

1 **Building and Construction Trades Budget Increase**  
2 **Discussion Paper**

3 **Background**

4 On July 5, 2022, the Texas Workforce Commission’s (TWC) three-member Commission  
5 (Commission) approved \$1.8 million in Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA)  
6 funds for the Building and Construction Trades (BCT) initiative, which provides expedited  
7 training to individuals pursuing certification and employment in building and construction  
8 careers. The WIOA funds are used to provide training, supplies, and support services for  
9 participants. Using an evidence-based grant-making approach, the BCT initiative is TWC’s pilot  
10 program for an outcomes-based payment model.

11 **Issue**

12 On February 13, 2023, TWC issued the Building and Construction Trades Request for  
13 Applications, and a large number of applicants responded. Because of the quantity of eligible  
14 applicants who responded and qualified for a grant award, the budget necessary to fully support  
15 the initiative exceeds the \$1.8 million the Commission approved for the BCT initiative in the  
16 Fiscal Year 2023 operating budget.

17 **Recommendation**

18 Staff recommends that the Commission fund all eligible and qualified BCT applicants by  
19 increasing the amount of WIOA funds for this initiative from \$1.8 million to \$1,984,590.