



MEETING DATE: January 22, 2024

TITLE:

Discussion and possible direction to staff to further discussion on a proposed training facility and partnership with Smithville and Texas State Technical College.

AGENDA ITEM SUBMITTED BY:

Sylvia Carrillo, ICMA-CM, CPM, City Manager & Interim Executive Director, Bastrop Economic Development Corporation

BACKGROUND/HISTORY:

In December, staff met with members of the Smithville Workforce Development to discuss the results of the Insyteful report and to also gauge existing needs. The existing needs are centered around trades both in construction and medical but have also most recently included specialty medical.

They have been in deep discussion with Texas State Technical College (TSTC) regarding a training program and necessary facility needs.

The BEDC chair has expressed interest in potentially partnering to create a facility that meets industry demands. The BEDC is restricted from building a facility as a 'project' itself, but can, however, build a training facility if needed by industry to employ residents in the City and County. Smithville Workforce has job placement for every graduate; however, they are short on training space. TSTC has available instructors, but no training space. Austin Community College can provide instruction, however, not the certification needed resulting from the instruction.

This is a prime opportunity for collaboration among all of the entities to bring some much-needed training space to the area.

FISCAL IMPACT:

N/A

RECOMMENDATION:

Schedule a joint meeting with BEDC, Smithville Workforce, TSTC, ACC, BISD, and the City of Bastrop

ATTACHMENT:

- None