



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

**Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)**

Department Name: Social Services
Department No.: 044
Agenda Date: April 7, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Daniel Nielson, Social Services Director
Contact: Luis F. Servin, Executive Director, Workforce Development Board
SUBJECT: First Amendment of the Contract with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County for High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund Program

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Chair to execute the First Amendment of the contract with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County to receive an additional \$15,000 and increase the contract amount to \$1,133,665 to provide High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund Program for the period starting October 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2026; and
- b) Determine that the activity is not a "Project" subject to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(4), the creation of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment; and per CEQA Guideline Section 15378(b)(5), since the activity is an organizational or administrative activity of government that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to approve the First Amendment of the contract with the Workforce Development Board of Ventura County (WDBVC) to provide High Road Construction Careers: Resilient Workforce Fund (HRCC: RWF) Program, increasing the contract amount by \$15,000 for a total of \$1,133,665 for the period starting October 1, 2023 and ending March 31, 2026. The HRCC: RWF Program supports and expands the work of past and current High Road Construction Careers programs and aligns its goals with those of the HRCC: Senate Bill 1 (SB1) and High Road Construction Careers: California Climate Investments (CCI) programs.

Discussion:

This action allows Santa Barbara County Workforce Development Board (SBCWDB) to accept additional HRCC: RWF program funds made available by the WDBVC. In January 2026, WDBVC, as the fiscal agent and grant recipient, received State approval to reallocate unexpended funds to the SBCWDB and other grant partners to support program oversight and grant closeout activities. This adjustment ensures continued effective administration of the HRCC: RWF program, maximizes the use of available funds, and supports performance expectations for timely program delivery and regional coordination. The additional \$15,000 will support personnel costs associated with program administration, oversight, and coordination activities.

Background:

The California Workforce Development Board (CWDB) oversees a suite of investments and policy initiatives to advance construction careers as a reliable pathway to the middle class for disadvantaged Californians. The HRCC program prioritizes partnerships that link local building and construction trades councils to workforce boards, community colleges, and community-based organizations, creating structured pathways with a standard core curriculum and critical supportive services to state-certified apprenticeships in a variety of crafts.

These efforts build systems and policies that directly advance the State Plan goals of equity (access to skills and economic opportunity) and job quality (connections to careers with decent wages and benefits). Through various state funding sources (e.g., California Clean Energy Jobs Act/Prop 39, the Road Repair and Accountability Act/Senate Bill 1 (SB1) and California Climate Investments (CCI)), the CWDB has invested and continues to invest millions of dollars in pre-apprenticeship partnerships across California.

In 2023, the WDBVC, SBCWDB, along with the Workforce Development Board of San Luis Obispo County applied for these funds and were awarded \$4,246,962 in HRCC: RWF. The original contract provided the framework for reimbursing participating entities for the costs of implementing and administering the HRCC: RWF program. SBCWDB's portion of the contract was \$1,118,665 to support program implementation and administration in Santa Barbara County. WDBVC is the designated fiscal agent for the contract as they are the grant recipient for the special funds for the regional projects of this contract.

The HRCC: RWF program goals align and overlap with those of the HRCC: SB1 program and the HRCC: CCI program. Through its goals, the HRCC: RWF program intends to support and expand the work of the past and present HRCC programs. These goals include:

- The development of a skilled construction workforce that ensures delivery of high-quality infrastructure projects.
- Increasing access to state-approved apprenticeships in the building and construction trades.

- Serving underrepresented and disadvantaged workers and increasing gender and racial diversity in the trades in the process.
- Establishing models of worker, management, government collaboration that jointly anticipates, plans for, and addresses the future of work.
- Promoting Community Workforce Agreements, local hire ordinances, and other relevant policies to ensure robust demand for apprentices and greater access to apprenticeships for disadvantaged communities and priority populations.

The HRCC: RWF program focuses outreach and apprenticeship services with women, English language learners, those who are homeless/housing insecure, veterans, people with disabilities, disadvantaged youth (aged 18-24 with barriers to employment and/or education), immigrants/refugees, formerly incarcerated individuals, and those from low-income households. However, other populations are not excluded from the program.

HRCC: RWF has provided pre-apprenticeship training to 509 individuals throughout the region including in-person and virtual training on Multi-Craft Core (MC3) curriculum that is focused on building and construction trades, such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing and pipefitters, sheet metal, etc. Nine cohorts of 25-40 individuals have been trained from October 1, 2023- December 31, 2025

As the HRCC: RWF grant recipient, SBCWDB retained \$563,272 to administer the grant and support project activities. An additional \$15,000 in unspent funds originally allocated to the Tri-Counties Building Trades & Construction Council (BTC) will also be retained. These funds will be used to support grant administration and to cover other operating costs associated with the launch and expansion of the project to meet program outcomes, coordinate with partners on career fairs and grant close out activities.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 2023/2024	FY 2024/2025	FY 2025/2026	Total
General Fund				
State	\$335,600	\$44,466	\$350,599	\$1,133,665
Federal				
Fees				
[Other Source]				
Total	\$335,600	\$44,466	\$350,599	\$1,133,665

The SBCWDB will receive a total of \$1,133,665 through reimbursement from the WDBVC, which is the Fiscal Agent for the HRCC program. There is no impact to General Fund. Department of Social Services (DSS) will return to the Board of Supervisors with a Budget Journal Entry.

Special Instructions:

Please scan, email and send a copy of the minute order and (1) duplicate amendment to:
DSS Procurement and Contracts Unit

C/O Tricia Beebe
2125 S. Centerpointe Parkway, 3rd Floor
Santa Maria, CA 93455
Email: tbeebe@countyofsb.org

Attachments:

Attachment A – First Amendment to Contract with WDBVC for HRCC:RWF Program

Attachment B – Contract with WDBVC for HRCC:RWF Program

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