of Minneapolis Employment and Training Program (METP) has been selected to administer a Low Income Worker Training Program grant through the MN Job Skills Partnership Board (MJSP). The grant will be a partnership between METP, the Minneapolis WorkForce Center (WFC), and the Minneapolis Community and Technical College (MCTC) to recruit and assess 60 eligible low-income candidates for training in Welding, with placement

and retention services following the training program. The program will begin July 1, 2009 and end June 30, 2010. The total project budget is \$189,520.

The goals of the program are to:

- Increase the number of trained welding professionals, with skill application in a wide array of fields
- Recruit low-income individuals into a career that can provide a livable wage, benefits, and career ladder opportunities
- Support careers that require welding skills in the City of Minneapolis

Welding Training:

MCTC Custom Training will offer a Welding Academy that will consist of 10-weeks of basic welding. This course is for those who wish to begin a fast-track route to employment as a welder. Students will be able to obtain American Welding Society (AWS) certification to one or more basic welding standards commonly sought by employers. A choice of additional specialized training includes 5-Weeks-Structural Welding/Construction or 5-Weeks Manufacturing Welding.