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Workforce Innovation through Regional Economic Development



California Innovation Corridor



California Space Authority

Hon. Andrea Seastrand, Executive Director

October 5, 2006

STEMCAP Steering Committee Meeting





United States Department of Labor WIRED Grant

- \$15M
- 3 Year Program
- 13 Regions Awarded Nationwide
- CSA Lead Agency
- Supports the goals of the American Competitiveness Initiative





Workforce Transformation Project

- Economic Region:
 - The California Innovation Corridor
- Program Lead:
 - The California Space Authority (CSA)
- State of California Role:
 - Fiscal agent and technical support
- Partners:
 - 13 county economic region, 60+ partners and supporters





California Innovation Corridor

- From Alameda County in the north
- To San Diego County in the south
- Inland Empire, Antelope Valley and Kern County





California Space Authority (CSA)

- Non-profit corporation supporting state wide space enterprise in 4 domains: Industry, Government, Academia and the Workforce
- Represents unified voice for California space enterprise on policy, regulatory and legislative issues
- State designated “Spaceport Authority”
- Ongoing state wide strategic planning including R&D and education/workforce initiatives





CSA Competitiveness Related Projects/Programs

1998 - 2004

- Space Enterprise Advisory Council
- Education/Workforce Development Collaborative
- Industrial Base Vitality
- Business Development, Retention and Growth
- Science, Research and Technology Development Collaborative/Space Manufacturing Working Group
- Small Business Working Group





State of California Role

- Technical assistance and support
 - Labor and Workforce Development Agency (LWDA)
- Fiscal agent and supportive funding
 - LWDA, Employment Development Department (EDD)
- Training reimbursement funding
 - Employment Training Panel (ETP)





Identified Needs

- Entrepreneurship seriously under potential
 - No area within the Corridor in top 25 of Regional Entrepreneurship Index
- Staggering manufacturing job loss
 - Between 1990 – 2004 < 438,500 jobs
- Inadequate technical workforce to meet 21st Century workforce needs
 - Looming boomer retirement exodus





Three Concentrations of Workforce Transformation

- Innovation Support
 - Helping the entrepreneur
- Industrial Rejuvenation
 - Regaining Competitiveness
- Talent Development
 - Looking out for our future





Innovation Support

Create new companies and high-skill, high wage jobs by designing a replicable and sustainable “innovation support architecture” to increase innovation/entrepreneurship

Strategy

Rapid transformation of innovation to commercial products, services through development of a “culture” of entrepreneurship



- Sample project:
Creation of an economic development model to assist regions in understanding how to support innovation and entrepreneurship



Industrial Rejuvenation

Improve international competitiveness of the region's supply chain by developing and executing a "Smart Supplier Strategy" that supports manufacturers, small businesses and entrepreneurs to adapt to global manufacturing competition

Strategy

Transformational renewal of manufacturing and supply chain global competitiveness through supplier training enhancements & outreach



- Characterization of "smart supplier" competitiveness skills, articulation of a common set of supplier training outcomes across training provider network.
- Manufacturing technician certification program



Talent Development

Accelerate development of highly skilled 21st Century talent pool by creating pilot projects and activities capable of supporting a continuum of math, science and engineering education (K-U) and lifelong learning relevant to the 21st Century technical worker

Strategy

Integrate consideration of current and future industry enterprise needs into workforce and educational planning and policymaking.



- STEM Collaborative Action Plan (STEMCAP)
- “Learning Collaboratory” for WIBs, to engage and benefit from all 25 projects



60+ Partners/Supporters

- Industry/Private sector/Small Business
- Workforce Investment Boards
- Economic Development entities
- Federal laboratories
- R&D Centers
- Education/Academic Partners
- Numerous other interested parties





Sustainability Projects

- Economic development model/resource tool featuring innovation support methodology
- Sustainable inventory of key R&D assets and innovation drivers within the Corridor
- Workforce Investment Board (WIB) “Learning Collaboratory”
- WIB Resource Manual
- STEM Collaborative Action Plan





Desired Outcome

Overarching WIRED Intent:

“Optimize the Corridor for innovation in 21st Century workforce competitiveness”





California Space Authority

Questions?

www.californiaspaceauthority.org/html/wired



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