

Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services Dept.

Project Objective:

In partnership with our Regional Partners, Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging and Community Services (WDACS) is looking to leverage the County's Local Target Worker Hire Programs for both capital projects and service contracts to create talent pipelines for our shared workforce development clients. In FY 2017-2018, the County of Los Angeles will invest over \$800M in Capital projects for both new developments and deferred maintenance. In addition, the County will procure over \$1B in services from private businesses and non-profits; this includes direct services to both County constituents and County Departments.

Working with our Board of Supervisors, with Supervisor Hilda L. Solis at the forefront, the County developed and passed a number of countywide policies that support and expand these efforts. These efforts include establishing County' Local Target Worker Hire Policies, Contract preference programs that include Social Enterprises, policies that support Community Benefit Agreements and contractual requirements that aim to provide workforce development clients access to employment opportunities created through the awarded contracts.

Presently, LA is seeing a boom in multi-billion dollar construction projects with local and targeted hire requirements. These range from the building of two stadiums (potentially 3), a growing skyline downtown, and a large number of infrastructure investments from METRO and its expansion of rail services and infrastructure expansion, the expansion of LAX Airport, local School and College District's investment in infrastructure, and a growing affordable housing market.

Challenges:

- Filling the skills gap and understanding the demand cycle for this project will be a challenge to ensure the skilled workforce is ready as the demand heightens and ensure moving human capital from project to project through the ebb and flow of construction projects.
- Coordination among the County Regional Planning Unit (RPU) and our partners including the Community Colleges, Labor, Youth Builds and many more.
- Ensuring the system is prepared to meet the demand placed on business partners through the local and targeted hiring requirements

Steps Taken:

- Construction is one of the highest growing industries in Los Angeles County with a projected 689,000 jobs in this sector by 2024. Accordingly, the RPU has adopted Construction as one of the key industry to focus on.
- RPU has focused on developing an integrated and collaborative employer engagement network.
- The 7 WDA's are partnering with METRO and have established an MOU solidifying the partnership under the WIN-LA umbrella. The initiative will create career pathways in construction, non-construction opportunities in operations/maintenance, administration and professional services within Metro and throughout the transportation industry. The project aims to fill and create thousands of jobs.
- Partnership between the RPU and Los Angeles World Airports for the billions of dollars in LAX construction efforts.
- Partnership between the RPU and LA County/LA City joint downtown Grand Park project - Hotel and Entertainment Center

Lessons Learned:

As a Region, we continue to learn and grow as partners and identify opportunities to collaborate in the true spirit of WIOA.

