

**DATE:** April 20, 2017 **AGENDA ITEM:** C

**TO:** BSCC Chair and Members

**FROM:** Colleen Stoner, CPP Field Representative, [colleen.stoner@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:colleen.stoner@bscc.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program, Executive Steering Committee's Funding Recommendations: **Requesting Approval**

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## Summary

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This agenda item requests approval to fully award to agencies in San Francisco and Los Angeles two grants totaling \$11,800,000 as recommended by the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion Program Executive Steering Committee (ESC). The grant period will begin April 21, 2017 if the proposed list of grantees is approved.

## Background

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Senate Bill 843 (Attachment C-1), chaptered on June 27, 2016, established the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) Pilot Program to be administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections to “improve public safety and reduce recidivism by increasing the availability and use of social service resources while reducing costs to law enforcement agencies and courts stemming from repeated incarceration.” Modeled after the LEAD<sup>1</sup> Program in Seattle, Washington, up to three jurisdictions were eligible to be selected for a two-year pilot program to divert willing low-level drug offenders and those arrested for prostitution to social service providers in lieu of prosecution. Services provided may include, but are not limited to, case management, housing, medical care, mental health care, treatment for alcohol or substance use disorders, nutritional counseling and treatment, psychological counseling, employment, employment training and education, civil legal services, and system navigation. A report of the evaluation findings is required to be submitted to the Governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2020.

SB 843 appropriated \$15 million from the General Fund for the Program and authorized the BSCC to spend up to \$550,000 of that amount for contracts with an outside evaluator such as a nonprofit research center or university to determine the program's effectiveness and to contract with experts in the implementation of the LEAD program for the purpose of providing technical assistance to participating jurisdictions.

The Washington's Kings County Sheriff's Department and its partner, the Public Defender Association, have entered a contract with the BSCC to provide training and technical assistance to the ESC to assist them in the development of the proposed RFP and will provide ongoing technical assistance to grantees once awards are made. In addition, the

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<sup>1</sup> LEAD is a registered trademark of the Public Defender Association (Based in Seattle, Washington)

Board will contract with California State University, Long Beach to assist with the required evaluation of California's LEAD program.

### **Key Program and RFP Components**

- LEAD uses a collaborative model intended to promote a transformation of institutional relationships that allows law enforcement, social services, public defenders and prosecutors to create new and more effective approaches to working together on low-level drug enforcement and prostitution.
- LEAD is a community-based diversion program that uses human resources to increase public safety and order, by requiring commitment, buy-in and ongoing involvement from key stakeholders who are willing to engage with community partners in the design, implementation and the ongoing maintenance of the Program.
- The LEAD program relies upon the understanding that participation is voluntary and participants will not be denied services if they are unable to achieve abstinence or become involved in further criminal activity. The program includes housing services that do not require a participant's abstinence from drugs or alcohol.

At its September 22, 2016 meeting, the Board appointed Board Members David Bejarano and Francine Tournour as Co-chairs to the ESC (Attachment C-2) established to guide development of the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the LEAD Grant Program, evaluate the proposals, and make funding recommendations based on the results of the proposal evaluation process. The Board also approved the list of stakeholder interests and subject-matter expertise to be represented on the ESC and authorized the Co-chairs to work with staff to name the members of the ESC based on this list. In addition, the Board approved the proposed timeline for the administration of the competitive LEAD Grant Program RFP process.

The ESC convened on October 11 and 12, 2016 to develop the Request for Proposals (Attachment C-3), which was approved by the Board at its November 17, 2016 meeting and subsequently released to the public on November 18, 2016.

The BSCC received two proposals requesting \$11.8 million for the LEAD Grant Program, which were forwarded to the ESC for reading and rating.

On February 22, 2017, the ESC received training by BSCC research staff on how to read and rate the proposals based on the rating criteria established in the RFP.

On March 22, 2017 the ESC members met to discuss scores and develop funding recommendations. A summary of the two programs is provided. (Attachment C-4).

\$14,450,000 was available for grant award after deducting \$550,000 for the Technical Assistance and University contracts. \$11,800,000 is proposed to be awarded. The remaining \$2,650,000 will revert to the General Fund.

### Recommendation/Action Needed

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On behalf of the Law Enforcement Grant Program Executive Steering Committee, staff recommends approval to fully fund two grants totaling \$11,800,000.

#### LEAD GRANT PROGRAM Proposals in Rank Order

RANK	COUNTY	AMOUNT REQUESTED	RECOMMENDED FUNDING AMOUNT
1	San Francisco	5,900,000	\$5,900,000
2	Los Angeles	5,900,000	\$5,900,000
		<b><i>TOTAL</i></b>	<b><i>\$11,800,000</i></b>

### Attachments

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- C-1: Senate Bill 843
- C-2: The LEAD Executive Steering Committee Roster
- C-3: The LEAD Program Request for Proposals
- C-4: Brief Summaries of Proposed Grant Awards