

June 5, 2012

DEAR LOCAL WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD DIRECTORS AND
CHAIRPERSONS,

Re: EXTENSION OF WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT (WIA) LOCAL PLAN
FOR PROGRAM YEAR (PY) 2012-2013

The purpose of this letter is to inform you that your WIA local plan has been extended through June 30, 2013. Please accept this letter as the State Board's formal approval of your local plan for the Program Year (PY) 2012-13.

The State Board, with the participation of State-level directors of partner agencies, has initiated a comprehensive review and realignment of the vision, goals and priorities of the state WIA Strategic Plan. On May 14th and May 30th, State Board staff led informal working group meetings of State directors to brainstorm ideas for the "Governor's Vision" for Section I of the State Plan. Our intent is to ultimately get 1) consensus on common goals for the system that are both actionable and achievable and 2) commitment on specific actions from each State partner. Participants included EDD, Labor Agency, Community College Chancellor's Office, Employment Training Panel, Division of Apprenticeship Standards, Department of Education, Health and Human Services, and the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).

To ensure this strategic plan addresses the most salient workforce goals and priorities of our state, we will be seeking engagement and suggestions from you and other workforce system champions in this planning effort. This July, we will convene at least three regional focus group meetings to solicit input and recommendations. Hosted by LWIBs, each focus group will consist of around 25 invitees representing broad regional partnerships -- LWIBs, public colleges, K-12 adult education and career tech providers, CBOs, unions, and business leaders. Targeted invitees will be folks with deep experience building multi-partner, sector-based programs and career pathways.

The regional focus groups are not for the necessary broad stakeholder input and public comment. Rather they will provide the opportunity to verify what comes out from the State partners – i.e. do the goals represent real system improvement, and can we operationalize at the regional level?

The new 5-year state strategic plan will be submitted to the Department of Labor by September 15, 2012. We are committed to developing a plan that responds to the current and foreseen challenges faced by the entire workforce system, provides a framework for regional cooperation and investment, encourages continuous improvement of services to

clients and business, and responds to the policy direction contained in workforce legislation enacted by Governor Brown.

This change also requires that a new strategic plan be developed for your local area. We are cognizant of the time needed to complete a meaning local planning cycle and will do all we can to provide the maximum amount of time possible. We will be providing planning guidance for the local planning effort in the near future.

We look forward to working with you in this important effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tim Rainey', with a stylized, cursive script.

Tim Rainey
Executive Director

cc: EDDWSB
LWDA