OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR SMALL BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP DISCUSSION PAPER

Background

Currently the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) has an Interagency Cooperation Contract (ICC) with the Office of the Governor (OOG) in the amount of $1,332,039 WIOA dollars. OOG provides training and information conveyance to all Texans who are interested in starting and/or expanding a small business (including those owned by veterans, minorities, and women) who desire information regarding available government services, workforce training programs, contracting opportunities, best practices, and methodologies, and exporting products and services, and any other areas relevant to small business inception and growth.

It provides funding for the following activities:

- Conduct at least fifteen (15) Governor's Small Business Series events to provide Texas small businesses, HUBs, and entrepreneurs with advice to assist them in establishing, operating, sustaining, and growing their business;
- Participate in a minimum of two (2) events throughout Texas to include entrepreneurs and small businesses during National Small Business Week (May 7-13, 2023);
- Promote small business initiatives through the production of videos and other media highlighting state of Texas programs for entrepreneur and small businesses;
- Maintain and update a comprehensive database of small business resources;
- Planning and executing up to ten (10) missions to trade shows and exhibitions involving Texas small businesses;

Issue

Texas is home to over three million small businesses. Recognizing the important role small business and entrepreneurs play in Texas there is room for additional collaboration between TWC and OOG. By adding a small business and workforce report Texas will continue to build an environment where entrepreneurs have the freedom to aspire, grow and prosper.

Recommendation

Staff recommends amending the current agreement to include the following:

- Small Business and Workforce Report with Survey
- Add up to $75,000 for this amendment.