

**QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY TAX REFUND PROGRAM  
WITH CASH LOCAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT  
PROVIDED BY TWO OR MORE LOCAL ENTITIES**

**RESOLUTION NUMBER 17-16**

**A RESOLUTION BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, THE CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL, RECOMMENDING PROJECT SWEETOOTH, BE APPROVED AS A QUALIFIED TARGET INDUSTRY BUSINESS PURSUANT TO S.288.106, FLORIDA STATUTES; PROVIDING FOR LOCAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN THE FORM OF CASH; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.**

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, THE CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL, as follows:**

**WHEREAS**, the Clearwater City Council adopted Resolution 16-12 on May 19, 2016, endorsing the application of **Project Sweetooth** for a Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund and committing local financial support of ten (10%) of the eligible tax refund in accordance therewith upon certification by the State of Florida Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO); and

**WHEREAS**, this Resolution amends Resolution 16-12 reducing the eligible tax refund and corresponding local financial support by five percent (5%), and extending the job creation schedule, the tax refund schedule, the job maintenance period and expiration date by twelve (12) months to allow more time in order to meet 10% job creation as required by s.288.106, Florida Statutes; and

**WHEREAS, Project Sweetooth** has submitted a request to DEO to exercise its option to extend the job creation, tax refund schedule, and job maintenance periods and reduce the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund; and

**WHEREAS** the exercise of this option is supported by Pinellas County and DEO; and

**WHEREAS**, the business under consideration is an international headquarters and manufacturing business, specifically, **Project Sweetooth**; and

**WHEREAS, Project Sweetooth** is located in the City of Clearwater, Florida; and

**WHEREAS, Project Sweetooth** has been identified as a Target Industry Business; and

**WHEREAS, Project Sweetooth** plans to expand operations and to create additional jobs in the City of Clearwater. The Company projects to add 13 jobs over one year beginning in 2017; and

**WHEREAS, CITY OF CLEARWATER** hereby acknowledges that local financial support of 20% of the total tax refund of \$61,750 is required under the provisions of s.288.106, Florida Statutes, governing the State's Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program; and

**WHEREAS, PINELLAS COUNTY** has agreed to participate in the provision of local financial support by committing \$6,175, which is 10 percent of the total required QTI local financial support;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, THE CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL**, hereby recommends **Project Sweettooth** be approved as a Qualified Target Industry Business pursuant to s.288.106, Florida Statutes.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the **GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, THE CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL**, has determined the basis of this project's average private sector wage commitment calculation shall be 115% of the statewide average annual wage effective January 1, 2015.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the necessary cash commitment of local financial support for the Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund Program exists for **Project Sweettooth** in the amount of \$6,175, in order to realize not less than 10% job creation, and that this amount will be made available in accordance with the guidelines set forth by the Department of Economic Opportunity with the stipulation that these funds are intended to represent the "local financial support" required by s.288.106, Florida Statutes.

This resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

**DULY ADOPTED BY THE GOVERNING BOARD OF THE CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA, THE CLEARWATER CITY COUNCIL**, this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2017.

**ATTEST:**

CITY OF CLEARWATER, FLORIDA

Countersigned:

\_\_\_\_\_  
George N. Cretekos  
Mayor

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
William B. Horne II  
City Manager

Approved as to form:

Attest:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Laura Lipowski Mahony  
Assistant City Attorney

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rosemarie Call  
City Clerk