



Hennepin-Carver

Workforce Development Board

Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board

Action Request: 2026-1

Topic: Subsequent Designation Request

Board Meeting Date: March 18th, 2026

Item Description

The Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development requires each Workforce Development Area to send a letter signed by the Chief Elected Official and Workforce Development Board Chair requesting subsequent (continued) designation as a Workforce Development Area.

Action Needed

A motion and second to send a letter to DEED requesting subsequent designation as Workforce Development Area 09 (Hennepin-Carver), and include Vice Chair Rebecca Stearns' signature on behalf of the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board.

Background

Hennepin-Carver is one of sixteen Workforce Development Areas (WDAs) in Minnesota. Under the Federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, the governor identifies WDAs after consultation with the local boards and chief elected officials in the local areas. The governor shall designate areas that:

- (i) are consistent with labor market areas in the State;
- (ii) are consistent with regional economic development areas in the State; and
- (iii) have available the Federal and non-Federal resources necessary to effectively administer program activities and other applicable provisions of WIOA, including whether the areas have the appropriate education and training providers, such as institutions of higher education and area career and technical education schools.

The governor must approve a request for subsequent designation as a local area if the local area:

- (A) performed successfully;
- (B) sustained fiscal integrity; and
- (C) in the case of a local area in a planning region, met the local and regional planning requirements.

Hennepin-Carver has met all of these requirements.

While WIOA does not require an annual request for subsequent designation, DEED program policy does. All sixteen of Minnesota's WDAs are requesting subsequent designation without any changes to their current geography.

Staff Recommendation: Approve the request to to send a letter to DEED requesting subsequent designation as Workforce Development Area 09 (Hennepin-Carver), and include Vice Chair Rebecca Stearns' signature on behalf of the Hennepin-Carver Workforce Development Board.

Attachments: None