

ACTION ITEM MEMO

Port of Tacoma Commission



Item No: 6D
Meeting Date: 9/7/23

DATE: September 7, 2023

TO: Port of Tacoma Commission

FROM: Eric Johnson, Executive Director
Sponsor: Sean Eagan, Director, Government and Community Affairs
Project Manager: Leslie Barstow, Manager, Community Relations and Workforce Development

SUBJECT: ILA with Clover Park Technical College

A. ACTION REQUESTED

Request authorization by the Port of Tacoma Commission for the Executive Director or his designee to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with Clover Park Technical College for the purchase of equipment and testing fees for a total authorized amount of \$28,250.

Strategic Plan Initiative: Economic Vitality Strategy 4

B. BACKGROUND

- In 2021, the Port of Tacoma Commission adopted a five-year strategic plan that includes a strategy calling on the Port to partner with regional organizations to facilitate career development and business growth in Pierce County (Economic Vitality Strategy 4)
- The Commission went on in February 2022 to adopt Resolution 2022-03-PT in which it found that workforce development is critical to achieving the Port's primary mission to serve as an economic development agency generating quality, family-wage jobs and economic growth for the region and increasing operational efficiency and economic mobility. The resolution found the Port of Tacoma's overarching workforce development objective is to ensure that the maritime industry has access to workers who have the necessary skills to provide safe and efficient maritime services and that the workers have opportunities to acquire the skills and education they need to secure increasingly complex and better compensated jobs.
- On November 17, 2022, the Port of Tacoma Commission adopted the Workforce Development Strategic Plan.
- That same day the Commission amended the 2023 budget to increase Port spending on workforce development by 25%, or \$42,500. The Commission did not, however, specify where to spend the additional funding. Port staff subsequently sought a recommendation from the Workforce Development Committee, which includes Commissioners Keller and Ang, as to where to direct these funds. Staff was asked to reach out to the Clover Park

Advanced Manufacturing School to see if they had a certification program similar to Tacoma Public Schools which the Port of Tacoma Could help support.

- Clover Park staff presented the Workforce Development committee with a presentation of four areas where the school of Advanced Manufacturing had needs which they felt the Port of Tacoma could help with. From this list, the Workforce Development Committee recommended supporting the purchase of the CNC Plasma machine and removing the financial burden of the certification testing fees for students. The Committee shared this recommendation with the full Commission earlier this year.

C. SCOPE OF WORK

This is a one-time investment of \$28, 250 towards the purchase of a CNC plasma machine and towards student certification fees.

D. TIMEFRAME/PROJECT SCHEDULE

This is a one-time investment, with purchase of the equipment occurring before the end of the year.

E. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Cost: \$28,250.

Source of Funds: Operating Budget, Government and Community Affairs Department, Other Operating Expenses

F. ECONOMIC INVESTMENT / JOB CREATION

The skills students learn at the Clover Park School of Advanced Manufacturing directly lead to jobs in industry and/or to re-skilling workforce for living wage jobs.

G. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS / REVIEW

N/A

H. ALTERNATIVE ANALYSIS

If the Port of Tacoma does not make these investments, it will be more difficult for students enrolled in the school of Advanced Manufacturing to get their certifications and get training on newer technological machinery.

I. NEXT STEPS

Upon execution of the ILA, the equipment will be purchased, and certification fees paid for.