

“VISION FOR AN EDUCATED AND SKILLED WORKFORCE”

The economic prosperity and quality of life in the City of Los Angeles is highly dependent on the educational and skill attainment of its future workforce. Given the challenges of our high school graduation rates and work readiness in a quickly changing global marketplace, every investment in the City’s workforce is critical and must demonstrate a measurable value.

This Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Annual Plan represents a substantial investment in the City’s current and future workforce. However, this is only a small fraction of the total regional investment in training and employment services. The combined resources of the Los Angeles Unified School District, Los Angeles Community College District, labor unions, and the private sector are many multiples of the City’s dedicated WIA funds.

Through the leadership of the Mayor, City Council, and the Workforce Investment Board, this plan aligns the City’s workforce development strategic initiatives, encourages regional training investments, and coordinates with on-going economic development efforts.

The Workforce Development System, governed by the Workforce Investment Board (WIB), is the city’s place to advocate both bold changes in the delivery of employment and training services, as well as larger scale changes in policy, partnerships, and resources.

By investing in an educated and skilled workforce, the City will help low-wage and low-skill residents become competitive and will support business attraction, retention, and growth.

To meet these objectives, the Mayor has presented to the WIB a framework with key strategic workforce initiatives, and has challenged the City’s workforce leadership to:

- **Expand demand-driven workforce initiatives and improve opportunities for low-wage workers;**
- **Strengthen the region’s workforce development system by expanding and enhancing the relationships and shared resources with the Los Angeles Unified School District and the Los Angeles Community College District;**
- **Leverage public sector hiring and contracting through both City departments and publicly funded redevelopment projects; and**
- **Connect young people to employment opportunities and career possibilities;**
- **Effectively manage and maximize the available WIA American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to increase training and career advancement opportunities.**

With coordinated leadership, measurable goals, and an action plan, the City can increase the education and attained skill of its workforce, and meet the global business demand for a local, educated, and skilled workforce.