

Agenda Report

March 20, 2023

TO: City Council & Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education

FROM: Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
Tyron Hampton, Councilmember, District 1

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION REGARDING A CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM & PARTNERSHIP

BACKGROUND:

There are more job openings in professional, technical, and skilled trades careers than people available to fill them. This trend has been and will continue to be exacerbated by a disproportionate share of retirements within these professional and technical trade careers and the lack of new recruits behind them. The future workforce will certainly be influenced by engineers, scientists, managers, and the like, but will also need to be supported and augmented by technicians and professionals to maintain our healthcare, research, social and built infrastructure.

In the summer of 2022, the Office of the Mayor convened a group of important stakeholders to explore the possibility of expanding Career Technical Education (CTE) opportunities in Pasadena. Participating stakeholders included the president of Pasadena City College, Erika Endrijonas, Pasadena Unified School District Board President Michelle Richardson-Bailey, Superintendent Brian McDonald, Boardmember Jennifer Hall Lee, and Former Board President Elizabeth Pomeroy, LA/OC Building Trades Council Secretary/Treasurer Chris Hannan, LA County Federation of Labor Director Rob Nothoff, and private industry/major employers in Pasadena, such as Huntington Hospital represented by CEO and President Dr. Lori Morgan and Vice President, Jane Haderlein, the Doheny Eye Institute represented by CEO Marissa Goldberg, Rusnak Automotive Group, former City Manager Cynthia Kurtz, former Councilmember John J. Kennedy, Councilmember Tyron Hampton, District 1 Field Representative, Cushon Bell, and community leader and volunteer Doug Kranwinkle.

The group crafted a vision to guide its discussions and considered certain outcomes by which success could be measured:

Everyone deserves a path to success. Many choose the opportunity of a college education as their path to that goal. Our mission is to offer alternative pathways of training and education in professions and vocations to assist people in achieving the knowledge and skills that lead to successful and fulfilling careers.

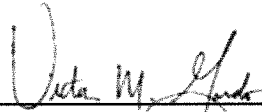
Following several meetings, the group identified a gap in the availability of existing programs and an immediate opportunity to pilot a career & technical training program in the building & construction trades. All partners are eager to establish a training presence in Pasadena. The Council offers a pre-apprenticeship training curriculum comprised of different training modules to prepare participants in rewarding and fulfilling career paths in the trades. Establishing a partnership with the LA/OC Building Trades Council is the immediate opportunity to offer alternative pathways to well-paying jobs and career paths integral to today's and tomorrow's technologies.

A building and construction trades pre-apprenticeship pilot program is just the beginning. The working group identified the potential for expansion into a number of industries to enhance our local workforce. This effort led by the City of Pasadena, Pasadena City College, and the Pasadena Unified School District in partnership with the LA/OC Building Trades Council, Huntington Hospital, etc., is well-positioned to attract additional funds for the expansion of CTE and apprenticeship programs to better serve our community.

Already, the LA/OC Building Trades Council and Pasadena City College have exchanged agreements to formalize the certification of a building trades curriculum to be offered at the college. The Building Trades Council will also identify an instructor with costs to be shared by them and Pasadena City College.

It is now recommended that the City of Pasadena formalize its participation and leadership in this effort and proceed to pursue available planning grants for this work together with Pasadena City College and the Pasadena Unified School District. With the assistance of these grants, this effort will layout a framework and workplan which will expand professional, technical, healthcare, and skilled trades training opportunities at a location to be identified, one that is readily available to our respective and common constituencies. The effort will also seek to ensure that there is a job opportunity at the commencement of the training.

Respectfully submitted,



Victor M. Gordo, Mayor
City of Pasadena

Respectfully submitted,



Tyrón Hampton, Councilmember, District 1
City of Pasadena