

**MONDAY MORNING GROUP OF WESTERN RIVERSIDE COUNTY
ANNUAL ADVOCACY TRIP – WASHINGTON, DC
APRIL 20-23, 2026**

**MISSION READY MAKERS: A CALIFORNIA CAPABILITIES CORRIDOR (C3)
MANUFACTURING AND WORKFORCE INITIATIVE**

ISSUE: Inland Southern California lacks accessible, standards-aligned applied manufacturing and prototyping capacity, creating a critical gap for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), technology developers, veterans, and underserved residents who need lower-risk pathways to product development and commercialization. This gap delays product commercialization by an estimated 6–18 months for regional firms and limits entry into domestic aerospace and defense supply chains.

ACTION: The Monday Morning Group urges Congress to support a FY27 Community Project Funding (CPF) allocation of \$2.7 million to the Riverside Community College District (RCCD) under National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) – Scientific and Technical Research (Commerce, Justice, Science appropriations) to establish Mission Ready Makers in Perris, CA (19 South D St., Perris 92570). Mission Ready Makers will establish a secure, industry-serving facility that expands advanced manufacturing capacity, accelerates dual-use technology commercialization, and strengthens domestic aerospace and defense supply chains.

BACKGROUND: Mission Ready Makers directly aligns with NIST’s mission by modernizing production capabilities for SMEs, improving manufacturability and quality processes, and accelerating the adoption of standards-aligned technical practices. RCCD and the City of Perris will provide facilities and baseline staffing as in-kind contributions, enabling the project to operate for 36 months while transitioning to a self-sustaining model. Approximately 70% of ongoing revenue will be generated from earned income, with the remaining 30% supported through institutional contributions.

The facility will provide applied engagement opportunities for approximately 600 new and incumbent technicians; create durable, higher-wage technical jobs in quality/inspection, non-destructive testing (NDT), avionics, and electronics; accelerate SME commercialization; and strengthen regional participation in aerospace and defense supply chains.

CPF Funding will be used to: 1) acquire applied manufacturing and prototyping equipment; 2) provide commercialization and manufacturing readiness support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs); 3) fund contract technical expertise and industry engagement; and 4) integrate veteran participation into applied manufacturing pathways.

Requested Allocations Breakdown	
Item	Cost
Equipment: Equipment investments will establish the core applied manufacturing, electronics prototyping, and quality-testing capabilities required to reduce SME technical risk and accelerate commercialization.	\$1,200,000
Commercialization and Manufacturing Support: This funding provides targeted assistance that moves SMEs through Technology Readiness Levels (TRL) and Manufacturing Readiness Levels (MRL) more efficiently.	\$450,000
Technical Expertise: Contracted technical experts will deliver specialized services—such as NDT, avionics, and quality assurance support—that typical SMEs cannot access affordably.	\$750,000
Veteran Integration: Veteran-focused programming will connect transitioning service members to accelerated training pathways and hands-on manufacturing experience.	\$300,000
Total	\$2,700,000

Prior support includes \$300,000 from a 2023 FIPSE grant and endorsements from RCCD, Riverside County, the cities of Riverside and Perris, the Riverside County Workforce Development Board, Riverside County District 1 Supervisor Jose Medina, and the Perris Chamber of Commerce.