



Committee: Directly to Council
Committee Review: N/A
Staff: Gene Smith, Legislative Analyst
Purpose: To introduce agenda item – no vote expected
Keywords: Workforce Development

AGENDA ITEM #4A
May 10, 2022
Introduction

SUBJECT

Special appropriation to the County Government's FY22 Operating Budget, WorkSource Montgomery Non-Departmental Account, \$3,000,000 for COVID-19 workforce support programs (Source of funds: Federal aid); and amendment to the FY22 Operating Budget Resolution 19-872, Section G, FY22 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status: WorkSource Montgomery, Inc.

EXPECTED ATTENDEES

None

COUNCIL DECISION POINTS & COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION

- N/A

DESCRIPTION/ISSUE

The Council reviewed the proposed funding options for the remaining \$27.5 million in unallocated American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding on [April 19, 2022](#). The Council supported these proposals with some amendments. The subject resolution appropriates the tranche identified for workforce development programs.

SUMMARY OF KEY DISCUSSION POINTS

- The subject resolution appropriates \$3,000,000 in ARPA funding for WorkSource to implement recovery programs for the County's businesses and residents.
- WorkSource previously received ARPA funding allocated to the State of Maryland. Through this funding, WorkSource is implementing several recovery programs.
- The County's funding will augment these programs in FY22 and beyond.
- The public hearing and action for the subject resolution are tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, May 17, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

This report contains:

Proposed resolution

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Resolution No.: _____
Introduced: _____
Adopted: _____

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: County Council

SUBJECT: Special Appropriation to the Fiscal Year 2022 Operating Budget Montgomery County Government, WorkSource Montgomery Non-Departmental Account, COVID-19 workforce support programs, \$3,000,000 (Source of Funds: Federal aid) and amendment to FY22 Operating Budget Resolution 19-872, Section G, FY22 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status: WorkSource Montgomery, Inc.

Background

1. Section 308 of the County Charter provides that a special appropriation is an appropriation which states that it is necessary to meet an unforeseen disaster or other emergency, or to act without delay in the public interest. Each special appropriation shall be approved by not less than six Councilmembers. The Council may approve a special appropriation at any time after public notice by news release. Each special appropriation shall specify the source of funds to finance it.
2. A new coronavirus disease, named COVID-19, appeared in China in December 2019 and spread extremely quickly. On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the disease a pandemic.
3. President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) on March 11, 2021 to support the country's recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. The County Government is expected to receive \$204.1 million in two equal tranches to support its efforts to recover from the pandemic.
4. WorkSource Montgomery, the County's designated Workforce Development Organization, received ARPA funding allocated to the State of Maryland to support recovery efforts in the local workforce region.
5. The County seeks to augment the existing COVID-19 recovery programs implemented by WorkSource Montgomery through its ARPA allocation. These programs include: 1) Upskill MoCo; 2) Workforce Recovery Network; 3) Grant Relief for Onboarding Workers (GROW); and 4) youth employment program.

6. The U.S. Treasury final rule for ARPA funding states that ARPA funds may be used to provide assistance to “individuals who want and are available to work, including job training, public jobs, programs and fairs, support for childcare and transportation to and from jobsite or interview, incentives for newly employed workers, subsidized employment, grants to hire underserved workers, assistance to unemployed individuals to start small businesses and development of job and workforce training centers.”
7. A FY 2022 Operating Budget special appropriation is requested for the WorkSource Montgomery Non-Departmental Account:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	Federal aid
8. This special appropriation is needed to implement these COVID-19 recovery programs.
9. Section 11B-14 (a) (4) of the Montgomery County Code states that a contract may be awarded without competition if the Chief Administrative Officer makes a written determination that the contract award serves a public purpose and proposed contractor has been identified in a grant or appropriation resolution approved by the Council.
10. Notice of public hearing was given and a public hearing was held.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

A special appropriation to the FY 2022 Operating Budget for the WorkSource Montgomery Non-Departmental Account:

<u>Personnel Services</u>	<u>Operating Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Source of Funds</u>
\$0	\$3,000,000	\$3,000,000	Federal aid

This special appropriation must be allocated by WorkSource Montgomery as follows:

- \$500,000 for Upskill MoCo;
- \$1,000,000 for the Workforce Recovery Network;
- \$1,000,000 for the Grant Relief for Onboarding Workers; and
- \$500,000 for the youth employment programs.

The Council approves an amendment to Council Resolution No. 19-872, Section G, FY22 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Award Status. The Chief Administrative Officer has

recommended this action and stated that this action serves a public purpose and is in the public interest.

The FY22 Designation of Entities for Non-Competitive Contract Award Status is amended to reflect:

The Office of the County Executive will increase the value of an existing contract with WorkSource Montgomery, Inc. by \$3,000,000. The purpose of the contract will be amended to include: “Provides for the enhancement of existing COVID-19 recovery programs, including Upskill MoCo, Workforce Recovery Network, Grant Relief for Onboarding Workers, and youth employment programs.”

This appropriation is needed to act without delay in the public interest.

This is a correct copy of Council action.

Judy Rupp
Clerk of the Council