

STAFF REPORT
City of Lancaster

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MVB

Date: March 27, 2012

To: Mayor Parris and City Council Members

From: Barbara Boswell, Director of Finance

Subject: **Introduction of Local Hiring Ordinance**

Recommendation:

Introduce **Ordinance No. 977**, establishing Chapter 3.36 of the Lancaster Municipal Code regarding local hiring in public works contracts.

Fiscal Impact:

There will be little or no direct financial impact to the City as a result of this resolution. There will be a benefit to the community in increased local employment opportunities.

Background:

The City of Lancaster has determined it is in the public interest to adopt Chapter 3.36 of the Lancaster Municipal Code regarding local hiring in public works contracts.

A high percentage of the workforce residing in the Antelope Valley is forced to commute long distances to find work, causing increased traffic on state highways, increased pollution, increased use of gas and other fuels and other serious environmental impacts. The local economy is negatively impacted when Lancaster commuters spend their dollars outside of the Antelope Valley. City staff, working with the City Attorney's office, tailored the ordinance to specifically address these concerns.

The ordinance will require contractors who are awarded public works contracts to make a good faith effort to employ qualified individuals who are residents of the Antelope Valley. The contractors will do so with the assistance of local employment agencies, hiring halls, and other local organizations with the goal that 50% of the workforce is comprised of Antelope Valley residents. This provision would not apply to contracts when the funding would be jeopardized because of this hiring preference.

BB:cp

Attachment:

Ordinance No. 977