



AGENDA
CUYAHOGA COUNTY ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
FRIDAY, JUNE 8, 2012
CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR
1:00 PM

- 1. CALL TO ORDER**
- 2. ROLL CALL**
- 3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA**
- 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 20, 2012 MEETING**
- 5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE**
 - a) O2012-0007: An Ordinance establishing and providing for the administration of a Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program for County residents for the purposes of increasing the number of skilled workers into the County's workforce, encouraging completion of college degrees among County residents and enhancing economic development opportunities for the region; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
- 6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS**
- 7. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT**
- 8. ADJOURNMENT**

*In accordance with Ordinance No. O2011-0020, complimentary parking in the Huntington Park Garage will be available for the public **beginning at 4:00 p.m.** on any day when the Council or any of its committees holds evening meetings. Please see the Clerk to obtain a parking pass.



MINUTES

CUYAHOGA COUNTY ENVIRONMENT & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE MEETING
FRIDAY, APRIL 20, 2012
CUYAHOGA COUNTY JUSTICE CENTER
COUNCIL CHAMBERS – 1ST FLOOR
1:00 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Rogers called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Mr. Rogers asked Assistant Deputy Clerk Thurman to call the roll. Committee members Rogers and Germana were in attendance and a quorum was determined. Committee member Simon entered the meeting shortly after the roll call was taken. Councilmembers Greenspan and Miller were also in attendance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO THE AGENDA

No public comments were given.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MARCH 27, 2012 MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Germana, seconded by Mr. Rogers and approved by unanimous vote to approve the minutes from the March 27, 2012 meeting.

5. MATTERS REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- a) O2012-0007: An Ordinance establishing and providing for the administration of a Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program for County residents for the purposes of increasing the number of skilled workers into the County's workforce, encouraging completion of college degrees among County residents and enhancing economic development opportunities for the region; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.

Mr. Rogers introduced a proposed substitute to Ordinance No. O2012-0007. Discussion ensued.

Mr. David Reines, Director of Workforce Development, addressed the Committee regarding Ordinance No. O2012-0007. Discussion ensued.

Committee members and Councilmembers asked questions of Mr. Reines pertaining to the item, which he answered accordingly.

A motion was made by Mr. Germana, seconded by Mr. Rogers and approved by unanimous vote to accept the proposed substitute to Ordinance No. O2012-0007.

Mr. Rogers postponed Ordinance No. O2012-0007 from further consideration at this time.

6. MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

There was no miscellaneous business.

7. OTHER PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comments were given.

8. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Rogers adjourned the meeting at 2:42 p.m., without objection.

County Council of Cuyahoga County, Ohio

Ordinance No. O2012-0007

Sponsored by: Councilmembers Rogers, Miller, Connally, Conwell and Gallagher and County Executive FitzGerald	An Ordinance establishing and providing for the administration of a Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program for County residents for the purposes of increasing the number of skilled workers into the County's workforce, encouraging completion of college degrees among County residents and enhancing economic development opportunities for the region; and declaring the necessity that this Ordinance become immediately effective.
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WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3.09 (11) of the Cuyahoga County Charter authorizes the County Council to “establish and provide for the administration of a program to provide scholarships, loans, grants and other forms of financial assistance for the residents of the County that will enable them to participate in postsecondary education, including vocational education and job training and retraining;” and

WHEREAS, the County Executive has proposed to set aside and this Council has appropriated \$6,000,000 in the 2012-2013 General Fund Budget in anticipation of the creation of a County-wide educational assistance program; and

WHEREAS, a more educated workforce, connected to employers in need of trained workers, contributes to the economic vitality of a region; and

WHEREAS, the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program shall strive to meet the principal objectives of expanding the economic base in the county through assisting in the development of a more educated workforce; and,

WHEREAS, Council desires to initiate the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program by focusing on the vocational education, job training and retraining aspects of the program; and

WHEREAS, the Cleveland/Cuyahoga Workforce Development Department, through its Employment Connections Center, offer eligible county residents vocational, training and job retraining opportunities that focus on in-demand occupations and match skilled workers with employers; and

WHEREAS, Council may add additional components to the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program to meet the needs of Cuyahoga County and to fulfill Charter purposes; and,

WHEREAS, it is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that eligible county residents may access the vocational, job training and retraining opportunities offered through the Cuyahoga County Scholarship Program as soon as is practicable.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF CUYAHOGA COUNTY, OHIO:

SECTION 1. There is hereby established the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program.

SECTION 2. The Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program shall be administered as provided in the attached Exhibit A.

SECTION 3. It is necessary that this Ordinance become immediately effective in order that eligible county residents may access the vocational, job training and retraining opportunities offered through the Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program as soon as is practicable. Provided that this Ordinance receives the affirmative vote of eight members of Council, this Ordinance shall become immediately effective upon the signature of the County Executive.

SECTION 4. It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council relating to the adoption of this Ordinance were adopted in an open meeting of the Council, and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

On a motion by _____, seconded by _____, the foregoing Ordinance was duly enacted.

Yeas:

Nays:

County Council President

Date

County Executive

Date

Clerk of Council

Date

First Reading/Referred to Committee: March 13, 2012
Committee(s) Assigned: Environment & Sustainability

Additional Sponsorship Requested: March 13, 2012

Journal _____
_____, 2012

Cuyahoga County Educational Assistance Program

2012

Charter Mandate

Article III, Section 3.09 – Powers and Duties of the Council

(11) To establish and provide for the administration of a program to provide scholarships, loans, grants and other forms of financial assistance for residents of the County that will enable them to participate in postsecondary education, including vocational education and job training and retraining; for the funding of the program from money determined to be saved by the operation of the County government under this Charter and from other funds of the County, including gifts, grants and donations received for such purpose; and for the conditions for eligibility for participation in the program by individuals and educational institutions.

Component 1 - Job Training/Re-Training Program

Overview

This component of the program provides scholarships for Cuyahoga County residents seeking a postsecondary degree and/or program certification that will lead to gainful employment or career advancement. This program will follow the same criteria for eligibility and qualified educational and training programs that are employed by Employment Connection, however the Council program will raise the resident eligibility from the current rate of 175% above the federal poverty guideline to 300% above. Applicants will be eligible for scholarships ranging up to \$5000.00.

This component of the program will be administered by Employment Connection. Council will designate \$500,000.00 of the budgeted funds for this component of the program for the remainder of the 2012 calendar year.

Terms and Conditions

Eligibility

- Open to all Cuyahoga County residents
 - He/she has an income at or below 300% of Federal Poverty Level Guidelines (\$67,050/year/family of four); and
 - He/she enrolls in a degree or certification program in a field designated as “in demand” by the City of Cleveland/Cuyahoga County Workforce Investment Board OR
 - He/she enrolls in a degree or certification in a non-demand field that has a commitment from an employer to hire or promote OR
 - He/she enrolls is within twelve (12) credit hours of completion of an associates, bachelor’s or master’s degree in any field at a qualified post-secondary institution.

- County residents that are veterans of the armed services are encouraged to participate in this program.

Participating Vendors

- Vendors participating in the program must be approved by Employment Connection. The vendor may be a public or private entity, however, they must operate within the borders of Cuyahoga County.
- Colleges and Universities participating in the Higher Education Compact are considered qualified post-secondary institutions, whether in-county or outside the county.

- Employment Connection will enter into agreements with certified training providers to provide occupational skills training to eligible Adults, Dislocated Workers and Youth. Payments under these Agreements will be based on enrollment in the training program, completion of the training program, and training-related job placement or advancement.
- Performance monitoring of the training providers will be conducted by Employment Connection staff on an on-going basis. Training providers will be judged on several factors including, but not limited to, training program completion rate and training-related job placements or advancements.
- Each training provider must enter into a Service Agreement with Employment Connection. The Agreement will detail the terms and conditions for payment.

Educational Program Providers

Public or private post-secondary educational providers are eligible to participate in this program provided they are:

- Approved by Employment Connection
- Accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (The Higher Learning Commission) or registered with the Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools
- *Colleges and Universities participating in the Higher Education Compact are considered qualified post-secondary institutions, whether in-county or outside the county.*

Administration

- This program will be administered by Employment Connection
- Employment Connection will provide a policy and procedures manual to the County Council prior to the implementation of the CCEAP;
- Performance monitoring of the educational program providers will be conducted by Employment Connection staff on an on-going basis. Educational program providers will be judged on several factors including but not limited to, training, program completion rate and training-related job placements or advancements.
- Employment Connection will create application and other relevant materials for review by the County Council prior to the implementation of the CCEAP
- Employment Connection will accept, review and make recommendations of approval of scholarships
- Employment Connections will provide quarterly updates to the County Council informing of 1) the number and amounts of scholarships awarded, 2) the geographic

distribution of the awardees, 3) the fields, degrees or certifications being pursued by the awardees, 4) a listing of any participating employers, and 5) any problems or significant accomplishments about which the Council should be made aware.

- County Council will provide an administrative fee to Employment Connection of up to 10% of the total funds allocated for this component of the program.

Restrictions

- When applicable, students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). He/she must demonstrate unmet financial aid after all federal, state, institutional and other grant and scholarship aid has been applied to the cost of attendance. The County Scholarship dollars will be awarded as the “last dollars in” to reduce remaining unmet financial need.
- Scholarship awardees must complete their program, degree or certification within 18 months of receiving an award from the CCEAP.
- Scholarships may be awarded on a sliding scale based on income
- Employment Connection may reserve the right to recoup funds from a scholarship awardee who fails to complete his/her intended program, degree or certification within the stated time period.