



county of Santa Cruz

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HUMAN RESOURCES AGENCY

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March 15, 2000

Agenda: March 21, 2000

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of Santa Cruz

701 Ocean Street

Santa Cruz, CA 95060

APPROVAL OF THE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT FIVE YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN FOR SANTA CRUZ COUNTY

Dear Members of the Board:

On March 7, 2000, your Board approved a number of actions to implement the Workforce Investment Act of 1998, including the time line and process for the approval and submittal of the Workforce Investment Act Five Year Strategic Plan for Santa Cruz County to the State of California. The purpose of this letter is to forward the Five Year Strategic Plan to your Board for consideration.

Consistent with your Board's direction earlier this month, the Five Year Strategic Plan (on file with the Clerk of the Board) has been prepared as a general blueprint for workforce investment activities in Santa Cruz County and emphasizes inclusion of all segments of the community, and flexibility to respond to changing needs of both businesses and job seekers. As you know, in order for the County to receive job training and workforce development funding for the 2000-2001 fiscal year, the Workforce Investment Act Five Year Strategic Plan for Santa Cruz County must be submitted to the State of California no later than March 31, 2000. Because of the short time line for plan preparation and review, ongoing community input and outreach strategies are included in the plan.

The Five Year Strategic Plan has also been prepared in accordance with the requirements and planning guidance provided by the State of California, including the required public notice and public comment and review period. In addition, the interim Workforce Investment Board held two public hearings on the Plan. Comments received in writing and at the hearings have been supportive of the provisions of the Strategic Plan and have not raised any issues regarding

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Workforce Investment Act implementation activities proposed in the Plan. The final Strategic Plan has been edited to meet State requirements regarding the length of local plans, but is substantially the same as the draft Strategic Plan that was forwarded to your Board under separate cover at the beginning of the public review and comment period. On March 20, 2000, the interim Workforce Investment Board approved the Workforce Investment Act Five Year Strategic Plan for Santa Cruz County, and directed staff to forward the Strategic Plan to your Board for consideration.

The submittal of the Workforce Investment Act Five Year Strategic Plan for Santa **Cruz** County is essential in order to provide workforce development services to job seekers, youth, businesses, and employers in our community. The Strategic Plan presented for your approval meets State requirements and is consistent with your Board's previous direction regarding implementation of the Workforce Investment Act.

IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED that your Board take the following actions:

1. Approve the Workforce Investment Act Five Year Strategic Plan for Santa **Cruz** County, and authorize the Chair of the Board of Supervisors to sign the Plan;
2. Direct the Human Resources Agency Administrator to submit the approved plan to the State of California Workforce Investment Board on behalf of the Interim Workforce Investment Board and the Board of Supervisors.

Very truly yours,

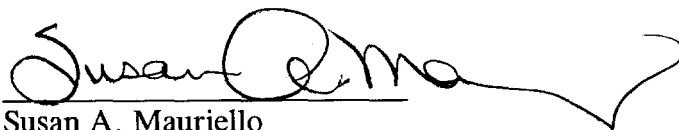


Cecilia Espinola
Administrator

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RECOMMENDED



Susan A. Mauriello
County Administrative Officer

cc: Interim Workforce Investment Board