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**Sponsor:** Workforce Solutions

**Meeting Date:** 9/20/2022

**Title:** Joint Powers Agreement with City of Saint Paul Saint Paul for Workforce Services Through American Rescue Plan Act Funds

**File Number:** 2022-397

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**Background and Rationale:**

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 was signed into law on March 11, 2021. The relief package provides funding in several areas such as state and local aid, education, rental assistance, transit, stimulus payments for individuals, and other provisions. ARPA also provides \$350 billion in additional funding for state and local governments.

Multiple workforce initiatives have been approved for ARPA funding and align with county identified tiers for investment. In addition to Ramsey County investments, the city of Saint Paul is planning to co-invest on these workforce initiatives. ARPA co-investments were approved by the Ramsey County for \$7.65 million in March 2022. The city of Saint Paul intends to approve \$15.3 million in partnership with the county. These co-investments are an opportunity to continue to demonstrate innovative collaboration for residents. Currently, the county and the city operate under a pre-existing Joint Powers Agreement for workforce services and programming to all county residents. For these ARPA investments, Saint Paul funds will be aligned with serving city residents and county funds will ensure initiatives are serving the entire county.

A Joint Powers Agreement serves as the mechanism for the county to receive funds from the city of Saint Paul and implement ARPA workforce programs as a subrecipient of the city.

**Recommendation:**

The Ramsey County Board of Commissioners resolved to:

1. Approve the Joint Powers Agreement with the city of Saint Paul for workforce services through American Rescue Plan Act funds.
2. Authorize the Chair and Chief Clerk to execute the agreement.

A motion to approve was made by Commissioner McDonough, seconded by Commissioner Ortega. Motion passed.

Aye: - 7: Carter, Frethem, MatasCastillo, McDonough, McGuire, Ortega, and Reinhardt

By:   
Mee Cheng, Chief Clerk - County Board