



Industry & Economic Development Committee Meeting



WELCOME



1. CALL TO ORDER AND NOTE OF QUORUM

Industry and Economic Development
Committee Chair



2. ACTIVITY REPORTS



ITEMS NOT POSTED FOR ACTION

A: Discussion and update on the Business Collaboration Contracts

- Overview of completed contracts
- El Paso Hispanic Chamber and El Paso Chamber Presentations – Immigration Forum (*Desirae Manzanares EPHC - Business Center, Director of Public Policy and Advocacy and Mia - Romero Director of Advocacy*)

Bianca Cervantes,
Communications Director

Workforce Business Partnerships

Resilient Workforce Economic Development Equity DEI

- Collaborative missions for economic prosperity through October 2024
- Industry sector targets
- Data driven training and education strategies
- Regional Business Retention & Expansion collaboration
- Small business roundtables for under-represented populations



Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

- Workforce Equity @ Entrepreneurial Technical Assistance Centers via El Paso 8a and Government Contractors Association
- TWC Skills Development Grants
- Community Outreach with Regional Employers to integrate special populations
- Technical Assistance Roundtables
- Quarterly Snapshots of "Low-Tech" Businesses
- Industry Sector Targets and Skill Needs for Upcoming EdDev Funding Framework



El Paso Chamber of Commerce Foundation

- Panelist/Moderator Inclusion as Subject Matter Experts
- Event Representation: Military Ball, State of the City, State of the County, State of Education, Healthcare Summit
- Ongoing Business Site Visits & Extensive Survey Data Collection
- Distribution of Business Services Toolkits
- BRE Collaborative Inclusion
- Media Partnership Schedule
- State of the Workforce Event Collaboration



Borderplex Alliance

- Research to Identify Occupational Verticals and Skillset Mapping
- BR&E Meeting Coordination with WSB Presence
- Local Manufacturer + Education Collaboration Efforts for "Education-Friendly" Initiative
- Skills Development Fund Collaboration
- Strategic Conversations With Area Leaders on WSR Podcast



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Paso Del Norte Community Foundation

- Engage Employers to Address Needs of Untapped Talent
 - Non-Profit Collaboration
- Identification of 10 "Low-Tech" Businesses Quarterly
- Event Integration for WSB presence and Business Services Awareness
 - Reimagine
 - El Paso Giving Day
 - Gator Tank
- Ongoing WSB Partner Promotion



Technology Hub

- Bridge Accelerator Supplier Development Program
- Collaboration with Area Partners
 - Pioneers 21
 - FUNAX
 - Microsoft TechSpark
- Ongoing WSB Business Services Representation Aligned to Target Industries



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El Paso Workforce & Border Solutions



- Advocacy for immigration reform
- Addressing labor shortages and a broken immigration system
- Prioritizing Minority, Women-Owned, Veteran-Owned small businesses



Advocating for Your Business Success.

June 1, 2023

B: Discussion and updates on Economic and Workforce Development Projects

- EDA Distressed Area Recompete Pilot Program Grant
- NSF Regional Innovation Engines Grant: Paso del Norte Innovation for Defense and Aerospace (IDEA) Engine

Leila Melendez, Chief Executive Officer, and Alma Aranda, Director of Innovation and Development

We are applying for EDA's Recompete grant, which **aims to reduce employment gaps and support economic development**



Objective

Invest in **distressed communities** across the country to **create, and connect workers to, good jobs and support long-term comprehensive economic development** by helping to **reduce the high, prime-age (25 to 54 years of age) employment gap**

Eligible areas

- Local labor markets with employment gap* among workers 25-54 of not less than 2.5%, or
- Local communities with median household incomes below \$75K and employment gap not less than 5%

Eligible recipients

- a unit of local government;
- a Tribal government;
- a public entity or nonprofit organization, acting in cooperation with the officials of a political subdivision of a State or other entity;
- an economic development district;
- a **consortium of any of the specified entities.**

Two types of grants

- Strategy development
- Strategy implementation

Terms: No less than 2 years; renewable based on progress (for strategy implementation grants)

Award amount: Min \$20M; Max. depends on area characteristics

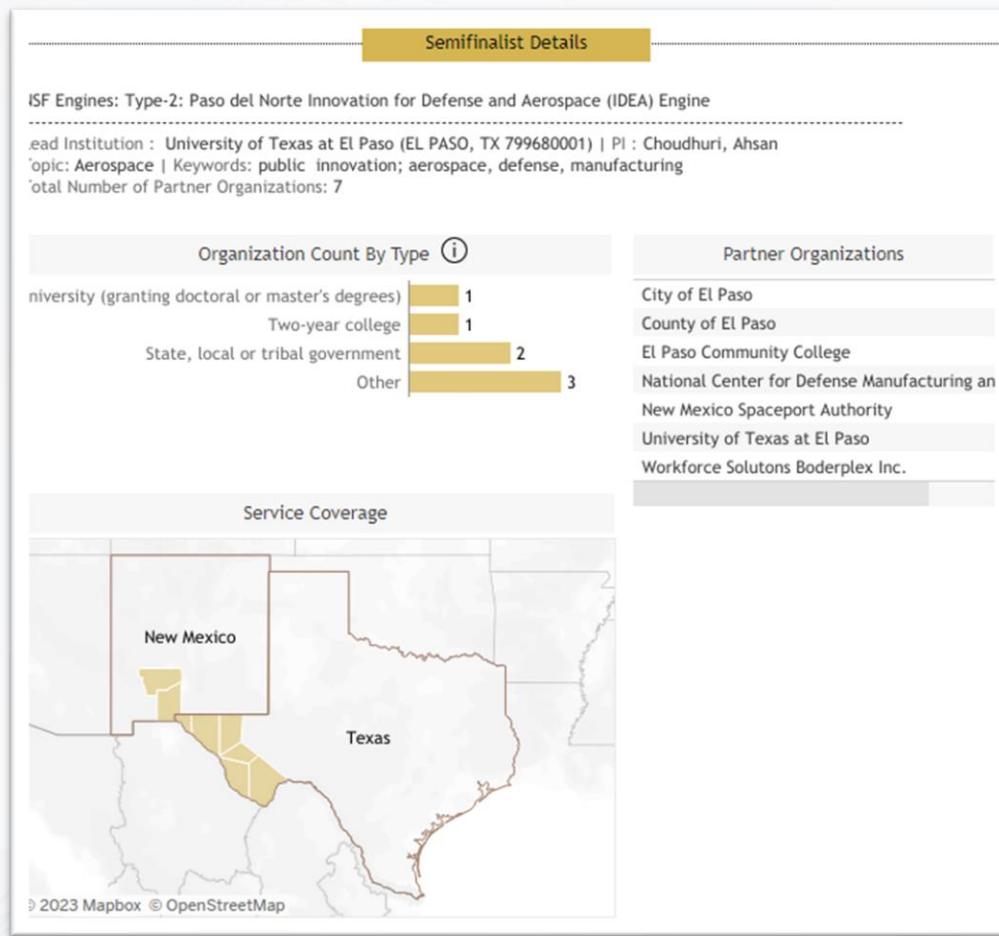
Recompete Plan - Comprehensive Multi-year Economic Development Plan that includes:

- Programs and activities to address the economic challenges in a comprehensive manner that promotes sustained economic growth, lasting job creation, and reduction of employment gap in the eligible area
- Costs, annual expenditures, and disbursement schedule
- Roles and responsibilities of specified entities

*"prime-age employment gap" means the difference (expressed as a percentage) between- (i) the national 5-year average prime-age employment rate; and (ii) the 5-year average prime-age employment rate of the eligible area.

NSF Paso Del Norte Innovation for Defense and Aerospace (IDEA) Engine

- The US National Science Foundation (NSF)
- 34 semifinalists for the first NSF Regional Innovation Engines competition
- Focus on key technologies and societal economic challenges highlighted in the CHIPS and Science Act



- Proposed key vulnerabilities in the nation's defense industrial base:
- R&D needs of small and medium manufacturers to help compete in aerospace and defense markets
 - Developing capabilities to support the supply chain
 - Deploying talent infrastructure

4. Discussion on items of interest for next agenda – August 16, 2023

Adjourn