

Legislative Reference Bureau

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COMPETE MILWAUKEE



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Budget Hearing: 11:30 a.m. on Friday, October 6, 2017

Last Updated: October 4, 2017

Compete Milwaukee

Compete Milwaukee is a partnership between the Milwaukee Mayor, Common Council, workforce development agencies and private employers that seeks to address the problem of underemployment among city residents. Current components of the initiative include:

- 1. Community Work Partnership Transitional Jobs. Authorized 2017 Community Development Block Grant funds are combined with approximately \$160,000 included in the 2017 Budget and \$480,000 in leveraged Temporary Assistance for Needy Families funds, to provide the funding necessary to place and compensate approximately 70 transitional job placements within City departments and agencies (Public Works, Neighborhood Services, Police, Administration and the Port) in 2017.
- 2. Career Pathways Authorized 2017 Community Development Block Grant funds are used to provide skills training and certification program participants need to secure permanent, unsubsidized employment in the private sector. The City has contracted with Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/Big Step for these purposes.
- 3. Employ Milwaukee Workforce Development Services. Authorized 2017 Community Development Block Grant funds are combined with \$35,000 from the 2017 Budget for the contracted services of Employ Milwaukee to support the delivery of workforce development services and reporting to City agencies on Compete Milwaukee participant progress.

Various agreements between the City and Employ Milwaukee, Wisconsin Regional Training Partnership/Big Step and United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc. ("UMOS") have been approved for implementation of the Compete Milwaukee program, and the proper City officials have been authorized to expend the funds necessary to implement the Compete Milwaukee program.

In 2018, Compete Milwaukee is proposed to fund 70 6-month transitional job placements as follows:

- 35 job placements in the Department of Public Works, Department of Neighborhood Services and Port of Milwaukee.
- 20 Police Ambassadors.
- 15 "pipeline placements" with City contractors.

The contractor placements are part of a pilot program which seeks to accomplish the following goals:

- Expanding opportunity under the Compete program structure.
- Reaching a new population (out-of-school youth).
- Expanding the scope of City projects and work into which traditional jobs can be incorporated.