

APPROVED
BY ORANGE COUNTY BOARD
OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OCT 05 2010 CAS/VP

RESOLUTION
of the
**ORANGE COUNTY BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS**
regarding
**WHEELED COACH INDUSTRIES, INC.
QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND**

Resolution No. 2010-M-77

PREMISES

WHEREAS, in 1994, the Florida legislature passed legislation establishing a “Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program” (“QTI Program”) to encourage the creation of new high-wage and manufacturing job opportunities in Florida by providing “tax refunds” to qualified target industries; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach Industries, Inc., herein referred to as “Wheeled Coach,” was established in Orange County in 1975, now is a subsidiary of Allied Specialty Vehicles, Inc., and is located at 2737 North Forsyth Road in unincorporated Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach is the world’s largest manufacturer of ambulances and emergency services vehicles; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach currently employs three hundred seventy-seven (377) people in Orange County and seeks to expand its manufacturing operations in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach anticipates creating one hundred five (105) new jobs in Orange County at an average salary of at least \$40,410, which is 100% of the prevailing average annual average salary in Orange County; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach anticipates that the new jobs to be created will include approximately eighteen (18) management and administrative jobs, three (3) engineering jobs, and eighty-four (84) production jobs; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach anticipates that all of the new jobs will be created by December 31, 2010; and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach is a manufacturing company paying an average salary of at least 100% of the prevailing wage in Orange County, and is eligible for the 115% average wage

requirement exemption option authorized within the QTI Program (Section 288.106(3)9a)11.(b)1.b, Florida Statutes); and

WHEREAS, Wheeled Coach has applied to the Executive Office of the Governor, Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development for approval as a qualified QTI Program applicant, and has applied for \$315,000 in tax refunds from the State of Florida under the QTI Program, representing \$3,000 per job; and

WHEREAS, in order for Wheeled Coach to be approved as a “qualified applicant” under the QTI Program, the Orange County Board of County Commissioners must adopt a resolution recommending the approval of Wheeled Coach as a “target industry business,” and committing “local financial support” in an amount equal to 20% of the annual tax refund up to but not exceeding \$63,000 over the course of Wheeled Coach’s eligibility as a “qualified applicant”; and

WHEREAS, competition for Wheeled Coach’s existing and proposed jobs exists outside of Florida in South Carolina, and financial incentives are necessary to ensure that this project comes to Orange County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF ORANGE COUNTY:

Section 1. The Board of County Commissioners hereby requests that the State of Florida Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development waive the QTI Program requirement that new jobs created must pay at least 115% of the prevailing wage, as Wheeled Coach represents a major Orange County manufacturer and four hundred eighty-two (482) existing and new jobs are at risk for Orange County.

Section 2. The Board of County Commissioners of Orange County, Florida, hereby recommends that the State of Florida Office of Tourism, Trade, and Economic Development approve Wheeled Coach as a “qualified applicant” under the QTI Program.

Section 3. Subject to the terms of this Resolution, the Board hereby approves payments up to, but not exceeding, \$63,000 as the “local financial support” required under the QTI Program. Such amount shall be payable to the Economic Development Incentives Account within the Economic Development Trust Fund as specified herein.

Section 4. The Board’s promise to pay the amount specified in this Resolution is contingent upon (i) appropriation by the Board in each applicable year authorizing payment of the revenues hereunder, (ii) Wheeled Coach receiving the designation as a “qualified applicant” in connection with the QTI program, and (iii) on an annual basis, award by the State of Florida of tax refunds under the QTI program.

Section 5. Unless provided otherwise in this Resolution, the County shall pay “local financial support” in the following amounts:

FY 2011-2012

\$ 15,750

FY 2012-2013	\$ 15,750
FY 2013-2014	\$ 15,750
FY 2014-2015	\$ 15,750
Total	<u>\$ 63,000</u>

Such sums shall be paid from any legally available source or sources of revenue other than those specified in the QTI Program (or rules promulgated thereunder) as being ineligible for such purpose.

Section 5. In the event Wheeled Coach is approved by the State of Florida for tax refunds in an amount less than the \$315,000 requested, the “local financial support” to be paid by the County to the Economic Development Incentives Account shall be proportionately reduced so that at no time will the County contribution exceed twenty percent (20%) of the annual tax refund awarded to Wheeled Coach under the QTI Program.

Section 6. This Resolution shall take effect upon receipt by the County of evidence that Wheeled Coach has been approved as a “qualified applicant” and has become eligible for tax refunds under the QTI program, as described herein.

ADOPTED THIS OCT 05 2010 DAY OF October 2010.

ORANGE COUNTY, FLORIDA
By: Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Richard T. Crotty*
Richard T. Crotty
County Mayor

ATTEST: Martha O. Haynie, County Comptroller
As Clerk to the Board of County Commissioners

BY: *Martha O. Haynie*
Deputy Clerk

