



June 22, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: District Board of Trustees

FROM: William D. Law, Jr., President

SUBJECT: Developing an Advanced Manufacturing Training Center

Item Description:

A plan to develop an Advanced Manufacturing Training Center (AMTC) is described in this agenda item.

Overview:

The AMTC is to be developed in an existing facility on campus to provide technologically advanced training to produce a workforce to meet the demands of local manufacturers as well as those needs of manufacturing businesses considering relocation to our region. The plan for development involves the formation of a public-private partnership. The partnership will result in private resources for the initial remodeling/renovation of the facility. The ongoing operation of the facility will be supported by user fees, student tuition, and Department of Defense grants.

Salient Facts:

According to Tallahassee/Leon Economic Development Council (EDC) data, 22 companies are actively engaged in manufacturing activity. Thirty-one companies with manufacturing and assembly functions have expressed interest in the last 18 months in relocating to the Gadsden-Leon-Wakulla region. Nine of 19 active EDC projects have either a general or aviation based manufacturing component. Six current regional commercialization projects deal with advanced manufacturing processes. The AMTC is designed to provide technologically advanced training for both incumbent and new workers in our region's manufacturing sector. The AMTC will serve as a significant resource for attracting new manufacturing businesses to the Gadsden-Leon-Wakulla region.

Past Actions:

Tallahassee Community College (TCC) has identified a facility (the Hughes West building) as the site of the AMTC. A basic floor plan has been developed for the facility.

Architects have examined the facility and agreed that it was suitable for the proposed redevelopment.

Future Actions:

The College proposes forming a public-private partnership with a local construction firm. The college will lease the building to the firm for \$1 per year for 20 years. The construction firm will then remodel/renovate the facility at no cost to the college per TCC's specifications. TCC will lease back the facility from the firm for 20 years. At the end of 20 years, the building will be donated back to the college.

Funding/Financial Matters:

TCC has received Department of Defense grants totaling \$1.8 million to equip, operate, and staff the AMTC. By utilizing the grant funds along with projected revenue to be generated by user fees and student tuition, the college will be able to operate the center with a surplus of funds at the end of five years. No Fund One state funds will be required to renovate or equip the Center.

Staff Resource:

John Chapin

Recommended Action:

Authorize the President to pursue an agreement to formalize the public-private partnership and to begin renovation of the Center.