



CITY OF DETROIT MAYOR'S WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Thursday, August 18, 2022

11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Location: In-person at Detroit Public Safety Headquarters

Proposed Meeting Minutes **Co-Chairs: Dave Meador & Cindy Pasky**

Call to Order

Co-Chair Dave Meador called the Mayor's Workforce Development Board Meeting to order at 11:03 a.m.

REPORTS

Co-Chair's Report – Dave Meador

Resident Employment Update: Mr. Meador began his co-chair's report with the resident employment update, noting the progress made over the last few years in comparing pre-Covid to post-Covid recovery. He continued noting that Detroit has recovered faster than Michigan with projections from U-M and others citing that Detroit is set to bounce back in 2023 with numbers higher than before the pandemic.

Mr. Meador closed his report with a special retirement recognition for Larry Good, President & CEO, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce.

Acknowledgements and comments from board members ensued

Executive Director's Report - Nicole Sherard-Freeman

Ms. Sherard-Freeman began her presentation with an economic development update highlighting the old AMC headquarters in District 7, noting that it passed its final Council approval in July and that the developer can move forward. She continued by noting this development will bring construction jobs and its new tenant will give priority hiring to Detroiters. A second economic development highlight included news on the old Fisher Body plant at I-75 and I-94. Ms. Sherard-Freeman noted the site is in the process of becoming a 435-unit residential structure with affordable housing and with about 38,000 sq.ft. of retail and co-working space. She also noted this site is the largest African-American investment in industrial development in the city's history, at least as far as records show.

She continued her report by highlighting four major projects that support the work of this board and the strategy of the mayor, noting a \$40M American Rescue Plan investment into those

initiatives, including a \$15M investment to Motor City Match, \$9M to Detroit Means Business, \$12.275M for Grow Detroit's Young Talent and \$3.7M invested in Learn 2 Earn.

Ms. Terri Weems, President, Detroit Employment Solutions Corporation gave a brief update on Detroit at Work metrics, specifically the Learn 2 Earn and Occupational Job Training programs. With Learn 2 Earn, Ms. Weems noted a significant interest in the program with almost 700 people enrolling since the start of the program, which pays a stipend to participants while they earn a high school diploma. With Occupational Job Training, Ms. Weems noted there are over 1200 people enrolled in a training program which includes construction, healthcare and IT among others.

Questions and comments from board members ensued

PRESENTATIONS

Job Market Insights – Chioke Mose-Telesford, Director of Improving Practices & Outcomes, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce; Megan Williams, Director of Research & Evaluation, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce; Larry Good, President & CEO, Corporation for a Skilled Workforce

Megan Williams began her presentation with a look at the region overall and the impact of Covid, noting that in Detroit employment has mostly returned to early 2020 levels. She continued with a look at Industry Employment (jobs available in the city), and specifically highlighted some of the priority industries, including manufacturing, mobility, IT and professional services which have predominantly recovered, while healthcare trails close behind. She continued by noting with most other large industries in Detroit, there has been a decline in employment since the pandemic, specifically highlighting accommodation and food services losing about 33% of employees.

Questions and comments from board members ensued

Early Childhood Education – Julianna Smoot, Chief Development Officer, City of Detroit; Adrian Monge, Director, Office of Early Learning, City of Detroit

Ms. Monge opened her presentation by noting the goal of the Office of Early Learning is to focus on expanding access and opportunity for families and children to quality early learning here in the city of Detroit. She highlighted the current landscape of childcare needs in Detroit, what the ecosystem looks like for providers and families today and shared future plans. Ms. Monge noted that our current childcare ecosystem for children ages 0-5 has the capacity to serve only 50% of the children who need care in the city of Detroit. She highlighted a study done in 2021, noting 87% of childcare centers indicated they were experiencing staffing shortages (due to low wages) that caused negative repercussions for their business and the children and families they serve. To help offset this, the City of Detroit is proposing a \$9.1M investment in its early childhood ecosystem, which includes \$1.35M in Business Supports, \$3.25M for Facilities and Classroom startup funds, \$3M for Workforce & Talent Pipelines and \$750K for childcare subsidy. With these direct investments over the next 2-3 years in the city of Detroit, we would increase the capacity for upwards of 2,500 new seats in Detroit's 0-5 childcare ecosystem.

Questions and comments from board members ensued

Public Comment

Co-Chair Dave Meador asked for public comment. No hands were raised.

Adjournment

Co-Chair Dave Meador called for a motion to adjourn. Moved by Carla Walker Miller. Supported by Conrad Mallet. Meeting adjourned at 12.54 p.m.

Board Member Attendees

Alice Thompson, Andra Rush, Bill Robinson, Bruce Dall, Byron Osbern, Calvin Sharp, Carla Walker-Miller, Colleen Allen, Conrad Mallett, Darienne Driver-Hudson, Dave Meador, Dave Dauch, Bishop Edgar Vann, Jeff Donofrio, Mark Gaffney, Mike McLauchlan, Mike Haller, Sandro DiNello, John James, Jr.,