July 9, 2018

Shawntera Hardy, Commissioner
DEED Headquarters
1st National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200
St. Paul, MN 55101

RE: 2018-2019 Local Plan Updates

Dear Commissioner Hardy:

Please accept this letter in response to DEED’s request for a summary of required updates to the Minneapolis Workforce Development Area (WDA) #10 Local Plan for program years 2018-2019 of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA).

Minneapolis WDA #10 completed a thorough review and revised the Local Plan to update relevant changes to activities, partners, and situations within the local workforce development system. Below, please find summaries of both the review process and the updates for 2018-2019 Local Plan.

Summary of the Review Process
The City of Minneapolis and the Minneapolis Workforce Development Board (MWDB) last approved a Local Plan for the 2016-2017 program years in June 2016. On February 28, 2018, DEED requested an update to all the state’s Local Plans. In response, a review and revision of the 2016 Local Plan was conducted by City of Minneapolis Employment and Training staff. The updated Local Plan was made available for 30-day public comment during the period of April 30-May 29, 2018. At its May 15, 2018 meeting, the MWDB reviewed the Local Plan’s updates and voted to support a staff recommendation to include additional language that underscores policies and the availability of services in support of gender equity and disconnected youth; this language also seeks to align with the State Plan. To allow for local review and authorization to submit the revised Local Plan, DEED granted Minneapolis WDA #10 an extension to submit this letter by July 15, 2018. On June 29, 2018, the Minneapolis City Council authorized the Mayor to sign and City staff to submit the updated 2018-2019 Local Plan, and the MWDB authorized the Chair to sign.

Summary of PY 2018-2019 Local Plan Updates
The updated Local Plan seeks to implement the fully enacted requirements of WIOA. In doing so, the Local Plan will also serve as a guide to developing and implementing workforce development strategies that serve the needs of Minneapolis residents and employers. The Local Plan outlines continued efforts to serve youth and adults with high barriers, including those with disabilities and from communities of color.

The following are the substantive changes to the Local Plan.
“Tense” Changes: Numerous references to impending requirements and events were updated to be consistent with current practices, programs, and partnerships. Examples of these “tense” changes include, but are not limited to: “When the final WIOA regulations and rules are implemented...” or “When the 800 West Broadway workforce center opens...”

Co-location of Adult Basic Education at 800 West Broadway:
The Plan was updated to communicate the co-location of Adult Basic Education services at the 800 West Broadway North Minneapolis Workforce Center, which will be completed in June 2018. Prior to this, Adult Basic Education services were available four blocks west, at the Minneapolis Public Schools’ Davis Center, 1250 West Broadway Avenue.

High-Performing Workforce Development Board
The Plan was updated to include recent guidance from the Governor’s Workforce Development Board on strategies to maintain high-performance workforce development boards. These strategies include: implementing a coordinated strategy that aligns with state, regional, and local area plans; using a results-based accountability lens to evaluate and analyze outcomes; reporting outcomes in a dashboard or scorecard; utilizing performance tools; and coordinating system-wide funding and planning.

Implementation of CareerForce
In fall 2018, DEED plans to launch CareerForce, Minnesota’s career development and talent matching resource.

Gender Equity and Disconnected Youth
To align with the state plan, the local plan has been revised to underscore that WIOA programs and services promote gender equity and serve disconnected youth.

An overarching goal of this plan is to demonstrate partnerships, both long-standing and newly-emerging, that support our work to address employment disparities throughout WDA #10.

Sincerely,

Jacob Frey, Mayor
City of Minneapolis

Laura Beeth, Chair
Minneapolis Workforce Development Board