

**8.E.3 Approval of SWWDB WIA Local Plan Update
(Action)**

The current local Workforce Investment Act (WIA) Plan, required by DOL, is for the first two years of the five-year planning cycle and will expire on June 30, 2007. According to federal directives, states and local areas must develop and implement new local plans by July 1, 2007. The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) has issued *Local Plan Guidelines* for years three and four of the planning cycle to ensure local Workforce Development Boards (WDB) have approved plans in place to be eligible to receive WIA funds for administering the One-Stop system and delivering services to its customers.

The Department of Workforce Development (DWD) is requiring local Workforce Development Boards (WDBs) to prepare an update to their local plan. SWWDB submitted its WIA Local Plan in March 2006. The updated plan that is required now is intended to only address changes in operational activities for the upcoming program year. The major planning element is implementation of the Career Pathway Model. The plan must also identify how WIA allocations will be distributed for core, intensive and training services. Additionally, the plan document should identify job center partners and provide greater explanation on the roles and responsibilities of each agency.

The Plan was due to DWD on May 15th. However, SWWDB asked for an extension of the May 15 deadline. DWD approved the extension but noted that SWWDB would not be allowed to expend PY 2007-08 WIA funds until the Plan was approved. SWWDB's did submit a draft of its WIA Local Plan to DWD in order to expedite the approval process and receive authorization to expend PY 2007-08 funds. SWWDB has the option to modify its plan at anytime during the year.

It has been difficult preparing the Plan because there are so many uncertainties regarding program operations for next year. While many elements of the Plan will not change, actions by the Board at the June meeting have the potential to alter the contents of the draft Plan.

Barb Tucker and Bob Borremans will review the draft SWWDB WIA Local Plan Update at the meeting. Copies of the Plan will be provided at the Board meeting. Approval of the SWWDB WIA Local Plan Update is requested.