

TO: Mayor and Council

FROM: Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Acting Director, Economic Development

DATE: May 5, 2021

SUBJECT: Response to Resolution 20190425-044

The Economic Development Department negotiated a \$600,000, no-interest loan to Workforce Solutions Capital Area to assist with facilities expansion needs in the short-term, without necessitating further possible cuts to client services. Approved by Council on June, 6, 2019, the loan was subsequently executed and paid. The new North Career Center is now open and operating as the largest such center in Texas.

The Economic Development Department continues to work with Workforce Solutions and other partners to explore long-term partnerships on facilities and service delivery opportunities throughout the City in areas of high need. In September, The Economic Development Department met with Workforce Solutions, and the Director and staff from Austin Public Library to being exploring potential partnerships. Additionally, in the coming months, the department hopes to bring forward recommendations for opportunities to leverage City investments in workforce development and job training services with additional funding from state, federal, and private sources to achieve improved Strategic Outcomes and the goals of the Master Plan as directed by the resolution.

Please contact me at sylnovia.holt-rabb@austintexas.gov if you have any questions or if I can provide any additional information regarding this update.

cc: Spencer Cronk, City Manager
Nuria Rivera-Vandermyde, Deputy City Manager
J. Rodney Gonzales, Assistant City Manager
Sylnovia Holt-Rabb, Acting Director, Economic Development Department
Susana Carbajal, Assistant Director, Economic Development Department