November 7, 2012

Van Ton-Quinlivan, Vice Chancellor
Workforce and Economic Development
California Community Colleges
Living Cities
1040 Ave. of the Americas, Suite 400
Washington, DC 20009-1062

Dear Mr. Ton-Quinlivan:

It was great to meet you during the Brookings / Living Cities Conference last month. As a follow up to our visit, I wanted to provide an overview of the Industry Sector Council concept we discussed.

As I noted, our Governor’s Office of Economic Development commissioned a Brookings study of the Nevada economy that listed seven industry sectors suggested as being important for economic growth in Nevada. The sectors cited include: Health and Medical Services; Clean Energy and Sustainability; Tourism, Gaming and Entertainment; Aerospace and Defense; Information Technology; Logistics and Operations and Mining, Materials and Manufacturing. The agency I direct, the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR) established Industry Sector Councils on behalf of the Governor’s Workforce Investment Board to provide industry intelligence and workforce training guidance regarding these sectors. Parenthetically, we realized that Mining & Materials and Manufacturing each deserved their own focus as an industry sector, and we have established a Mining & Materials sector council, as well as a Manufacturing sector council. Thus, there are eight (8) sector councils.

Each sector council meets at least quarterly, and will report their findings to the Governor’s Workforce Investment Board. As a part of the process, each Council will establish sub-committees in areas such as Education and Workforce Development, Grant Funding, Legislative Initiatives and Special Projects. These areas of importance and others are ultimately compiled in a strategic plan for development of workforce initiatives in each sector. Each Council will also recommend potential pilot training initiatives to be funded by DETR. The plan is to prove the viability of these initiatives before passing them to the local workforce investment boards for ongoing support.
Utilizing the findings of the Sector Councils, the Governor’s Board provides guidance to the local boards for investment of Workforce Investment Act funding into service and training for the unemployed, underemployed and young adults seeking a successful career in the Nevada economy of the future.

Each sector council is designed to number approximately 22 – 25 members; and at least 51% of the membership is to be business executives from the industry sector, including CEOs, COOs, and human resource executives. Also, each sector council will include a representative of the Governor’s Office of Economic Development, K-12, the Nevada System of Higher Education, the Community Colleges, the Nevada Legislature, Local Elected Officials, labor, the Regional Development Authority, a staff economist from the Research and Analysis division of DETR, and representatives of the two local workforce investment boards.

These councils are a component of an historic collaboration between the Governor’s Workforce Investment Board, the Governor’s Office of Economic Development and the Department of Employment Training and Rehabilitation; and will yield investment in workforce training and development that will serve our growth industries of today and the future.

I have enclosed an organizational chart that illustrates the interaction of the sector councils with the three agencies. I would be happy to respond to your questions.

Thanks again for your interest in Nevada. I look forward to having you in our great state, and possibly seeing Living Cities working with us.

Sincerely,

Frank R. Woodbeck
Director

cc: Mark Muro, Brookings
OFFICE OF GOVERNOR SANDOVAL

Nevada System Of Higher Education
Comm. Colleges & Universities

Dept. of Employment, Training & Rehabilitation
Workforce Solutions Unit

Governor’s Office of Economic Development
GOED Industry Specialists

Industry Sector Councils

1. Health Care and Medical Services
2. Mining and Materials
3. Tourism, Gaming and Entertainment
4. Clean Energy
5. Logistics and Operations
6. Aerospace and Defense
7. IT – Information Technology
8. Manufacturing

Industry Intelligence

Governor’s Workforce Investment Board
Northern WIB
Southern WIB

Sector Council Membership
(20-25 Members)

- CEOs, COOs and senior HR Managers from the Industry Sector (51% of Council)
- GOED Industry Specialist
- Regional Development Authority Representative
- A representative of the Chancellor for the NV System of Higher Education
- A representative of the community college system
- A representative of K-12 education.
- Three Local Elected Officials (one each: north, south and rural)
- Labor representative from the sector
- A member of the Nevada Senate or Nevada Assembly
- A DETR Research & Analysis Division Economist (Non-voting member)
- Representatives from the Northern and Southern WIBs (Non-voting members)