STANISLAUS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Stanislaus County Workforce Development

251 E. Hackett Road, Modesto, CA 95358 • www.stanworkforce.com • 209-558-2100 • 209-558-2164 fax

WORKFORCE STRATEGY & INNOVATION COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

November 5, 2026
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM
Self-Help Credit Union
Community Room
900 Crows Landing Rd.
Modesto, CA 95351
www.stanworkforce.com

Committee Members

Kris Helton, Co-Chair
Jennifer Shipman, Co-Chair
Billy Meyers
Cecil Russell
Christine Schweininger
Dillon Olvera
Dinah Copple
Jason Maggard
Kendra Mitchell
Lourdes Uranday
Maryn Pitt
Rachelle Barkus
Richard Carnes
Steve Stevenson
Tiffani Burns
Tim Roos

The Stanislaus County Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee welcomes you to its meeting, your interest is encouraged and appreciated.

The Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee complies with all provisions of the Brown Act and the Conflict of Interest Code on file with the Stanislaus County Department of Workforce Development. See links below.
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=202520260SB707
https://www.stanworkforce.com/workforce-board/#committees

PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: Matters under the jurisdiction of the Committee, and not on the posted agenda, may be addressed by the general public at the beginning of the regular agenda and any off-agenda matters before the Committee for consideration. However, California law prohibits the Committee from taking action on any matter which is not on the posted agenda unless it is determined to be an emergency by the Committee. Any member of the public wishing to address the Committee during the "Public Comment" period shall be permitted to be heard once for up to 5 minutes unless the Chairperson of the Committee sets a different time limit. Please complete a Public Comment Form and give it to the Clerk of the Committee. If you would like to provide a written comment, please email your comment form to the Clerk of the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee at ixtak@stanworkforce.com by 4:00 p.m. on the day prior to the meeting. Public Comment forms are available at https://www.stanworkforce.com/workforce-board/public-comment-forms/. Your written comment will be distributed to the Committee and kept on file as part of the official record of the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee meeting.

The agenda is divided into two sections:

CONSENT ITEMS: These matters include routine financial and administrative actions. All consent items will be voted on as a single action at the beginning of the meeting under the section titled "Consent Items" without discussion. If you wish to discuss a consent item, please notify the Clerk of the Committee prior to the beginning of the meeting or you may speak about the item during Public Comment Period.

DISCUSSION AND ACTION ITEMS: These items will be individually discussed.

ANY MEMBER OF THE AUDIENCE DESIRING TO ADDRESS THE COMMITTEE ON A MATTER ON THE AGENDA: Please raise your hand or step to the podium at the time the item is announced by the Committee Chairperson. In order that interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Committee will be limited to a maximum of 5 minutes unless the Chairperson of the Committee sets a different time limit.

COMMITTEE AGENDAS AND MINUTES: Committee agendas, Minutes, and copies of items to be considered by the Committee are typically posted on the Internet on Monday afternoons preceding a Thursday meeting at the following website: https://www.stanworkforce.com/workforce-board/#committees.

NOTICE REGARDING NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS: Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee meetings are conducted in English. Language assistance request should be made by noon the Monday before the meeting by contacting the Clerk at 209-595-0556.

REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS: In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Clerk of the Committee at (209) 595-0556. Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the Department to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Please note: The proceedings of this meeting will be recorded solely for internal reference and record-keeping.

1. Call to Order

2. Introductions

3. Conflict of Interest

4. Public Comment Period

5. Chair Report
   A. Website Workgroup Update

6. Department Report
   A. Workforce Wins
   B. Business One Stop Website Presentation
   C. Website Analytics
   D. Annual Report
   E. Business Services Quarterly Report; Sector Strategy Updates
7. Discussion and Action Items
   A. Approve the Minutes of the August 6, 2026 Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee Meeting
   B. Consideration of Providing Input on Bylaw Revisions and Additions
   C. Approval of the 2027 Dates, Location, and Times for the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee Meetings
   D. Approval to Make a Recommendation to the Workforce Development Board to Enter into a Contract with Bienestar to Develop a Plan to Work with and Train Sector Strategy Contractors for Program Year 2026–2027
   E. Approval of Programs Based on Identified Sector Strategy Needs

8. Future Topic(s), Discussion, Announcements

Next Meeting: TBD pending approval of agenda item 7.C.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT WEBSITE ANALYTICS

Q3 2026 Performance Summary (July 1 - September 30, 2026)

The website continued to connect job seekers, businesses, and community partners with workforce resources. JobSeeker services, Youth programs, and Labor Market Information content generated the strongest engagement.

Key Metrics

Metric	Value
Homepage Views	8,796
Active Homepage Users	5,559
Job Seekers Views	3,446
Job Openings Views	1,809
Locations & Partners Views	1,436
Workshops Views	1,123
Youth Page Views	993

Top Performing Pages

- Homepage - 8,796 views
- Job Seekers - 3,446 views
- Job Openings - 1,809 views
- Locations & Partners - 1,436 views
- Workshops - 1,123 views

Insights

- Job seeker resources remain the primary destination for visitors.
- Youth-focused pages demonstrate strong engagement.
- Labor Market Information Dashboard recorded the highest average engagement time.
- Training and workshop content continues to attract highly engaged visitors.

BUSINESS SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT

Employer Engagement Activities	July 2026 to Sept 2026	July 2025 to Sept 2025	Percent Change
Total Employers Served	405	987	-59%
Total Services Provided	644	1357	-53%
Positions Filled/ Clients Hired	85	212	-59%

SECTOR STRATEGY UPDATES

- **Agriculture Sector:** Stanislaus County Farm Bureau, the Agriculture Convener, has two upcoming Agriculture Sector Partnership events focusing on strengthening connections between agricultural employers and education. November 19, 2026, will highlight Modesto Junior College's agricultural career pathways and gather employer feedback on workforce training needs. On May 18, 2027, tour of MJC's agricultural facilities will showcase hands-on training programs and opportunities for industry collaboration.
- **Healthcare Sector:** HealthForce Partners is focusing on expanding healthcare career pathways through industry and education partnerships. Current initiatives in Stanislaus County include expanding career navigation services in Modesto City Schools, launching the PATH program at Gregori High School, and exploring a HOPE program pilot with Modesto Junior College and Sutter Health. These efforts aim to increase student exposure to healthcare careers and strengthen the county's future healthcare workforce.
- **Manufacturing Sector:** The Manufacturers Council of the Central Valley hosted its third Manufacturing Sector Strategy meeting during the North Valley Manufacturing Summit at CSU Stanislaus, bringing together over 400 attendees, including 150 high school students. The session focused on strengthening employer engagement, workforce training, recruitment, and retention while encouraging manufacturers to participate in workforce committees to guide future initiatives. The summit fostered regional collaboration, with 54 organizations reporting new or renewed partnerships and 19 identifying specific follow-up commitments.
- **Construction Sector:** Workforce Pathway Solutions, the Construction Sector Convener, partnered with Stanislaus Partners in Education (SPIE) to coordinate a Construction Sector Industry-to-Education Tour. The event focused on strengthening industry-education connections, fostering collaboration, and identifying future partnership opportunities. Participants visited Access Electric to learn about its training facilities and partnership with Ceres Unified School District, highlighting efforts to align education with industry needs and prepare the county's future workforce.
- **Women Owned Businesses:** The Modesto Chamber of Commerce, serving as the Women-Owned Business Sector Convener, is partnering with SCORE to host a Women's Entrepreneur Resource Summit on November 18, 2026, from 8 a.m. to noon at the DoubleTree in Modesto. The event will highlight business resources available through SCORE, the SBA, and other partners, followed by a Sector Strategy meeting to identify business needs and opportunities. Approximately 80–100 attendees are anticipated, providing an opportunity to gather valuable input from women entrepreneurs across the county.
- **Transportation/Warehouse:** Staff continue to explore Convening Authority options.

Stanislaus Partners in Education

PARTICIPANT CONTACT SHEET

Construction Sector Industry-to-Education Tour

Monday, October 12, 2026 · Modesto & Ceres · Tour Participants & Site Contacts

Let's stay connected

Please reach out to one another directly — and to us! We'd love to learn more about your organization, offer guidance on ways to get involved, or connect you with someone.

Jessica Godden
Executive Director
jessica@stanislauspartners.com

Courtney Ringsted
Program Specialist
courtney@stanislauspartners.com

Stanislaus County Workforce Development

Name	Title	Email
Julie Mendoza	Youth Services Division Manager	MendozaJ@stanworkforce.com
Angie Young	Director of Sector Strategies	younga@stanworkforce.com

Industry Partners

Organization	Name	Title	Trade / Specialty	Email
Access Electric	**Walter Resendes**	President / Co-owner	Electrical	walter@accesstopower.com
Acme Construction	**Mike Mistagni**	Owner	General construction	mike@acmeconstruction.com
A Step Above Painting	**Kyle Huckell**	VP of Sales	Painting	khuckell@astepabovepainting.com
BBSI	**Fred Rasuli**	Area Manager	Workforce / business services	Fred.Rasuli@bbsi.com
C3 Construction Group	**Seth Cheek**	President	Construction	seth@c3cginc.com
JDS Tile & Construction	**Jeff Souza**	President / CEO	Tile & construction	jdstileconstruction@gmail.com
Modesto Executive Electric	**Tori Simpson**	Owner	Electrical	Tori@modexelec.com
Reed Family Companies	**Jose Gil**	Corporate Recruiter	Heavy construction	jose.gil@reed.net
Reed Family Companies	**Shannon Staley**	Human Resources Director	Heavy construction	shannon.staley@reed.net
Valley Builders Exchange	**Christine Schweininger**	CEO	Builders association	cschweininger@valleybx.com
Wardrobe & Bath	**Kris Helton**	General Manager	Workforce development	kris@wardrobeandbath.com

Modesto City Schools

Name	Title	Email
District Office		
Rachelle Barkus	Senior Director, School Leadership	barkus.r@monet.k12.ca.us
Sharyl Limbaugh	CTE Coordinator	Limbaugh.S@monet.k12.ca.us
Elliott Alternative Education Center		
Eli Pew	Principal	pew.e@monet.k12.ca.us
Russ Bianchi	Building & Construction CTE Educator	Bianchi.R@monet.k12.ca.us
Luis Rodriguez	Building & Construction Educator	rodriguez.l@monet.k12.ca.us
Downey High School		
Travis Gonsalves	Ag Mechanics Educator	Gonsalves.Tr@mcs4kids.com
Carlo Torres	Building & Construction Educator	Torres.Car@monet.k12.ca.us

County Office, College & Training Partners

Organization	Name	Title	Email
Stanislaus County Office of Education (SCOE)	**Lamar Wallace**	CTE Director	lwallace@stancoe.org
Modesto Junior College	**Richard Carnes**	Director, Community Lifelong Learning & Workforce Development	carnesr@yosemite.edu
DeHart Technical School	**Damon Fugett**	Director	damon@deharttech.edu
DeHart Technical School	**Arlandis McClain**	Placement Coordinator	arlandis@deharttech.edu

Ceres Unified School District & Ceres High School

Area	Name	Title	Email
District	**Rita Menezes**	CTE Director	rmenezes@ceres.k12.ca.us
Administration	**Lonnie Cornell**	Associate Principal	lcornell@ceres.k12.ca.us
Construction	**Jake Sundy**	Construction Teacher	jsundy@ceres.k12.ca.us
Construction	**Lonnie Gollihare**	Construction Teacher	lgollihare@ceres.k12.ca.us
Agriculture	**Mardel Runnels**	Agriculture Teacher	mrunnels@ceres.k12.ca.us
Agriculture	**Allison Rivera**	Agriculture Teacher	ARivera3@ceres.k12.ca.us
Agriculture	**Brian Mortensen**	Agriculture Teacher	bmortensen@ceres.k12.ca.us
Manufacturing / MPGT	**Tucker Schwarberg**	MPGT Academy Coordinator	tschwarberg@ceres.k12.ca.us
Manufacturing / MPGT	**Eric Gillis**	CTE Instructor	egillis@ceres.k12.ca.us
Manufacturing / MPGT	**Anthony Gerads**	CTE Instructor	AGerads@ceres.k12.ca.us
Manufacturing / MPGT	**David Vetter**	Manufacturing Teacher	dvetter@ceres.k12.ca.us
Manufacturing / MPGT	**Marcel Jackson**	Academy Youth Advisor	dajackson@ceres.k12.ca.us
Manufacturing / MPGT	**Connie Tigner**	Academy Secretary II	CTigner@ceres.k12.ca.us

Become an MPGT Academy Mentor

Ceres High's Manufacturing Production & Green Technology (MPGT) Academy is recruiting industry mentors for 2026–2027 — guest speaking, internships, facility tours, or monthly mentor luncheons (1–2 hours a month) at the Ceres Community Center. **Next luncheon: Mentor / Student Meet & Greet · Wednesday, October 21, 2026 · 11:20 AM – 12:20 PM.** Contact Marcel Jackson · dajackson@ceres.k12.ca.us

Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee
Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 6, 2026
Self-Help Credit Union
Community Room
900 Crows Landing Rd.
Modesto, CA 95351
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM

Members in attendance: Jennifer Shipman; Co-Chair, Billy Myers, Cecil Russell, Dillon Olvera, Dinah Copple, Kendra Mitchell, Lourdes Uranday, Maryn Pitt, Rachelle Barkus, Richard Carnes, Tiffany Burns, Tim Roos

Members Absent: Kris Helton-Co-Chair, Christine Schweininger, Jason Maggard, Steve Stevenson

Staff in attendance:
Doris Foster, Sara Redd, Kris Ixta

(*Unexcused)

5 additional guest(s) were present

Jennifer Shipman, Committee Co-Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:01 PM

Introductions
New committee member Dinah Copple introduced herself, followed by standard introductions from the remaining attendees.

Conflict of Interest
Jennifer Shipman outlined the Conflict of Interest Policy.

Public Comment Period
There were no public comments.

Presentation
Quarterly Workforce Win Presentation – Valley Builders Exchange

Chair Report
Jennifer Shipman led a follow-up discussion regarding the Business tab on the department's website, referencing the initial conversation held at the May committee meeting. She encouraged the Committee to consider ways to enhance the Business Services page on the website, so it better supports local business owners. Jennifer suggested shifting the focus from listing available programs to emphasizing what services can be provided to businesses and the potential outcomes those services deliver.

The Committee reviewed the Business tab and noted several areas for improvement, including non-clickable links, the need for stronger calls to action, a more outcome-driven approach, and the addition of more comprehensive resources. Members recommended reviewing examples from other websites for ideas. A working group was formed to collaborate with staff on proposed revisions. Members include Tiffani Burns, Lourdes Uranday, and Jennifer Shipman.

The Committee requested that website analytics be presented at the November meeting, including overall site traffic and the percentage of visitors accessing each page.

Department Report

Workforce Development Director Doris Foster reviewed the following:

In-Demand Sector Year-End Reports are included in the meeting packet.

Business One-Stop Preview

Director Foster presented an overview of the new Business One-Stop resources being developed as a dedicated section of the Department's website to support local businesses. She reviewed the timeline which included previewing the materials to invited businesses and community groups, the Stanislaus County CEO, and presenting to the Board of Supervisors on September 29th. The website is scheduled to go live on October 1st, followed by a large marketing campaign. Director Foster also shared the wireframe diagram outlining the features and content planned for the site. A full presentation will be provided at the November meeting.

Discussion and Action Items

Approve the Minutes of the May 7, 2026 Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee Meeting.
B. Myers / T. Roos

Approval to Direct Staff to Create Programing Based on Identified Initiatives

A motion was made by T. Burns, seconded by M. Pitt to direct staff to return to the next meeting with programming ideas and analysis based on the initiatives discussed. The motion passed unanimously.

Approval to Make a Recommendation to the Workforce Development Board to Enter into a Contract with Bienestar to Develop a Plan to Work with and Train Sector Strategy Contractors for Program Year 2026–2027.

The Committee reviewed this agenda item. Director Foster explained that Bienestar will conduct an assessment of all sectors and develop a proposed plan outlining strategies to support and identify business needs. Bienestar will submit an updated scope of work by October 31.

Committee members provided input regarding the importance of identifying needs within each sector, as well as mapping transferable skills across industries. They noted that skill names may vary between sectors and emphasized the value of aligning

terminology to support the development of training programs that address broader workforce needs.

The Committee requested that the revised scope be brought back for discussion at the November meeting. The item will not be forwarded to the Workforce Development Board for approval as stated in the Agenda Item until reviewed by the Committee.

Future Topic(s), Discussion, Announcements

Dillon Olvera expressed interest in seeing data on current workforce activity, particularly in light of the Del Monte closure and other recent changes and requested related workforce trend information.

Meeting adjourned: 2:23 PM

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STANISLAUS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
WORKFORCE STRATEGY & INNOVATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM

COMMITTEE AGENDA: 7.B.
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2026

DISCUSSION AND ACTION: [X]

SUBJECT:

Consideration of Providing Input on Bylaw Revisions and Additions

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Consider providing input on the Stanislaus County Workforce Development Board Bylaws.

DISCUSSION:

The Workforce Development Board is undertaking a revision of its Bylaws to ensure they remain aligned with regulatory requirements and continue to provide clear guidance for the Board and its Committees. As part of this effort, staff are requesting input from the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee on any revisions or additions they believe should be incorporated. The Strategy & Innovation Committee does not have its own Bylaws but adapts those of the Board. Committee feedback is important to ensure the Bylaws support established expectations and effectively guide Board and Committee functions.

All input gathered during this meeting will be compiled and presented to the Workforce Development Board at its December 7, 2026, meeting for consideration. Once approved by the Workforce Development Board, the Bylaws will be taken to the Board of Supervisors for final approval.

POLICY ISSUE:

The Stanislaus County Workforce Development Board (SCSCWDB) is governed by Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). Per WIOA law § 679.310 “The CEO must establish by-laws, consistent with State policy for Local Workforce Development Board membership.” Per the current established Stanislaus County SCWDB bylaws, “These bylaws may be amended, repealed, or altered, in whole or in part, by the approval of the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. A recommendation to amend, repeal, or alter these bylaws, in whole or in part, may be made by a majority vote of the Board members present at any duly held meeting of the Board.”

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agenda item.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD PRIORITY:

The actions recommended within this agenda item align with all the Board's priorities. These include: being Data Driven in decision making, communication and thoughtful leadership; inclusively strengthening and maintaining effective relationships across the Workforce Development system, focusing on the in-demand business community and other workforce partners by forming Effective Relationships; Development of a Skilled Workforce by collaborating with, and building a skilled workforce responsive to the needs of the in-demand business community; Increasing awareness of, and engagement with Stanislaus County Workforce Development throughout the community and among business partners by performing Outreach & Engagement; System Alignment and Collective Impact by informing and being informed by broad efforts and initiatives across Stanislaus County that are aligned with the mission; and attracting and pursuing funding that fosters innovation and aligns with community needs for Diverse and Strategic Funding.

STAFFING IMPACT:

There is no staffing impact associated with this agenda item.

D. Foster

Doris Foster, Director

STANISLAUS COUNTY WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
WORKFORCE STRATEGY & INNOVATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM

COMMITTEE AGENDA: 7.C.
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2026

DISCUSSION AND ACTION: [X]

SUBJECT:

Approval of the 2027 Dates, Location, and Times for the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee Meetings

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve the 2027 dates, location, and times for the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee meetings.

DISCUSSION:

The first meeting of the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee was held on Thursday, March 12, 2026. During this meeting, members discussed the committee's objectives, reviewed the mission and vision statements, considered proposed meeting schedules, and selected an official name for the committee. At that meeting it was determined that the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee would meet quarterly during the month prior to Workforce Development Board meetings and will provide an update to the Board at each meeting.

The proposed meeting dates for 2027 are as follows:

Date	Time	Location
February 4, 2027	1:00 – 2:30 PM	Self-Help Credit Union Community Room 900 Crows Landing Rd., Modesto CA 95351
May 6, 2027	1:00 – 2:30 PM	Self-Help Credit Union Community Room 900 Crows Landing Rd., Modesto CA 95351
August 5, 2027	1:00 – 2:30 PM	Self-Help Credit Union Community Room 900 Crows Landing Rd., Modesto CA 95351
November 4, 2027	1:00 – 2:30 PM	Self-Help Credit Union Community Room 900 Crows Landing Rd., Modesto CA 95351

Once the suggested meeting dates are approved by the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee, calendar invites will be sent out to all Committee members.

POLICY ISSUE:

The Stanislaus County Workforce Development Board's (SCWDB) Bylaws state that the Board shall establish a regular meeting schedule. As such, the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee is required to set and approve a regular meeting schedule.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact is associated with this agenda item.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD PRIORITY:

Because the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee directly supports the Workforce Development Board, the actions recommended in this agenda item align with all the Board's priorities. These include: being *Data Driven* in decision making, communication and thoughtful leadership; inclusively strengthening and maintaining effective relationships across the Workforce Development system, focusing on the in-demand business community and other workforce partners by forming *Effective Relationships*; *Development of a Skilled Workforce* by *c*ollaborating with, and building a skilled workforce responsive to the needs of the in-demand business community; Increasing awareness of, and engagement with Stanislaus County Workforce Development throughout the community and among business partners by performing *Outreach & Engagement*; *System Alignment and Collective Impact by* informing and being informed by broad efforts and initiatives across Stanislaus County that are aligned with the mission; and attracting and pursuing funding that fosters innovation and aligns with community needs for *Diverse and Strategic Funding.*

STAFFING IMPACT:

No staffing impact is associated with this agenda item.

D. Foster

Doris Foster, Director

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WORKFORCE STRATEGY & INNOVATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM

COMMITTEE AGENDA: 7.D.
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2026

DISCUSSION AND ACTION: [X]

SUBJECT:

Approval to Make a Recommendation to the Workforce Development Board to Enter into a Contract with Bienestar to Develop a Plan to Work with and Train Sector Strategy Contractors for Program Year 2026–2027

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve to make a recommendation from the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee to the Workforce Development Board to enter into a contract with Bienestar to develop a plan to work with and train sector strategy contractors for program year 2026 – 2027.

DISCUSSION:
Currently Workforce Development has a contract with Bienestar to improve and understand manufacturing needs in Stanislaus County. The funds for this program originate from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and were designated by the County to support economic development efforts, including small business assistance, workforce recovery, and strategies identified through the Stanislaus 2030 Investment Blueprint. These resources must be used to strengthen local entrepreneurship, support businesses and individuals affected by the pandemic, and develop a countywide competency model to improve manufacturing talent acquisition and training.

Workforce Development has been very impressed with the work that Bienestar has accomplished and is recommending a second contract that seeks to deploy and further develop a competency model by building an agile and adaptive talent development strategy that strengthens communication between industrial demand and educational pipelines. It also aims to use labor market information to expand the capacity of ecosystem partners by leveraging both quantitative Labor Market Information (LMI) and real-time qualitative employer insights to better inform activities, programs, and investments. The Department has additional ARPA funding to contract for the following Scope of Work.

The Contractor shall carry out the following duties and activities:

- The Contractor shall collaborate with Stanislaus County Workforce Development (SCWD) to assess baseline knowledge and review existing sector reports relevant to the project.

- The Contractor shall develop a comprehensive plan outlining how staff will be trained to implement the competency model effectively.

- Contractor shall refresh quantitative and qualitative data analysis to update background research such as key occupations, required knowledge, skills, and abilities (KSAs), using the O*NET database and Lightcast data, and catalogue existing resources aligned to the building blocks framework.

- Contractor shall provide technical assistance and coaching to SCWD and program implementation partners including but not limited to Manufacturers Council of the Central Valley (MCCV).

- The Contractor shall prepare a detailed scope of work for the next steps of development and execution of the competency model that will identify industry needs.

Staff are requesting approval to make a recommendation to the Workforce Development Board to enter into a contract with Bienestar to identify sector strategy initiatives that will provide the Workforce Strategy & Innovative Committee with concrete information from the Sector Strategy meetings to make concise and informed decisions on programing implementation.

POLICY ISSUE:

Under Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) regulations 679.370, Local Workforce Development Boards are responsible for developing effective linkages with regional employers to support their engagement with the workforce system. Boards must also identify and select providers of Career Services (when not delivered through the One-Stop Operator) and designate the One-Stop Operator for the local area. The proposed contract supports these responsibilities by strengthening sector-based strategies and enhancing coordination among workforce, education, and industry partners.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Due to the short turn around, the budget still needs to be refined with milestones, but will not exceed $190,000. Rapid Response funds will be used to pay for the Bienestar contract.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD PRIORITY:

The recommended actions are consistent with the Board's priority of *Development of a Skilled Workforce by* collaborating with and building a skilled workforce responsive to the needs of the in-demand business community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing Department staff will execute and monitor the agreement.



Doris Foster, Director

Sector Strategy Development and Implementation Plan

Scope of Work draft: Completion of comprehensive plan outlining staff training and implementation for the competency model.

Goals

1. Clarify roles and expectations
2. Move toward a truly industry-led strategy
3. Align existing tools and structures

Additions

- SPIE and their ecosystem role (convenor and connector to K12 education and CTE)
- Approach is adaptive and we can adjust
- Transferable skills
- Setting up process for employer validation of LMI, competency pyramid and transferable skills

Milestones

- Sector strategy development:
  - Using an identified sector strategy model (industry cluster approach), design a sector strategy approach for the manufacturing sector that the county can use for their priority sectors.
  - Outline the strategy, approach, tactics, partnership roles and responsibilities
    - LMI analysis update (quarterly) using manufacturing sector digital packet that includes the competency model prototype, labor market analysis, ecosystem partners and roles, talent development pathways, updating worker/learner personas using the community engagement report data and findings

  - Competency model development for priority sector occupations starting with manufacturing
    - Identify priority occupations in the sector and build out the competencies (KSAs) to complete the sector competency model
    - Conduct up to 3 focus groups and/or individual conversations with employers to identify priority occupations, KSAs, and competencies.
    - Identify transferable skills that exist across priority sectors

- Staff training and development:
  - Work with key SCWD sector strategy staff to develop an implementation plan for their manufacturing sector strategy that includes:
    - a theory of change that outlines how the strategy will work with partners

across the county
        - outlines roles and responsibilities of ecosystem partners and SCWD staff implementing sector strategy
        - Provides a framework for creating an aligned portfolio of investment in the sector strategy partnerships identifying opportunities to invest existing funding (WIOA or population-specific resources) to support talent development and industry partnership in the sector
        - Develops an approach for the sector convener role and ecosystem coordination partner role, and a template contract aligned to the sector strategy, theory of change, and evaluation framework that the SCWD team can adapt for each priority sector need
        - Provides an evaluation framework for their work

- Technical Assistance
    - Convene (up to 4) sector strategy sessions ecosystem partners (e.g. community of practice, sector updates for talent development, presentation of industry needs)
    - Provide coaching on strategy implementation to key SCWD staff (e.g. monthly/quarterly) as needed
    - Provide input on future sector strategy convener contracts

Budget up to $190,000

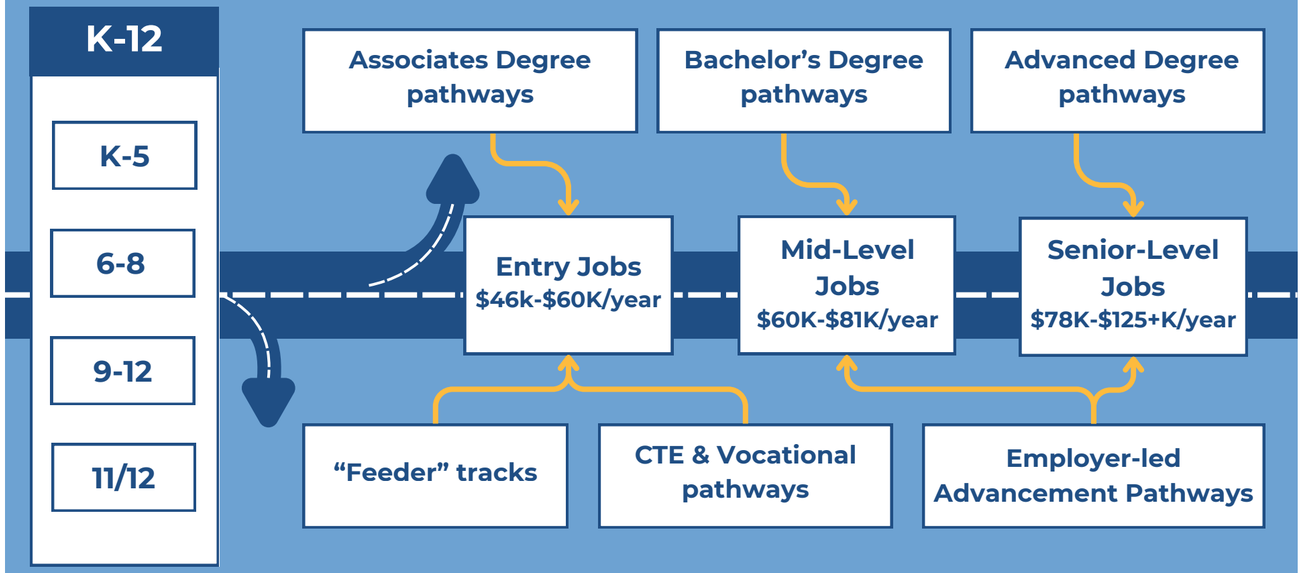
- Budget range is dependent on the full scope of technical assistance needs, number of sectors and building of full digital packet (LMI, competency model, ecosystem, employer research/input) for in this scope.

MANUFACTURING SECTOR PATHWAY MAP

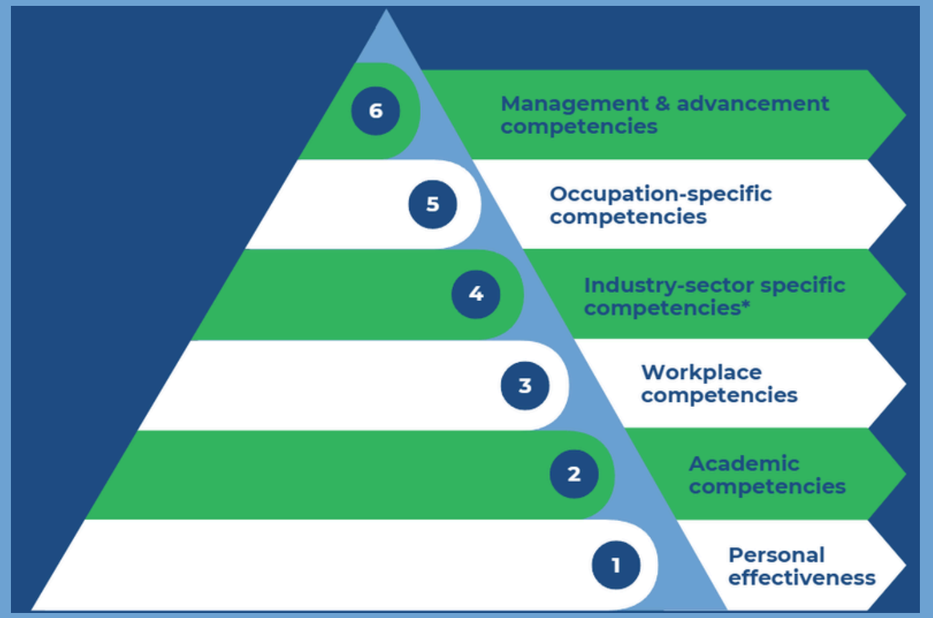
Problem Statement or Vision

The North San Joaquin Valley is a globally recognized hub for manufacturing innovation and economic growth, distinguished by its skilled workforce that embodies excellence and drives regional prosperity.

Entry to Mid-Level Training & Career Progression



Competency Model



Labor Market Information

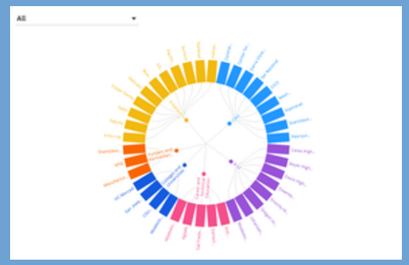
In-demand jobs

Job postings

What we're hearing from local employers

Sector snapshot

Talent Ecosystem



Ecosystem Roles



WORKFORCE STRATEGY & INNOVATION COMMITTEE
AGENDA ITEM

COMMITTEE AGENDA: 7.E.
AGENDA DATE: November 5, 2026

DISCUSSION AND ACTION: [X]

SUBJECT:

Approval of Programs Based on Identified Sector Strategy Needs

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

1. Approve programs based on identified Sector Strategy Needs.

DISCUSSION:

On April 8, 2024 the Workforce Development Board approved contracting with community agencies for underserved businesses. These community agencies were contracted to develop initiatives and engagement tailored to the specific challenges faced by the underserved businesses community. Staff developed a Request for Qualifications for the different geographical areas that identified a convening authority. The convening authority engaged underserved businesses and held meetings to identify business needs. The identified four areas were: Patterson/Newman, West Modesto, South Modesto/Ceres, and South Turlock.

On May 7, 2026 the four agencies that were contracted as convening authorities presented outcomes. A summary of the Convening Authority report was part of the minutes The agencies were:

- Modesto Chamber of Commerce
- Latino Chamber of Commerce
- Ceres Chamber of Commerce
- Stanislaus Equity Partners

On August 6, 206, staff brought an Agenda Item to the Committee to “Direct staff to create programing based on identified initiatives”. The Committee directed staff to return to the next meeting with programming ideas and analysis based on the initiatives discussed.

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As a reminder, programs may include:

- Incumbent worker training
- Business consulting
- Workforce planning assistance
- Financial or operational referrals

- Connections to economic development resources
- Assistance accessing capital
- Work sharing program referrals
- Labor-management partnerships
- Succession planning
- Employee skill upgrades
- Customized training
- Early intervention with businesses showing signs of distress

Recommendations by staff are:

- Early intervention of identified businesses that may be considered needing assistance and connecting them with resources to help strengthen their business. This may include initiatives such as branding competencies, financial planning, business plans and accessing skilled talent.

- Incumbent training and retention that would not include enrollment but would rather focus on business needs in building skills in the workplace.

- Small and newly established business support through partnership with the Small Business Development Center (SBDC)

- Entrepreneurial programing that assists in understanding the steps and strategies needed to start a business.

Once initiatives are identified, staff will begin implementation and bring back program updates for additional recommendations and input from the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee.

POLICY ISSUE:

WIOA allows Local Workforce Development Boards, and their committees, to help shape and oversee the programs delivered in their communities. Under these regulations, committees can bring stakeholders together, support partnership-building, and provide guidance to ensure programs meet local workforce needs. WIOA also allows Boards to use “standing committees”, like the Workforce Strategy & Innovation Committee, to focus on specific areas such as program design, performance, and how resources are used. This gives the committee a formal role in helping staff develop and refine department programming.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funding for these initiatives will be from the Rapid Response appropriations.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT BOARD PRIORITY:

The recommended actions are consistent with the Board’s priority of *Development of a Skilled Workforce* by collaborating with and building a skilled workforce responsive to the needs of the in-demand business community.

STAFFING IMPACT:

Existing Workforce Development staff will be responsible for developing, administering, and reporting on newly created programs.



Doris Foster, Director