

**Executive Director's Note**

Happy *Spring* to Everyone,

With each day that passes, there seems to be more and more of a sense of “serenity” since the retirement of Phil Dunn and Steve Chase. The operation continues to be on point with enrollments of new job seekers. There have been a number of layoffs in the area so our Business Services Team and Case Managers are working on rapid re-employment strategies regularly. Staff is filling in and stepping up in areas that were once covered by operations and planning. Other City of Pasadena staff have also stepped up to help us during this time. There is still much to learn by all. As you know, workforce development can be slightly complex for individuals who have not worked with it regularly. Therefore, the City staff who are working with us are also receiving more detailed knowledge of who we are and what we do. This helps in several areas and allows us to get our work done. With more understanding comes less questions and barriers.

Based upon the implementation of WIOA, we have several upcoming deadlines. In addition, we have been invited to participate in a number of initiatives. So we will carry on doing our best to remain high performing and continue on being an asset to our six cities. Again thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,



**Dianne Russell-Carter**  
FWDB Interim Executive Director

**SB 1, the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017**

On April 6, Gov. Jerry Brown and the CA Legislature passed the Road Repair and Accountability Act of 2017. The act included significant investments in pre-apprenticeship and job training regarding infrastructure rebuilding. The job training proposal in the transportation package builds on the California Workforce Development Board's successful efforts in Proposition 39 pre-apprenticeship training pilots. These programs trained 1,000 at-risk youth, veterans and other disadvantaged job seekers in the construction trades, including green job skills.

In addition to the \$5 billion per year in project funding, this transportation package includes \$25 million – or \$5 *million* per year for five years – for pre-apprenticeship job training. These programs provide at-risk youth, women, veterans and the formerly incarcerated with training in the construction trades. This investment will train California workers for jobs in California. Multi-craft pre-apprenticeships provide local residents with training that can lead to good paying, middle-class jobs. Workers that have been underrepresented and need a helping hand at securing work opportunities are the focus of pre-apprenticeship programs. These programs help to create a pool of prepared and qualified local residents to fill jobs as they become available. It is anticipated that the \$5 million will come to the Local Workforce Development Areas through Accelerator Grant Awards offered through the California Workforce Development Board.

### City of Altadena and Other Regions

Several of our FETC Policy Board Members, the Foothill Workforce Development Board, City of Pasadena Mayor Terry Tornek and the community is concerned with our inability to serve residents from Altadena. Altadena is served by the County of Los Angeles WDB. Also, there is interest in serving Irwindale and Azusa. At the NAWB Conference in Washington, I spoke to LA County staff about the issue and they said that they were aware and the issue has received the attention of the LA County Board of Supervisors.

On April 11th, I was invited to present before the City of Pasadena Northwest Commission. They were also concerned why we are not able to serve Altadena residents. Again, I explained that we can only serve Altadena residents with basic career services or case management services only. Several years ago, FWDB made the decision to only offer funds for training to those who either live or work in our 6 cities.

My hope is that all our Local Elected Officials, staff and community members can put pressure on the County to be able to serve Altadena.

### Federal Highway Administration's California Construction Workforce

FWDB has been invited to participate in the Construction Workforce Pilot Program. This is a partnership between the US Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration, the Federal Highway Administration's Office of Innovative Program Delivery, Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) California Division Office, California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials, (AASHTO), Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), American Road and Transportation Builders Association (ARTBA), Employment & Training Administration (ETA), California Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Apprenticeship Standards Training Programs and the Los Angeles Basin Workforce Development Boards. This Pilot Project will bring together partners across the public and private sectors to effectively address workforce development needs in highway construction through an industry-led approach to identify, train, and place individuals in high demand highway construction occupations. More information will be shared this week via conference call.

### FWDB Executive Director Recruitment

The recruitment for the FWDB Executive Director/ Career Services Administrator is now open. The job posting may be viewed at <http://agency.governmentjobs.com/pasadena/default.cfm>

### Congratulations FETC Policy Board Member Larry Spicer

Monrovia City Councilmember, Larry Spicer, was voted in for another four-year term with more than 1,000 votes. Congratulations from all of the FWDB!

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