

Robert P. Astorino
County Executive

Department of Social Services

Grant E. Mitchell
Acting Commissioner

15219

Date: November 9, 2010

To: Honorable Members of the Board of Acquisition & Contract

From: Grant E. Mitchell, MD
Acting Commissioner, Department of Social Services

Re: Authority for the County of Westchester, acting on behalf of the Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Investment Board, to enter into a grant agreement with New York State Department of Labor, pursuant to which the County will receive a grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000 for the purpose of operating the Regional Strategies for Economic Transformation through the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline project

Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting on behalf of the Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Investment Board ("WPLWIB"), to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State Department of Labor ("NYSDOL"), pursuant to which the County will receive a grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000, for the purpose of operating the Regional Strategies for Economic Transformation through the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline project, for a term of one year, effective upon execution of the grant agreement.

As your Honorable Board may know, the County's Department of Social Services, Office of Workforce Investment (the "Department"), has acted on behalf of the WPLWIB, for the past two years. The NYSDOL has awarded funds to create and operate the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline Program (the "Program"), consisting of a comprehensive team of strong organizations, including various economic development agencies, higher education institutions, local workforce investment boards, and both private and public employers from the entire Hudson Valley Region that were dedicated to addressing the needs of the 'green' jobs in the region. The purpose of the Program is to create a regional strategy that will enhance the Hudson Valley Region's global competitiveness by focusing on talent development and retention activities that integrate workforce development, economic development, and education at the regional level for "green" workers.

By resolution approved on June 12, 2008, your Honorable Board authorized the County, acting on behalf of the WPLWIB, to enter a grant agreement with NYSDOL, pursuant to which the County would accept a grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000, for the first year of funding for the creation and operation of the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline project. This agreement was subsequently executed.

By resolution approved on November 12, 2009, your Honorable Board authorized the County, acting on behalf of the WPLWIB, to enter into a grant agreement with NYSDOL, pursuant to which the County would accept a grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000, for the second year of funding for the operation of the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline project. This agreement was subsequently executed.

Since the goals for the first and second year of the program were successfully met, the Department received notice from NYSDOL that the Program has been approved for another \$500,000 in funding, for a third year. The plan for this year's program is to continue to contract with agencies to provide training classes at the One Stop Employment Centers throughout the Hudson Valley region in order prepare jobseekers for employment in energy efficiency, retrofitting, renewable energy, and/or green building, and to issue Individual Training Accounts (ITA) with the purpose of helping customers access green training programs with eligible training providers. A new initiative this year will be to engage businesses in the Hudson Valley region to train incumbent workers.

The proposed agreement will serve a public purpose as the funds received hereunder will be used to improve the Hudson Valley Region's green talent pipeline.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is to execute a grant agreement that will enable the County to receive up to \$500,000 in grant funds from NYSDOL to develop regional strategies for economic transformation through the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline initiative. During the second year, the program served 767 participants. This year the program will serve an estimate of 700 participants (640 from regional training initiatives, 40 from ITAs and 20 from business led initiatives). The goals for this year's program are less, due to the business led initiatives, which are reported to be more costly and will serve fewer customers.

The goal and objective of the proposed agreement is in the best interest of the County in terms of fiscal responsibility because this agreement will provide the County with federal and state funds to support the implementation of the regional Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline initiative through training programs that address environmental awareness and energy efficiency at home, in school and in the workplace. Further, the goal and objective of this contract is also in the best interests of the County in terms of environmental responsibility because the program funded by the grant to be accepted, will provide opportunities to increase the awareness of the public about the value of caring for the environment at work and elsewhere.

The goals and objectives of this agreement will be monitored through monthly WPLWIB reports submitted to the State in accordance to the provisions contained in the grant agreement. It is to be noted that all the projected goals and objectives pursuant to the previous Partnership Initiative were successfully accomplished.

As I believe this Agreement to be in the best interests of the County, I most respectfully recommend and urge the adoption of the annexed Resolution.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12-2-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12-2-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Acting Commissioner of Social Services, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, the County of Westchester (the "County"), acting on behalf of the Westchester/Putnam Local Workforce Investment Board ("WPLWIB"), is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the New York State Department of Labor ("NYSDOL"), pursuant to which the County will accept a grant in an amount not-to-exceed \$500,000, for the purpose of operating the Regional Strategies for Economic Transformation through the Hudson Valley Green Talent Pipeline project, for a term of one year, effective upon execution of the grant agreement; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be, and hereby is, authorized to take such actions and execute such documents as may be necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
22	275	876K	9853	T876	\$500,000

Budget Funding Year(s): 2010 Start Date: Upon Execution End Date: one year from execution
(must match resolution)

Funding Source

\$ 500,000
(must match resolution)

Tax Dollars _____
State Aid _____
Federal Aid 100% _____
Other _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12-22-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY