

**COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION**

DATE September 1, 2012

TO Supervisor Michael Mayo, Chairman,
Transportation, Public Works & Transit Committee

FROM Frank Busalacchi, Director, Department of Transportation

SUBJECT INFORMATIONAL REPORT ON 02/29/12 REFERRAL FROM
COMMITTEE ON FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS
TO DEVELOP APPRENTICESHIP UTILIZATION PLAN

POLICY

Resolution 12-265 Resolution authored by Supervisors Holloway, Mayo and Johnson endorsing the principles and recommendations of the Milwaukee County Apprenticeship Work Group (MCAWG).

REFERRAL

The Director of Transportation was asked to develop an apprenticeship utilization plan and report back on findings and recommendations of this plan to the Committee on Transportation, Public Works and Transit in the September 2012 committee meeting cycle.

BACKGROUND

The department reviewed the agencies and positions identified in the report and found that the policy utilized within the (page 20) "City of Milwaukee Department of Public Works have apprenticeship utilization requirements as part of their operations and contracts. The MORE Ordinances passed by the Milwaukee Common Council extended the use of apprentices to projects that receive public financial assistance, such as tax incremental financing. The MORE Ordinance requirements are triggered by City Financial assistance of \$1 million or more."

Department of Transportation has been reconfigured and the majority of skilled trades that are identified in this report are not within the Department of Transportation.

We have skilled trades positions within GMIA but do not have an apprenticeship program. But, the department does have internships that are utilized as part of our outreach for the youth in the area that are currently out of high school and attending a trade or college. The internships are for the summer and when funding is available have been utilized in the following areas:

- Public Relations
- Information Technology,
- Environmental
- GMIA Operations

In addition we take young people with diverse backgrounds that can pass the federal requirements to work in the facility and we hire them as seasonal workers. In that capacity they would fit in the "Equipment Operator" position referenced in the report. In that capacity the seasonal workers are trained to operate equipment and DOT's supervisors act in the capacity as mentors to provide information that would allow seasonal workers to prepare for the Commercial Driver License permits. If those workers obtain their permits, they would be allowed to be trained to operate CDL rated equipment. The interns must take the initiative.

RECOMMENDATION

After taking the initiative with existing positions within the County System, it is clear that there is potential, but the funding source would have to be identified.

The Department of Transportation feels that the Ready to Work Program may be a tool that would fit the needs identified in the Milwaukee County Apprenticeship Work Group Report to County Board of Supervisors dated February 2012.

Approved by:

Frank Busalacchi

Frank Busalacchi, Director

CC: