



Legislation Text

File #: 34449, **Version:** 1

Fiscal Note

The City currently funds a number of programs that are aimed at helping disadvantaged persons gain access to work and life skills and employment opportunities. The resolution recommends increased allocations of resources, in conjunction with other community partners such as the School District and private sector, to further help such persons by accessing child care and reliable transportation in order to enhance potential participation in internships and related employment programming. The 2015 City operating budget may include requests for additional appropriations related to internship opportunities and the employment of young people, subject to levy limits and Council approval. No additional appropriation is currently required.

Title

Breaking barriers and building opportunities by providing child care and transportation to support paid internships.

Body

WHEREAS, young Madison residents are tomorrow's community leaders; and,

WHEREAS, disconnection from school or work for young people between the ages of 16-24 can reduce lifelong professional and personal opportunities; and,

WHEREAS, Madison Metropolitan School District 2011-2012 data indicate that the lowest six-year graduation rates by subgroup are African American students (64%), economically disadvantaged students (69.8%) and students with disabilities (66.1%); and,

WHEREAS, unemployment in Dane County is highest for people ages 16 to 19 (19.2%) ages 20-24 (8.0%), African Americans (19.5%), those below the poverty level (18.5%), individuals with a disability (12.5%) and those with less than a high school degree (10%); and,

WHEREAS, City of Madison internship programs, such as AASPIRE, the recently created Wanda Fullmore Youth Employment Initiative and other internship opportunities funded through the Community Development Division, help build skills, confidence, networking and career opportunities for young Madisonians; and,

WHEREAS, access to quality child care and efficient and reliable transportation can remove barriers to internship participation,

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Common Council supports the implementation of a program to fund child care and transportation in order to remove barriers to participation for City of Madison interns; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Common Council invites the Madison Metropolitan School District, community partners and the business community to join us in efforts to support paid internships for youth, especially youth of color, low-income youth and youth with disabilities.