This working group will focus on successful strategies for spreading economic recovery to all neighborhoods in Denver through workforce development, targeted hire, and job training programs specifically geared toward middle skill jobs and low-income individuals aged 25-65.

**October 17, 2016 Working Group Meeting Summary**

OED staff provided an overview of the assignments and deliverables requests (list document from September 23, 2016). Items identified for further follow up include:

1) Request for flow chart for when an individual walks in seeking job assistance.
2) Request a list of links for programs providing job assistance (eg. ConnectingColorado)

Denise Bryant, OED, explained that the various job databases do not interface with one another and unfortunately, the systems do not outer-face to allow for automatic auto population of information. She indicated that the following are the three major job seeking organizations that provide job assistance and information through databases: 1) Connect Colorado. 2) ResCare, and 3) State CBMS system.

Anita Davis, OED, stated they assist 450 individuals annually through the WIOA program funding. On average, training costs on average are $3,000 per participant.

Debra Bartleson, Council staff, provided an overview of her research regarding local hiring ordinances. (See research documents.) A recommendation was made to further consider local hire language assessments during the next disparity study and to utilize opportunities to place local hire language in bond construction projects.

Ms. Bryant noted that the new affordable housing legislation is forging more consideration in the local preference opportunity and a city contract will be piloted. She also announced that DURA will also be changing its First Source Hiring policies.

Follow up to questions include:

1) What are the job categories in construction that can be included in local hire (Ortega)? (San
Francisco City Build program identifies job categories

2) Has a neighborhood assessment been conducted for training and job opportunities (Brooks)?

Subsequent to the meeting, OED provided the Workforce Business Services Team assigned to the five industries as follows: James Roina – Construction james.roina@denvergov.org; Sarah Wilson – Manufacturing sarah.wilson@denvergov.org; Yohannes Mengistu – Retail yohannes.mengistu@denvergov.org; Bret Walker - Professional and Technical Services bret.walker@denvergov.org; Ken Arellano – Health care ken.arellano@denvergov.org

Next scheduled meeting is Monday, November 21 from 3 pm to 4 pm in Room 451. The plan is to have Katrina Wert from Community College of Denver to come speak to the working group.

The Councilmembers discussed modifying the original year-end goals below to be more accurate to the work of the group.

**Year-end Goals (the following goals will be evaluated for revision):**

Present to the Economic Development Committee strategies to:
- Have 90% job placement and 80% retention for the WIOA program (18-25 year olds).
- Expand the amount of money available for individual training accounts so as people take advantage of apprenticeships they have a direct tie-in with Denver Public Schools to work with youth (connection to training opportunities for individuals not going to college).
- Implement a strategy for job pipelines to the city’s major infrastructure projects.
- Review results and recommendations from the pilot project based on best practices from other cities (if the pilot project has been completed and results provided before year-end).
- Complete the half-day work session and implement job placement model.
- Provide programmatic recommendations to the mayor’s administration gleaned from RTD’s WIN project and other successful models.

**REVISED GOAL SUGGESTIONS:**

1) Provide leadership in establishing strong relationships with employers seeking to hire Denver residents especially in low income areas where larger construction projects are planned.

2) Collaborate with Office of Economic Development to create a workforce development infrastructure process that is transparent, accessible, and understandable to job seekers.

3) Support legislation that would encourage local hiring and local preferences in contracts generated by the City and County of Denver.

4) Encourage and support agency and staff skills and knowledge to advance strategic workforce development strategies by addressing budget needs.

5) Assist the youth workforce system through strategic investments and collaboration of local public and private services and funding.