**April 9, 2015 Proposition 47 Power Point Talking Points**

On November 4, 2014, California voters approved Proposition 47. This proposition, which I will now refer to as Prop 47, includes three primary impacts. I will briefly review these impacts and then focus on the responsibilities of the BSCC.

Reduces prescribed non-serious and non-violent drug and property crimes from felonies to misdemeanors. Offenders who are currently serving felony sentences may have their sentence reduced to misdemeanor sentences, offenders who have completed their sentence may apply to the court to have the conviction changed to a misdemeanor conviction, and the court has more discretion in resentencing an offender currently serving a felony sentence. The annual savings from these first two impacts will fund grants to reduce truancy and drop-outs among K-12 students in public schools, victim services and mental health and substance abuse treatment services.

By July 31, 2016, the Department of Finance is to calculate the savings and no later than August 1 of each Fiscal Year, is to report it to the State Controller. Beginning August 15, 2016, the State Controller’s Office is to annually transfer this amount to the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund.

I will now turn this presentation over to Josh Gauger from the Department of Finance to discuss the savings calculation and the Department of Finance’s role in determining the overall state savings. Josh segues back to Mary: And now Mary will continue with the presentation

As a result of prop 47, Government Code 7599.2 (a)(3) requires BSCC 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. BSCC is to emphasize programs that reduce recidivism of people convicted of less serious crimes such as those we just reviewed, and those who have substance abuse and mental health issues.

The BSCC will have the responsibility to further define how the grant program will be administered.

Government Code 7599.2(b) provides that the agency responsible for the administration of the funds shall not spend more than 5% of the total funds it receives annually for administrative costs.

I would like to emphasize that the Prop 47 environment is moving and changing rapidly. There is a fair amount of uncertainty at this time about the level of state savings and implementation and there are a number of moving parts. In addition, as we will discuss in a few minutes, there are several pending bills that seek to specify additional priorities, such as housing, in the grant program the BSCC will administer.

Part of what is leading to the uncertainty of the current environment is the significant amount of interest from a variety of groups and individuals and their efforts to shape next steps. The BSCC will actively engage with these interests as a way to both provide and receive information as we move forward.

The Legislative Analyst’s Office has made a number of recommendations to the Legislature to direct the BSCC to coordinate funding with existing funding sources, allocate funds to maximize impact and evaluate grant recipient ability to achieve recidivism reduction goals.

Section 4, Government Code 7599.1(c) provides that the funds shall be used exclusively for the purposes of Prop 47and are not subject to appropriation or transfer by the Legislature for any other purpose. Section 15 allows the measure to be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature and signature of the Governor providing the amendment(s) are consistent with and further the intent of the Act.

There have been three bills introduced this year that are related to Prop 47. It is through the legislative process that stakeholders have an opportunity to shape the funding priorities of Prop 47.

As the Board has discussed on previous occasions, it recognizes the broad public interest in Prop 47 and wants to interact directly with stakeholders and the public as part of its first steps. BSCC will host three to six regional meetings across the state to provide a venue for local agencies and the public to provide input for consideration. As soon as we determine the schedule of these activities, we will invite Board participation. The outcomes of these meetings will be summarized and shared with the Board.

BSCC staff appreciate the priority of this responsibility and will move through the timeline as quickly as possible. This timeline may be impacted by legislative activity and the timing by which the scope of savings is identified. The major events we are planning include not only the regional meetings but also press releases and regular website updates.