

South Bay workforce agency gets \$500,000 to help those with employment barriers



SBWIB

Congresswoman Maxine Waters presented a check for \$500,000 to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board on Friday, May 26, to help disadvantaged individuals enter the construction and transportation industries. (photo courtesy of SBWIB).

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Rep. Maxine Waters recently presented a check for \$500,000 to the South Bay Workforce Investment Board to help folks facing barriers to employment find jobs in the construction and transportation industries.

The money will go toward an initiative to provide recruiting and training services for women, people of color, dislocated workers and other disadvantaged individuals who are interested in a career in construction or transportation.

"These community projects are vital to our communities and this grant will help people prepare for careers in high-paying construction trades," Waters said in a statement.



Waters represents California's 43rd Congressional District, which includes much of Southern Los Angeles, as well as portions of Inglewood, Gardena and Torrance.

The project will help meet the growing needs for workers throughout the Los Angeles region for projects such as Intuit Arena, LAX and the Sofi Stadium/Hollywood Park complex. The SBWIB will work with employers, the building trades, community colleges and industry training providers to meet those needs, according to a press release.

"Historically, our successful collaborations have helped to bridge the gap between industry, academia, unions and workforce development agencies," SBWIB Executive Director Jan Vogel said in a statement, "to effectively leverage all available resources and provide the best possible labor solutions for employers as well as job seekers."

Short-term vocational training, pre-apprenticeship, apprenticeship, paid work experience, on-the-job training and support services are among some of the services the new effort will provide to "ensure successful program completion and sourcing the best possible outcomes towards permanent, unsubsidized employment," the release said.

The Friday, May 26, check presentation was attended by Inglewood Councilmember Eloy Morales Jr., as well as representatives from trade unions, construction companies and dozens of job seekers.

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