



August 25, 2022

WDC Policy Workgroup

Board Members Present (virtual): John Bowers, Berit Eriksson, Katie Garrow (Chair), Jiquanda Nelson

Staff Present (virtual): Ericka Cox, Marie Kurose, Leigha Paul

Materials Distributed:

- [Agenda-Policy Workgroup WDC-SKC 08252022](#)

I. Set Final Policy Priority Recommendations to Advance to Full Board (September 15th, 2022)

Chair Katie Garrow opened the meeting with a review of the previous policy recommendation drafts presented by the Workgroup on July 12th, 2022. Ms. Ericka Cox reviewed the updated Policy Recommendations 2022-2023 completed by the group during the July 12th Policy Workgroup meeting. The Workgroup reviewed the three priorities: 1) Financial Support for WDC as Regional Backbone for Workforce Development 2) Racial Equity & Outcome-Driven 3) Regional Sector Alignment & Strategy Implementation. The Workgroup determined that Ms. Garrow and Ms. Cox would refine the draft.

II. Workforce Impact Fund

Ms. Marie Kurose, CEO, presented to the Workgroup on declining federal WIOA investment and formula allocation due to unemployment and population size. The Workforce Training Board & Department of Commerce are discussing a dedicated \$50M state investment in workforce. The creation of new state investment: 1) leverage and strengthen existing infrastructure and programs 2) responsive to local and regional priorities 3) expand industry engagement 4) strengthen community engagement and partnerships 5) create new models of apprenticeship training, including stackable training and work-based learning.

Ms. Kurose asked the Policy Workgroup and Labor representatives to advocate and support on behalf of the WDC. Additionally, the Workgroup determined to add the Workforce Impact Fund to the 2022/2023 policy recommendation for the full Board.

III. Review Updates to 2022/2023 Proposed Action Plan

Ms. Ericka Cox reviewed the revised Policy Action Plan 2022/2023 with the

addition of the Port policy dates. The group approved the action plan to be presented to the full Board.

IV. Next Steps & Plans for Continuation of Workgroup

Chair Garrow discussed reconvening the Workgroup on an as-needed basis. Moving forward the Policy Workgroup will support the Board and staff, and measure progress through annual advocacy work. Additionally, the Policy Workgroup will continue to provide agenda items in the full board cycle when needed.

VI. Adjournment

Chair Garrow adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.