

MEETING DATE: November 8, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: C

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

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SUBJECT: Proposition 47 Executive Scoring Panel Chair and Request for Proposals Approval: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests that the Board appoint a chair for the scoring panel, determine the agencies that are eligible to apply and approve release of the Proposition 47 Request for Proposals for Cohort 2.

Background

Proposition 47 was a voter-approved initiative on the November 2014 ballot. Its purpose, as stated in the ballot initiative, is as follows:

The people enact the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act to ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses, to maximize alternatives for nonserious, nonviolent crime, and to invest the savings generated from this act into prevention and support programs in K–12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment.

As stated in the proposition, the BSCC's responsibilities are to:

Administer a grant program to public agencies aimed at supporting mental health treatment, substance abuse treatment, and diversion programs for people in the criminal justice system, with an emphasis on programs that reduce recidivism of people convicted of less serious crimes, such as those covered by this measure, and those who have substance abuse and mental health problems. (Gov. Code, § 7599.2, subd. (a)(3).)

Assembly Bill 1056 (Statutes of 2015, Chapter 438) added legislative priorities for this grant program including housing-related assistance and other community-based supportive services, job-skills training, case management and civil legal services. Grants may fund programs that serve both adults and juveniles.

Request for Proposal

Because data does not yet exist to determine whether major changes need to be made to the original RFP, the Board also voted to use the original RFP for Cohort 2, with only minor technical changes.

The BSCC RFP process typically begins a year prior to making award recommendations. During that time, subject-matter experts are convened to develop the RFP content, read and rate proposals, and make award recommendations to the Board.

At its September 2018 meeting, the Board discussed expediting the second round of funding by releasing the initial Proposition 47 RFP with only technical amendments gathered during a 30-day public comment period. The Board also discussed funding projects with two years of accumulated funds instead of three to allow for a new RFP to be written as soon as feasible based on information provided by the first two cohorts. The projects -- \$1 million for small and \$6 million for large -- would still run for three years. Additionally, the Board discussed eligibility considerations for the second round of funding (Cohort 2).

The Board weighed the merits of restricting Cohort 2 applicants to public agencies that did not receive funding in the first round, or allowing all public agencies to apply for funding. Under the first option, more public agencies could receive Proposition 47 funding. Under the second, all public agencies — including existing grantees from Cohort 1 — would be eligible to apply for Cohort 2 funding. This option would allow existing grantees to request funding to continue to expand their current approach or apply for a new, unrelated approach.

On September 28, 2018 the BSCC posted the original RFP documents to its website for a 30-day public comment period. Documents included a Memo outlining proposed RFP changes (C-1), a draft RFP with proposed amendments (C-2), a draft RFP Budget Table (C-3), and an Applicant Eligibility outline (C-4). The Proposition 47 email notice was sent to the listserv and posted on the BSCC website to encourage written public comment. In addition, emails were sent to the former Executive Steering Committee and current grantees to request their feedback.

Public comments indicate that public agencies that did not receive funding in Cohort 1 favor limiting eligibility to those who have not received funding. Current grantees favor allowing existing grantees to apply for Cohort 2 funding. San Bernardino County, which received a partial award, has asked to be eligible for Cohort 2 if the Board decides only new applicants may apply. Written public comment may be found on attachment (C-5).

Cohort 2 Funding

The initial RFP allocated three years of funding to Cohort 1. This approach allowed the Board to fund 23 public agencies for approximately \$103 million. Staff recommends allocating the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019-20 deposit and FY 2020-21 deposit to Cohort 2 (C-6), which would create a smaller pot -- and therefore fewer awards -- than what was available for Cohort 2. It does not prevent the Board from taking a different approach on subsequent cohorts. The FY 2019-20 deposit will be available in August 2019 and FY 2020-21 in August 2020.

Scoring Panel Chair

Recruitment for the Proposition 47 scoring panel will begin November 9, 2018 for a minimum of 30 days. This panel will review proposals and provide funding recommendations to the Board. Staff is requesting a Chair to lead this process.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board:

1. Approve the release of the Proposition 47 RFP;
2. Allocate the FY 2019-20 deposit and FY 2020-21 to the Cohort 2 RFP;
3. Identify public agency applicant criteria; and
4. Appoint a chair of the scoring panel.

Attachments

- C-1: RFP Memo
- C-2: RFP with Proposed Amendments
- C-3: RFP Budget Table
- C-4: Applicant Eligibility
- C-5: Public Comment
- C-6: Cohort Timelines