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Clean Transportation Investment Workforce

I recommend the CTP plan continues investing the \$7 million over the next few years into workforce development. This is a leg on the stool of economic development that shouldn't be taken away, after all, the stated purpose of the program is to support the state's sustainable, long-term economic development and that is not possible without allotting a portion to workforce development. This is especially important in a tight budget year due to federal funding cuts to Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, which are dollars that usually go to support local workforce boards so they can run services to job seekers, most commonly used by low-income and disadvantaged populations. Therefore, my recommendation is money from CTP would be most effective supporting county workforce boards or city economic development corporations that have existing relationships with businesses who work in the clean transportation sector and are hiring or training incumbent workers on new production methods or technologies. That way, the mechanics, technicians, and front-line workers of those businesses continue to stay invested in this work and give our clean transportation businesses that much more of a competitive edge and incentive for growth & expansion.