

RESOLUTION NO. 20180628-061

WHEREAS, Priority Program 3 of Imagine Austin is titled “Continue to Grow Austin’s Economy by Investing in Our Workforce, Education Systems, Entrepreneurs, and Local Businesses;”

WHEREAS, one of the City Council's top 10 indicators in Strategic Direction 2023 is "skills and capability of our community workforce:"

WHEREAS, the Austin Metro Area Master Community Workforce Plan lists skilled construction trades as “represent[ing] some of the best middle-skill career opportunities for economically disadvantaged residents,” and the plan emphasizes the need to equip these workers with the skills they need, to upskill these workers, and to connect these workers to local job opportunities;

WHEREAS, employment in the construction trades has the potential of providing middle-income wages, especially for skilled workers on projects protected by prevailing wage rules;

WHEREAS, research indicates that when construction contractors employ trained workers, projects are completed more efficiently and with better quality;

WHEREAS, unemployed and underemployed community members can increase their earning power by joining a Department of Labor certified training or apprenticeship program;

WHEREAS, City Council resolutions and State laws already establish prevailing wage standards on a variety of City of Austin related construction projects, including private construction projects on city owned land, and those standards establish incentives for apprenticeship training; **NOW, THEREFORE,**

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

The Austin City Council directs the City Manager to consider and develop a proposal that would require construction contractors to ensure that a minimum percentage of construction workers on City projects with significant budgets are graduates or current students of the Department of Labor's registered apprenticeship programs or the Department of Labor's certified bilingual training programs.

For purposes of this resolution, City projects means the City's significant public works projects, the City's public private partnerships, projects for the construction of facilities for the City's use, and other building or construction projects where the City of Austin is a significant partner in the project.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to consider in the proposal a requirement for a minimum of 15% of workers on vertical construction projects meet the standards listed above.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to develop and present to the City Council for consideration, before the City's Corridor Construction Program's training program is implemented, proposed percentages for horizontal construction projects.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Council directs the City Manager to consider in its proposal, mechanisms for, when legal and practical, giving contractors extra consideration for achieving higher percentages than the required minimums, whether through the bidding process or through the post-construction evaluation process.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

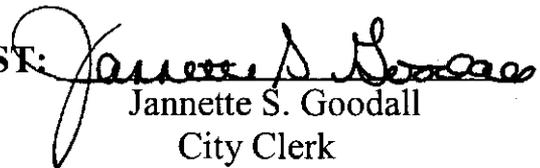
The City Council directs the City Manager to include in the proposal mechanisms that will ensure that the apprenticeship/training provisions of the City's prevailing wage program are adequately enforced on City projects as defined in this resolution, including those projects where the contractor is contracted by third parties, and mechanisms that will ensure that contractors are clearly informed before performing work that these standards will be enforced.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

The City Manager is directed to develop a proposal for working, as is legal and practical, with community, labor, and faith organizations to connect those who are unemployed and underemployed with community colleges, pre-apprenticeship programs, craft training programs, apprenticeship programs, and construction employers doing work with the City of Austin, and to develop in the proposal the creation of a workforce development pipeline that serves the best interests of the City of Austin, its construction projects, and the community.

ADOPTED: June 28, 2018

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk