EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE



ACTION ITEM # 1.4 SUBMITTAL DATE: February 17, 2010

SUBJECT: American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Program Year 2009-2011 Business Visitation Survey funding recommendations

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Workforce Investment Board (WIB) Executive Committee approve ARRA funding of \$497,300 for Program Year 2009-2011 for services to identify the needs of Businesses in Riverside County, and authorize the Director of Workforce Development, or her designee, to negotiate and execute agreements within 10 percent of the funding recommendations.

BACKGROUND:

On behalf of the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), the Economic Development Agency (EDA) conducted a Request for Qualification (RFQ) on November 6, 2009, from Riverside County cities and regional economic development organizations to conduct a Business Visitation Program. The purpose of the program is to measure employer-staffing needs, identify businesses at risk of downsizing, and/or relocating, and identify opportunities for EDA to enhance Rapid Response activities in Riverside County cities and their surrounding unincorporated areas or regional economic development areas. The collected data will allow EDA to assist cities or regional economic development agencies with their ongoing efforts to enhance job creation and retention through improved communication with local or regional businesses

On December 16, 2009, the WIB Executive Committee approved the funding recommendations for the following:

City	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Murrieta	\$22,700	\$22,700
Palm Springs	\$25,000	\$25,000
Riverside	\$80,000	\$80,000

Due to the low response rate of the initial RFQ, the WIB requested its re-release on January 13, 2010, to broaden the geographic coverage and to insure projects are implemented in all areas of the county. As a result of the second procurement an additional eight proposals were selected. The remaining funds for the Business Visitation Program are recommended for the cities and economic development corporations/partnerships as follows:

City	Amount Requested	Amount Recommended
Beaumont	\$82,000	\$82,000
Southwest Economic		
Development Corporation	\$48,000	\$48,000
Coachella Valley Economic		
Partnership	\$208,000	\$208,000

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CONCURRENCE
Date: date of meeting Approval: Yes/No	YES: INDICATES ACCEPTANCE OF FUNDS (FED, STATE, LOCAL) OR AGREEMENTS FOR SERVICES WHERE EDA IS RECEIVING FUNDS, OR ANY ACTION THAT REQUIRES BOS APPROVAL. Required: Yes/No