Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) Implementation
Local Hire/Contracting Sub Working Group, Meeting 2 Notes
June 20, 2022 | 9:00 am – 10:00 am

(SWG Leads: David DeLuz, Erin Holbrook, Ray Tritt, Caltrans)

Welcome and Opening Remarks

- Agenda overview:
  - Sub-Working Group Updates
  - Survey Results
  - Workforce Development
  - Next Steps & Close Meeting

Sub-Working Group Updates

- Action plan now due by October 31, 2022, to be rolled up and packaged for CalSTA by November 2022.
- Our goal is to complete the first draft by 9/15/22.
- The scope has been modifying to include workforce development.
- Monthly subgroup meetings stating in July.
- After speaking with other IIJA SWG leads – we have found that overall workforce issue is not being addressed across the different IIJA groups within Caltrans.
- Our concern is that this critical element is being overlooked across the wider IIJA implementation.
- One of the main talking points within our work has been focused on the available workforce for the highway programs.
- Building out this workforce is one of the most important aspects we have been discussing for our future.
- Building out a workforce in general and that represents all of California.
- There is still a lot of work being done at the federal level as far as implementation language around elements of IIJA; planning and decisions are still being made.
- I would like to have a conversation about workforce development with this group on incorporating the issue of workforce development into our scope.
- I would also like to get acceptance of our cadence from the members – set for monthly meeting cadence.
• Monthly meetings will allow us to get conduct committee work if needed and complete the action plan by October.

Desired Outcomes and Scope of SWG
• Our main goal is to obtain a net increase in the number and diversity of people being hired for construction related careers across California.
• Most local hire projects are intended to ensure the workforce working on projects reflects the local community.

• Develop inventory of best practices, strategies, and next steps to be included in the IIJA Action Plan.
• Address the alternative delivery strategies that can be used to meet small, disabled veteran, and DBE enterprise goals.
• Recommendations for programmatic best practices, strategies that address:
  o Impact of local hire/contracting ordinances
  o Alternative delivery strategies
  o Training and workforce development (expansion of SWG scope) *

Group Engagement: Survey Results
• Local Hire/Contracting IIJA Survey: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CZFX9RZ
• First survey received only 12% response rate.
• Another iteration of survey will be sent out to members to help gather more data around local hire and workforce development issues.
• SWG members suggest taking the survey to different venues i.e., town halls, California League of Cities.
• https://www.calcities.org/education-and-events/event/2023/03/08/default-calendar/public-works-officers-institute
• Working group members offered suggestions on how to increase the level of participation from stakeholders.

Erasmus, Sequoia
• Suggestions: organize an outreach team, provide incentives for survey completion, this method for completing the survey during the meeting was good
• Utilize community level social media networks established through organizations and elected officials
• Send the survey through text message to stakeholders
David DeLuz, Caltrans
- We are going to take this information back and work to send this survey out to more stakeholders.
- Additionally, we will compile the survey results and comments after we have received a more complete response; a summary of survey results will be provided to SWG members in future meetings.

Pia Veesapen
- Maybe need to evaluate the list of survey recipients. This is the first time I’ve seen the survey at OCTA.

Group Discussion: Workforce Development
David DeLuz, Caltrans
- Local Hire and Workforce Development
  Making recommendations on how to prepare the workforce for the future
    - Example: there is an element in the transition plan for Zero-Emissions Vehicles
- Currently the ZEV group is in the process of developing a workforce development plan for the ZEV portion of the IIJA implementation.

Jatkar Shrayas
- The training and the hiring should all be connected. I think this makes sense and I will bring up to our director and partners today.
- Workforce all across the board – everything related to workforce needs to be addressed but not all partners work with all levels of workforce.
- Here at the state workforce board. Equity, Job quality, and Climate.
- Middle skills occupations – require more than H.S diploma but less than a degree; these are the types of careers that are our main focus when we think of workforce development.
- Areas we focus on – if we’re looking at things like planners or engineers anything that requires a college degree, we are not looking at those within our scope.
- We have multiple programs that related and other training programs but just wanted to make it clear that we do not cover everything.

Michael Harrodson, Air Resources Board
- What type of strategies are we thinking about with this expanded scope?
• Are we aligning with other CA programs and supporting other IIJA programs?
  o For example: are we trying to prepare a workforce for programs that will be operating under IIJA or is it better to align with other California programs as well?

Answer:
• Yes, I think this is something we want to gather confirmation from the group on; whether or not we would like to add “workforce development” to our scope.

Should the IIJA Local Hire/Contracting SWG add Workforce Development to its Scope?
• SWG members were asked whether or not the Local Hire Scope should be expanded to include workforce development?
  o 8 of the 15 meeting participants indicated yes, they agree to add workforce development to the scope.
  o Another member indicated they would like to check back with their directors and others before agreeing to add workforce development.
  o No additional responses were provided in the chat.

Next steps and Close Meeting
• Internal meeting – to take some input and figure out best way to disseminate the survey and find a date.
• If you approve Workforce development being added to the scope of our SWG please type yes or no in the chat.