



CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING

#17-0572

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Lee R. Feldman, ICMA-CM, City Manager

DATE: May 16, 2017

TITLE: Resolution Authorizing Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Incentive for
Project Ace

Recommendation

It is recommended that the City Commission adopt a resolution approving Project Ace for the City's Local Match Program in support of a Florida Qualified Target Industry (QTI) company pursuant to Section 288.106, Florida Statutes, and providing funds are available as local financial support through the QTI program.

Background

Project Ace is a corporate relocation of a supplier of electronic components used in communication systems, data processing equipment, personal computers, cellular phones, automotive electronic systems, defense/aerospace systems, consumer electronics, and other electronic devices/systems. Ace has sales offices and distribution centers around the world and will provide a great opportunity to support the relocation of a successful technology services company to Fort Lauderdale and serves as a validation to the City's economic development strategy.

Project Ace is a joint effort between the State of Florida, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward County, and the City of Fort Lauderdale. The total QTI incentive award is \$600,000, of which the State of Florida would provide 80% (\$480,000), Broward County would provide 10% (\$60,000), and the City of Fort Lauderdale would provide 10% (\$60,000), paid annually over a period of six years. The City's share of the QTI award in the first year (FY2019/20) is estimated to be \$9,750.00.

Highlights of the incentive award:

- Project Ace will create 100 high skill/high wage jobs with an average annual wage of \$71,789 (150% of the private sector average wage in Broward County).
- Validates the City of Fort Lauderdale, Broward County and the State of Florida's commitment to facilitating employment opportunities within new and existing industries in the Technology services sector.

- Secures a conservatively estimated capital investment of \$3,100,000 for renovations and office equipment purchases with 42,000 square feet of class “A” office space to be leased in Fort Lauderdale.

Resource Impact

There is no current year budgetary impact for this Fiscal Year associated with this action. Funding for Fiscal Year 2019/20 through Fiscal Year 2024/25 is subject to approval and appropriation of the annual operating budget.

Strategic Connections

This item is a *Press Play Fort Lauderdale Strategic Plan 2018* initiative, included within the Business Development Cylinder of Excellence, specifically advancing:

- Goal 7: Be a well-positioned City within the global economic and tourism markets of the South Florida region, leveraging our airports, port, and rail connections.
- Objective 1: Define, cultivate, and attract targeted and emerging industries.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035 Vision Plan: We are Prosperous*.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Projected Funding Analysis

Exhibit 2 – Resolution

Prepared by: Michael Chen, Citywide Economic & Business Development Manager,
Department of Sustainable Development

Department Director: Anthony Greg Fajardo, Sustainable Development