

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the Fort Lauderdale City Commission
FROM: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager
DATE: August 17, 2021
TITLE: Resolution Consenting to a Performance Extension for One Year for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program for Hayes Medical Staffing, LLC (Project Bulldog) – (Commission District 1, 2, 3 and 4)

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends the City Commission adopt a resolution consenting to a one-year performance extension for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program for Hayes Medical Staffing, LLC., a Florida Qualified Target Industry Business (QTI), in accordance with Section 288.106, Florida Statutes.

#### **Background**

On December 4, 2018, the City adopted a resolution (Exhibits 1 and 2) approving local financial support for "Project Bulldog" (Hayes Medical Staffing, LLC) in accordance with the Florida QTI program. Highlights of the incentive award:

- Create/retain 250 high skill/high wage jobs with an average annual wage of \$55,990 (115% of the private sector average wage in Broward County).
- Secures a conservatively estimated capital investment of \$6.8 million for tenant improvements and the purchase of office equipment.
- Ensures the project would not be lost to a competitor state or country, namely the New York area.
- Demonstrates that the City of Ft Lauderdale and the State of Florida are committed to facilitating employment opportunities within new and existing industries.
- Project Bulldog will further enhance the City of Ft Lauderdale's reputation as a desirable destination for Headquarter locations for Professional Services.

Hayes Medical Staffing, LLC has experienced a slow-down in hiring due to the impacts of COVID-19 and is requesting a one-year extension of its 2020 performance requirements for the QTI program (Exhibit 3).

08/17/2021 CAM #21-0550 Hayes Medical Staffing, LLC sent a letter dated March 3, 2020, to the Florida Department of Economic Opportunity requesting that the Department authorize a 12-month extension of Hayes Medical Staffing LLC's 2020 performance requirements for the Florida Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program (Exhibit 4). The Florida Department of Economic Opportunity has advised that it may authorize an extension only after it obtains consent from the City of Fort Lauderdale.

# **Resource Impact**

There is no budgetary impact for this Fiscal Year associated with this action. Funding for Fiscal Year 2020/21 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 2024* initiative, included within the Business Development, specifically advancing:

- Goal 5: Build an attractive global and local economic community marketplace.
- Objective 1: Create a responsive and proactive business climate to attract emerging industries.

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

This item supports the Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040 Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Business Development Focus Area
- The Economic Development Element
- Goal 1: Enhance the economic competitiveness of Fort Lauderdale through policies that encourage retention and recruitment of business and industry which provide living-wage employment and increased training and competitiveness of the local workforce.

## Attachments

Exhibit 1 – Commission Agenda Memo 18-1264

Exhibit 2 – Resolution 18-252

Exhibit 3 – Hayes Medical Staffing Amendment 1

Exhibit 4 – Hayes DEO Extension Request 08-17-21

Exhibit 5 – Resolution

Prepared by: Daphnee Sainvil, Government & Economic Development Manager

Charter Officer: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

08/17/2021 CAM #21-0550