

DATE: February, 4, 2016

AGENDA ITEM: H

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Ricardo Goodridge, Field Representative, ricardo.goodridge@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Strengthening Law Enforcement and Community Relations Grant Program, Approval and Release of the Request for Proposals: **Requesting Approval.**

Summary

This agenda item requests that the Board approve and release the proposed Request for Proposal (RFP) for the Fiscal Year 2015-16 Strengthening Law Enforcement and Community Relations Grant Program (Strengthening Grant) as recommended by its Executive Steering Committee (ESC).

Background

The Budget Act of 2015 allocated \$6 million to the BSCC to administer a new grant program. The Budget Act provides:

The Board of State and Community Corrections shall provide grants to local law enforcement for programs and initiatives intended to strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and the communities they serve, including, but not limited to, providing training for front-line peace officers on issues such as implicit bias; funding for research to examine how local policing services currently are being delivered; assessing the state of law enforcement-community relations; comparing the status quo with the best practices in the policing profession; and receiving recommendations for moving forward, including the identification of policing models and operational options to improve policing; problem-oriented policing initiatives such as Operation Ceasefire; restorative justice programs that address the needs of victims, offenders, and the community; behavioral health training and any one-time costs associated with implementing, expanding, and maintaining a program designed to capture peace officer interactions with individuals in the community. The Board of State and Community Corrections may use up to 5 percent of the total amount available in this item to administer this program.

The Budget act further required that to receive a grant under this item, the applying agency shall be in full compliance with Section 11108 of the Penal Code, which pertains to local law enforcement reporting requirements for firearms and property (Attachment H-1).

The BSCC retained 5 percent of the allocation to administer the program. Approximately \$5,700,000 is available to public agencies through a competitive process.

On September 17, 2015 the Board authorized staff to form an ESC to oversee the development and release of the Strengthening Grant RFP and grant award recommendations, appointed Board Member David Bejarano as Chair of the ESC and delegated authority to the ESC Chair and staff to name additional members to the ESC, to include representation from government entities, community based service providers and the formerly incarcerated community, among others. Chief Bejarano subsequently appointed as Co-Chair BJ Davis of Strategies for Change, a service provider.

On January 7, 2016 the Governor released his Fiscal Year 2016-17 proposed budget, which includes an additional \$6 million for this Strengthening Grant. BSCC staff is in discussions with the ESC about what information to include in this RFP so that the field is aware of the potential for additional funding, if it is approved by the Legislature and included in the FY 2016-17 Budget. In early March the BSCC website will be updated with information on the impact of FY 2016-17 funds on the grant program.

Key Grant Components

The 15-member ESC (Attachment H-2) convened November 9 and 10 and again on December 17, 2015 to develop the RFP that is now provided for the Board's consideration (Attachment H-4). Key grant components include:

- The Strengthening Grant is intended to fund collaborative law enforcement-community approaches that aim to improve, strengthen, establish or reestablish positive meaningful relationships between law enforcement and the communities they serve.
- Eligible applicants for the grant are California municipal police departments, sheriff's departments and cities that contract for law enforcement services.
- Police and sheriff's departments must partner with one or more community partner(s) in order to submit an application.
- The RFP is built on the principles outlined in the *President's Task Force On 21st Century Policing* report. The Executive Summary is included as Attachment H-3 and the complete report can be viewed at http://www.cops.usdoj.gov/pdf/taskforce/taskforce_finalreport.pdf. This task force was created to strengthen community policing and trust among law enforcement officers and the communities they serve.
- The grant period is July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2018. On March 1, 2016 the BSCC website will be updated with information on the impact of FY 2016-17 funds on the grant program.
- Individual applications may request up to \$600,000 and joint applications may request up to \$850,000.
- All applications must include a 20 percent match.
- A minimum of 30 percent of the total grant award must be passed through to one or more of the community partner(s) identified in the proposal.
- Applicants must self-certify that they are in compliance with Penal Code Section 11108.

RFP Activities and Timeline

Below is a tentative timeline of activities necessary to administer a competitive RFP for the Strengthening Grant.

ACTIVITY	TENTATIVE TIMELINE
RFP presented for Board approval	February 4, 2016
RFP released to the public	February 5, 2016
Bidders Conference	February 22-23 2016
Instructions for potential FY 2016-17 funding provided to the public	March 1, 2016
RFP responses due to the BSCC	April 1, 2016
ESC Rater Training	April 28, 2016
Scoring and recommendation development	June 2, 2016
Present funding recommendations to Board	June 9, 2016
Contract start date	July 1, 2016

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board:

- Approve and release the Strengthening Grant RFP as recommended by the ESC.

Attachments

H-1: Penal Code Section 11108

H-2: Executive Steering Committee Roster

H-3: President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing report Executive Summary

H-4: Strengthening Grant RFP