

# **Economic Development Support Fund**

Initial Project Evaluation
Go Virginia: Cyber-and-Tech Veteran and Spouses Program

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#### **EDSF Process**

**Project Nomination**(Board Matter)

Board or CEX nominates project, with primary partner participation.



Initial Screening (Budget Committee)

Staff to document criteria for evaluation. Board review of project & direction to proceed.



**Board Decision Point** 

Detailed Screening (Action Item)

Staff works with partner to refine. Board reviews funding authorization.



**Board Decision Point** 

Project Monitoring (Budget Committee)



#### **EDSF Nominations**

- This is a one time investment expenditure
- No funding for operations or maintenance
- No direct or indirect liability to the County
- Project Types to be evaluated in three categories:

Project Type	Goal	Metrics / Review
Capital Development	Invest in projects that support Board Economic Success and equitable growth policies	<ul><li>Economic growth</li><li>Taxable revenue</li></ul>
Property Acquisition	Tactical investment in real property or assets to facilitate future economic growth	<ul><li>County use or repurpose</li><li>Future P3 opportunity</li></ul>
Programming Support	Appropriate investments in actions	<ul><li> Economic growth</li><li> Support ESSP goals</li></ul>

Not all projects nominated have easily defined evaluation metrics associated with return on investment



#### **Project Review Timeline**

- November, 2018
   Cyber-and-Tech Veteran and Spouses (CTVS) Program nominated for Economic Development Support Fund review as part of anticipated Go Virginia program
- December, 2018
   Go Virginia issued RFP for projects
- December February, 2019
   Staff review and analysis

# Purpose of the CTVS Program

- Add skilled employees to fill the growing demand of cyber and technology job openings in the region
  - Currently estimated at 36,000 job vacancies
- Leverage the Northern Virginia region's considerable amount of transitioning service members, recent veterans, and their spouses
  - Fort Belvoir Army Base (Fairfax) and Marine Corps Base Quantico (Prince William)
  - Over 70,000 veterans in Fairfax County alone
  - Significant amount of transitioning service members have skills and security clearances attractive for cybersecurity and technology employers

# **Benefits Provided by CTVS Program**

- Provide free career skills placement program to train participants in skills for cyber and technology employers
  - Free to veterans and spouses, no use of GI Bill benefits
  - End-to-end employment model, provides career mapping and corporate coaching for long-term retention and success
  - Leverage partnerships with large County employers who are increasing veteran hiring, many currently participating in the Virginia Values Veterans program
  - Complemented with industry-specific training, micro-credentialing, and certifications

### **CTVS Program Collaborators**

- George Mason University
  - Mason Game and Technology Academy
  - Virginia Serious Game Institute
  - College of Education and Human Development
  - Volgenau School of Engineering
- Onward to Opportunity (O2O)
- Squirrel Pitch
- Torii Coaching & Consulting









# **Onward 2 Opportunity**



#### **Expected Outcomes**

- Create 180 new jobs over 2-year Go Virginia grant period
  - Estimated 374 new direct, indirect, and induced jobs in Virginia end of 2-year period
- Upskilling of 460 incumbent employees, creating higher salaries

• Additional \$1,730,000 in state tax revenue over 2-year period

#### Requested Investment by Fairfax County

- Requested a funding commitment of \$297,000
  - 20% Local Contribution (as required by Go Virginia program)
  - 80% from Go Virginia (\$1,187,500)
- Total Go Virginia budget projected at \$1,484,500 CTVS program
  - Fairfax County contribution would be 20% budget
- Upon successful Go Virginia grant, Schultz Family Foundation has committed a cash match of \$1,500,000.
  - Provides support for program growth, expansion, and sustainability.
  - Would create a 9:1 leverage for County funds to total investment

#### **Staff Recommendation**

#### **Recommend Investment**

- Significant leverage for County investment: 20% of Go Virginia application, 10% of total investment
- Project meets areas of strategic focus for County and state.
  - Cyber and technology pipeline
  - Veteran employment
  - Growth and retention of existing businesses and residents
- Partners are experienced with program deployment and community
- One-time contribution of funds, contingent upon successful project award