

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Members Present	Members Absent	Staff & Guests
Kim Armstrong (Chair)	Sandra Brizuela	Helen Cabrera
Gloria Carter	Regina Cash	Alina Diaz
Xochitl Cobarruvias	Tommy Faavae	Utilia Guzman
Dana Friez	Weston LaBar	Daphne Leake
Ken Gomez	Larry Rice	Alisa Munoz
Simon Kim	Peter Santillan	Andrew Munoz
Karin Kuo	Graham Scott	Julia Olson
Adey Tesfaye		Eli Romero
		Nick Schultz

Pacific Gateway Workforce Development Board (PGWDB) convened in a regular meeting on July 26, 2023 at Future LB, located at 508 W. Willow St. Long Beach, CA 90806.

I. Call to Order

Chair Kim Armstrong called the meeting to order at 8:01 a.m.

Kim Armstrong thanked all the Board members, staff and public for attending the meeting and welcomed all to the ne youth center, Future LB.

Ken Gomez introduced Employment Development Department new staff, Helen Cabrera and Alina Diaz.

II. Public Comment

No public comment.

III. Minutes

Motion to approve the PGWDB Meeting Minutes from February 14, 2023, was made by Xochitl Cobarruvias and seconded by Adey Tesfaye.

Motion Approved.

IV. Pacific Gateway Program Year (PY) 2023-2024 Budget

Nick Schultz introduced the Pacific Gateway PY 2023-2024 Budget, indicating there is a smaller budget than usual, but working on multiple/special grants.

Alisa Munoz began presentation on the budget. It was important to note, that Program Year is July 1st through June 30th, while Fiscal Year is October 1st through September 30th. There are several grants that overlap or end on a different date.

Currently pending Rapid Response and Layoff Aversion funding, therefore the budget projections is based on last year's amount.

The PY 2023-2024 budget is \$21,377,281. There are several Long Beach Recovery Act (Covid grants) that have ended. There is a balance of \$2,134,827, which will serve as carryover for next program year.

Karin Kuo: How does this budget compare to pre-covid funding?

Nick Schultz: It was much larger.

Alisa Munoz: Pacific Gateway's funding will increase as we secure more funding.

Adey Tesfaye: Is Pacific Gateway's projected funding secured?

Alisa Munoz: We have received all the funding allocations.

Simon: For Californians For All, does it include disability funding?

Alisa Munoz: No, it doesn't. It is specialized funding.

There are special projects that include Beauty.

A breakdown of all personnel and operating expenses was presented.

Simon Kim: Roughly, how many people are included in personnel?

Alisa Munoz: Approximately 42.

Nick Schultz: There are inclusions to the personnel cost and seeking Board motion to negotiate with the City. Pacific Gateway covers portions of staff in Economic Development that don't spent time or add value to the grants or services. Seeking to remove personnel that don't contribute to the grants.

Karin Kuo: it is 4.8 million in personnel.

Adey Tesfaye: Is this amount including or excluding personnel?

Nick Schultz: This is including everyone, right now. In addition, Pacific Gateway is requesting more funding from the General Fund, from the City, approximately 3.5%. We need stronger advocacy in support and in regard to increasing funding to continue providing services to the community.

Ken Gomez: If we move forward, will the funding be able to support additional staff?

Nick Schultz: Yes, but we will need to increase funding by \$500K to \$650K.

Conversation occurred among the Board members on how they can advocate for additional funding and bring more special funding to support workforce initiatives and increase personnel to help support the various workforce program.

Motion to approve the Pacific Gateway Program Year (PY) 2023-2024 Budget as is, was made by Simon Kim and seconded by Gloria Carter. **Motion Approved.**

Motion to direct Pacific Gateway's leadership team to negotiate personnel costs with the City to fund only positions within workforce grants/funding; and negotiate removal of one position to create additional personnel funding with appropriate proportion, was made by Adey Tesfaye and seconded by Xochitl Cobarruvias. **Motion Approved.**

V. Pacific Gateway Policies

The following policy was presented to the Board for approval:

1. Lower Living Standard Income Level (LLSIL) and Poverty Guidelines for 2023.

This was only an update to reflect new amount thresholds.

VI. Local Area Subsequent Designation and Local Board Recertification Application for PY 2023-2025

The application was accepted and approved for the next two years.

VII. Virgin Orbit Layoffs

Pacific Gateway provided emergency rapid response services to individuals impacted by the Virgin Orbit Layoff. Impacted individuals were already being hired by other local aerospace employers, which did not allow Pacific Gateway to assist with providing services.

VIII. Career Services

The Pacific Gateway team has dedicated an extensive amount of time to improving intake processes, enrollment, and other things to help increase enrollments.

Pacific Gateway received a \$500K WIOA National Dislocated Worker Grant to continue making improvements and serve individuals impacted by COVID-19.

Future LB is open to the public. There have been several City departments and local community-based organizations that that started to utilize the space.

Kim Armstrong: Do we charge any fee for utilizing the space?

Eli Romero: No. Currently, we are unable to charge a fee. But we have positioned our centers to serve as a location that other agencies and community partners can utilize.

Adey Tesfaye: The facility was used to provide a Financial Literacy Workshop for TAY individuals, and the team was super helpful.

A grand opening of Future LB is scheduled for October 2023.

IX. Grants Update

Pacific Gateway has been applying for several grants and is waiting to hear a response. A list of grants was provided to the Board members with full details.

X. Leadership Reports

Kim Armstrong:

Had the opportunity to visit Future LB and get a special tour. Future LB in an inspiring space and looks forwards to seeing youth utilizing it.

Mayor Rex Richardson will be reappointing all Board Members soon.

Nick Schultz:

Attended CWA Day at the Capitol.

Additional funding will be allocated for Californians For All. The city of Long Beach is expected to get an additional \$2.5-\$3M.

Work LB continues to be an ongoing project and is becoming more visible.

The team continues to work on grant developments to secure funding.

Still overseeing the Economic Development Commission.

XI. Adjournment

Board Chair Kim Armstrong adjourned the meeting at 9:53 a.m. without objection.