Phase II Recommendation Template

Please complete the following template for each recommendation developed by your subcommittee.

Sending Committee (which subcommittee is submitting this recommendation?):

Health Care, Nonprofits, Child Care and Support Services

Receiving Committee (which subcommittee will take this up in Task 2?):

Infrastructure

1. What is the title of this recommendation?
Bonding for Child Care Infrastructure

2. Is it already an action step in the Economic Development Strategy? If so:

   a. Please describe it in a few sentences.

   b. Why is it particularly relevant for today’s challenges and opportunities?

   c. Are you recommending any modifications to it?

3. If it is not currently in the 10-year plan, please describe the recommendation in a few sentences or less.

   We recommend the use of bonds to fund grants and/or low-interest loans to help child care providers renovate, expand, or construct facilities to increase availability and quality. We recommend that infrastructure needs to assessed and determined on a regional level with funds being prioritized for areas of the state that face greater gaps in access to affordable care.

4. What factors should an implementing agency consider to ensure that this recommendation promotes equity and does not disadvantage vulnerable populations?

   We recommend that priority be given to licensed child care providers meeting high quality standards on the Quality Rating and Improvement System (QRIS) and programs that include at least 40 percent children living in families with low income (at or below 200 percent of the Federal Poverty Level) with a commitment to accepting state child care subsidy for these families.

5. What additional information would you like to share about this recommendation?
As we work to rebuild the state’s economy, it will be critically important that we have the necessary infrastructure to meet the child care needs of working parents of young children. We know that there is already a gap in care, particularly in infant and toddler care and in the rural parts of the state. The pandemic is exacerbating this challenge and we will need significant investments to build a system that meets the needs of working parents and provides quality programming to ensure the health development of young children.