

# Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE April 9, 2021

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **Upcoming April 14, 2021 Agenda Item #25: Workforce Development Resolution**

For the City of Dallas to maximize efficiency and foster collaborative programming with external entities that are focused on workforce development, I have asked the Office of Economic Development to streamline the process for workforce development collaborations. On February 8, 2021, members of the Workforce, Education, and Equity Committee considered and moved forward to City Council the attached resolution, authorizing the Office of Economic Development on behalf of the City Manager to enter into interlocal agreements and other agreements as may be necessary to implement and carry out the collaborative programming as they are established, but it does not appropriate any funds to those agreements. Any required appropriation would be handled separately by administrative action or City Council resolution, as appropriate.

The City Council will consider adopting this resolution on April 14, 2021.

The need for this resolution was made clear during recent collaborations between the City of Dallas, Dallas ISD, and Dallas College to formalize the entities' participation in Dallas ISD's Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) program. This program provides students with exposure to various career pathways. City of Dallas departments that participate in the P-Tech program include Dallas Fire-Rescue, Dallas Police, and ITS. During the process of documenting this relationship, multiple departments were involved. Without a sole department taking the lead on coordination, there were no expectations or timelines set. As a result, it took over 18+ months to move forward on formalizing the collaboration. This process justified the need for a centralized and more nimble process if the City of Dallas is to improve effectiveness and continue to foster collaborative workforce development programming with external organizations.

The attached City Council resolution provides for implementing streamlined coordination and approval for workforce development programming and collaborations. The Office of Economic Development will serve, on behalf of the City Manager, to convene, coordinate, provide guidance, and track all such agreements entered into by the City and external entities for this purpose. . It will also oversee formalizing the collaborative programming relationships, timelines, and deliverables. By establishing the framework and tools needed, the City of Dallas will more fluidly collaborate with education, healthcare, and other entities. In turn, this positions the City of Dallas to be better prepared to meet the speed for demand required by potential economic development entities as they look to the City of Dallas for relocation or establishment.

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Prior to submitting the resolution, attached for your review, we sought feedback from City Council members for ways to improve the resolution. As a result, the resolution also directs the Office of Economic Development to develop a vetting process to fairly and equitably choose program collaborators. Additionally, the resolution includes a directive to track the collaborations and collect data to use to assess the value of the continuing collaborations and entering into future potential ones.

Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns.



Dr. Eric A. Johnson

Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager  
Chris Caso, City Attorney  
Mark Swann, City Auditor  
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary  
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge  
Kimberly Bizzor Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager  
Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager

Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager  
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager  
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer  
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion  
Directors and Assistant Directors

April 14, 2021

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dallas has an interest in the evolution and solidifying of collaborations with entities, public and private to maximize efficiency and support for cohesive engagement with these entities as it relates to workforce development for youth and adults and economic growth, as well as joint collaborative initiatives; and

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dallas and external entities have a desire to work together and strengthen the possibility for greater joint outcomes as it relates to workforce development for youth and adults and economic growth, as well as joint collaborative initiatives.

**Now, Therefore,**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DALLAS:**

**SECTION 1.** That the City Manager or his designee is hereby authorized, through the Office of Economic Development, to establish collaborative programming with public and private entities to advance workforce and economic development, enhance engagement, and maximize efficiency for the City's ability to coordinate with these entities as it relates to workforce and economic development.

**SECTION 2.** That the City Manager or his designee is hereby authorized, through the Office of Economic Development, to execute interlocal agreements and other agreements as may be necessary to implement and carry out the collaborative programming as they are established. It does not appropriate any funds to those agreements. Any required appropriation would be handled separately by Administrative Action or Council resolution, as appropriate.

**SECTION 3.** That the Office of Economic Development shall develop a vetting process to fairly and equitably choose program collaborators who further the City's goals for workforce and economic development. Additionally, the progress and outcomes of these program collaborations will be tracked, and the data used to assess the value of continuing existing collaborations and entering into potential future collaborations with each respective entity.

**SECTION 4.** That the Office of Economic Development shall provide to City Council an annual report outlining interlocal agreements executed and programming established during the respective year, and status of collaborations resulting from this resolution.

**SECTION 5.** That this resolution shall take effect immediately from and after its passage in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the City of Dallas, and it is accordingly so resolved.