



# COUNTY OF SONOMA

575 ADMINISTRATION  
DRIVE, ROOM 102A  
SANTA ROSA, CA 95403

## SUMMARY REPORT

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**Agenda Date:** 11/17/2020

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**To:** Sonoma County Board of Supervisors  
**Department or Agency Name(s):** Human Services  
**Staff Name and Phone Number:** Katie Greaves, 565-8501  
**Vote Requirement:** 4/5th  
**Supervisory District(s):** Countywide

**Title:**

Regional Plan Implementation 3.0 Funds and Solano County Workforce Development Board Contract.

**Recommended Action:**

- A. Adopt a budget resolution authorizing the Director of the Human Services Department to increase appropriations in the FY 2020-2021 budget by \$325,000 for the Regional Plan Implementation 3.0 (RPI 3.0) program, effective 11/17/2020. (4/5<sup>th</sup> Vote)
- B. Authorize the Director of the Human Services Department to execute an agreement with Solano County Workforce Development Board (WDB) for \$157,500 for the FY 2020-21. The WDB develops strategies to strengthen industry sector partnerships to support career pathways for job seekers and to provide workforce services to businesses (Majority Vote)

**Executive Summary:**

The North Bay Regional Planning Unit (RPU), commonly referred to as the North Bay Employment Connection (NBEC), and hereafter referred to as NBEC, is comprised of the Workforce Development Boards of Sonoma, Solano, and the Workforce Alliance of the North Bay (Napa, Lake, Mendocino, and Marin Counties). The NBEC RPU is required by the California Workforce Board to develop strategies to strengthen industry sector partnerships to support career pathways for job seekers and to provide workforce services to businesses. NBEC received a Regional Planning Implementation 3.0 grant to develop industry-specific training cohorts and staff training and organizing across the region. Approval of this item will authorize the Director of the Human Services Department to receive the grant funds in the amount of \$325,000 and to execute an agreement with Solano County Workforce Development Board for \$157,500 for the FY 2020-21. Sonoma County is the fiscal lead and is required to distribute funds to the members of NBEC to implement their grant activities.

**Discussion:**

NBEC is comprised of the Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) for Sonoma County and Solano County, and the Workforce Alliance of the North Bay (Napa, Lake, Mendocino, and Marin Counties). NBEC's 2017-2020 strategic plan focused on two industries that have important roles in the six-county regional economy: healthcare and social assistance and manufacturing. After the devastating Sonoma Complex fires in 2017, construction was added as a priority industry to support the recovery of structures destroyed by wildfires. Hospitality is also recognized as an important economic driver in sub-regional areas including the Napa Valley and Sonoma County. NBEC has been working to foster industry leadership primarily through its Regional Planning Implementation (RPI) projects, implemented through a series of grants from the California Workforce Board.

RPI 1.0, awarded in January 2018, provided ongoing support for industry sector partnerships throughout the region, as well as enhanced business services infrastructure at the three local WDBs. In April 2019, RPI 2.0 was awarded and focused on staff and partner professional development, particularly in regard to serving all types of customers, including those with barriers to employment. With RPI 3.0, NBEC sees an opportunity to strengthen the bridge between its targeted efforts with employers (the primary focus of RPI 1.0) and services/training provided to job seekers (the primary focus of RPI 2.0). NBEC plans to use RPI 3.0 funds to pilot training cohorts of job seekers using the Training Cohort Development Implementation Plan created by Sonoma County Job Link. By learning from and further developing this practice, local WDBs will potentially be able to replicate and scale up efforts to more effectively deploy their allocation dollars to train greater numbers of individuals in in-demand sectors in the North Bay region. In addition, Solano will oversee a subcontract with a regional organizer who supports the project through facilitation and tracking of regionally funded contractors, regular reports to Workforce Development Board directors, state quarterly reports, and other state requests for information.

The funding has been allocated to the three Workforce Boards in the region based on approval by the California Workforce Development Board as follows: Workforce Alliance of the North Bay (WANB), comprised of Napa, Lake, Mendocino, and Marin Counties -- \$70,000; Solano County Workforce Development Board -- \$157,500; and Sonoma County Workforce Development Board -- \$97,500. The Sonoma County Human Services Department has been appointed as the fiscal agent for the administration of these funds.

**Prior Board Actions:**

July 9, 2019: Approved the Two-Year Update to the 2017-2020 Regional Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Workforce Plan for the North Bay Regional Planning Unit, including Sonoma, Marin, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, and Solano Counties.

August 14, 2018: Approved an agreement with WANB for \$107,100 to carry out RPI activities during the period of August 15, 2018 through June 30, 2019.

March 7, 2017: Approved the 2017-2020 Regional Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Workforce Plan for Sonoma, Marin, Lake, Mendocino, Napa, and Solano Counties.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

| <b>Expenditures</b>                | <b>FY 20-21<br/>Adopted</b> | <b>FY21-22<br/>Projected</b> | <b>FY 22-23<br/>Projected</b> |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Budgeted Expenses                  |                             |                              |                               |
| Additional Appropriation Requested | \$325,000                   |                              |                               |
| <b>Total Expenditures</b>          | <b>\$325,000</b>            | <b>0</b>                     | <b>0</b>                      |
| <b>Funding Sources</b>             |                             |                              |                               |
| General Fund/WA GF                 |                             |                              |                               |
| State/Federal                      | \$325,000                   |                              |                               |
| Fees/Other                         |                             |                              |                               |
| Use of Fund Balance                |                             |                              |                               |

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|----------------------|------------------|----------|----------|
| Contingencies        |                  |          |          |
| <b>Total Sources</b> | <b>\$325,000</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> |

**Narrative Explanation of Fiscal Impacts:**

Funding comes from the California Workforce Board. No local match or County General Fund is required. The \$325,000 appropriation will be distributed primarily to 3 different entities: \$157,500 to Solano County, \$70,000 to the WANB, and \$97,500 to the program administrator for Sonoma County via time-study hours claimed by Human Services Department staff.

| <b>Staffing Impacts:</b>                       |  |                           |                           |
|--|--|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| <b>Position Title (Payroll Classification)</b> | <b>Monthly Salary Range (A-I Step)</b> | <b>Additions (Number)</b> | <b>Deletions (Number)</b> |
|  |  |                           |                           |
|  |  |                           |                           |
|  |  |                           |                           |

**Narrative Explanation of Staffing Impacts (If Required):**

N/A

**Attachments:**

- Budget Resolution
- Contract

**Related Items "On File" with the Clerk of the Board:**

None