News for the week of Dec. 21, 2015

‘GIRLS WHO CODE’ RETURNING TO BOYLE HEIGHTS TECH CENTER FOR SUMMER 2016

The innovative “Girls Who Code” summer workshop is returning to the Boyle Heights Technology YouthSource Center in 2016. Girls Who Code is a national program aimed at closing the gender gap in technology by immersing high school-aged girls in a computer science-based curriculum for seven weeks. Students learn everything from mobile app development to robotics to web design, and participants have the chance to see their projects in real life. Last year 1,200 girls were placed into the program across the nation, including 20 in an inaugural Boyle Heights class. Applications for the session open on Jan. 19, 2016. Students interested in taking part should fill out an interest form to receive updates or go to the Girls Who Code website at http://girlswhocode.com/programs/.

Sector funding received: EWDD accepted $1.2 million in National Emergency Grant funds from the California Employment Development Department for Industry Sector Partnership Initiatives. EWDD will use the dollars to address the skills gap in the L.A. region and provide services to 50 individuals who are long-term unemployed, recipients of unemployment insurance benefits or returning veterans.

Podcast on workforce efforts: AGM Robert Sainz spoke about L.A.’s efforts to help disconnected youth finds employment in a nationally distributed workforce system podcast. Here’s the link.

“Green” brewery closer to first pour: EWDD in February 2015 approved a $442,845 loan to help craft brewer Brouwerij West finance a new brew plant and tap room in San Pedro. This week its founders celebrated installation of its state-of-the-art equipment, a Belgian design that uses 30% less water than traditional methods. When fully operational, Brouwerij will create 25 jobs. It’s located in the renovated Warehouse No. 9 at the Los Angeles Harbor.

“Updates” is produced by Catherine Saillant in EWDD’s communications department. If you have questions, comments or wish to contribute to an upcoming “Updates,” please contact Saillant at 213-744-9048 or at Catherine.Saillant@lacity.org.