

**MEETING DATE:** July 11, 2024

**AGENDA ITEM: E**

**TO:** BSCC Chair and Members

**FROM:** Eddie Escobar, Field Representative, [eddie.escobar@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:eddie.escobar@bscc.ca.gov)

**SUBJECT:** Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Grant Program - Cohort 2:  
Funding Recommendations: **Requesting Approval**

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### Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval of the Missing and Murdered Indigenous People (MMIP) Grant Program Cohort 2 awards as recommended by the Executive Steering Committee (ESC) (Attachment E-1). If the proposed list of award recommendations is approved, 18 federally recognized Indian tribes in California will receive \$19.58 million. Proposals selected for funding will be under agreement from August 1, 2024 through June 1, 2028. A list of proposals recommended for funding is provided in Attachment E-2 and corresponding proposal summaries are provided in Attachment E-3.

### Background

The Budget Act of 2022 (Senate Bill 154, Chapter 43, Statutes of 2022) established the MMIP Grant Program. Per the Budget Act, funds shall be awarded by the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) as competitive grants to federally recognized Indian tribes in California to support efforts to identify, collect case-level data, publicize, investigate and solve cases involving missing and murdered indigenous people.

Grants will focus on activities including, but not limited to, developing culturally based prevention strategies, strengthening responses to human trafficking, and improving cooperation and communication on jurisdictional issues between state, local, federal, and tribal law enforcement to investigate and solve cases involving missing and murdered indigenous people.

On July 25, 2022, the Board approved a staff recommendation to appoint a Chair and establish an ESC to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP). On April 13, 2023, the Board approved release of the RFP with a due date of June 23, 2023. The RFP made \$11.4 million available across four fiscal years to implement the grant program, subject to future appropriations.

In response to the original MMIP RFP, BSCC received four proposals requesting approximately \$3.29 million in funding. The Board approved these awards at the September 14 and November 17, 2023 meetings, leaving \$8.52 million unallocated.

The Budget Act of 2023 (Senate Bill 101, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023) contained the expected annual appropriation of \$4 million for this grant and added a one-time augmentation of \$12 million (Attachment E-4). BSCC may retain five percent of this amount for administration of the grant, leaving an additional \$11.4 for tribal grants. With the unallocated

\$8.52 million from the first round of funding, and the one-time augmentation of \$11.4 million, \$19.92 million was made available for a second round of grant funding.

To increase awareness about the MMIP grant, solicit feedback from the tribal community, and encourage participation in the next RFP, BSCC representatives conducted extensive outreach efforts, speaking with tribal leaders and attending important tribal events in 2023, including:

- California Native American Day at the State Capitol, hosted by the California Native American Heritage Association
- MMIP Virtual Round Table Meeting, hosted by the Yurok Tribe
- AB 1314 Feather Alert Implementation Roundtable, hosted by the California Legislative Native American Caucus and the L.A. County Board of Supervisors
- Roundtable Policy Discussion on MMIP Grant Funding, hosted by the Pala Band of Mission Indians in partnership with the California Tribal Business Alliance
- Missing in California Indian Country forum, hosted by the Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians in partnership with Riverside County Sheriff's Office, Attorney General Rob Bonta and the California Department of Justice Office of Native American Affairs.

Based on feedback from the tribal community, staff proposed to re-release the MMIP RFP as Cohort 2, with several non-substantive modifications. Modifications included the addition of language to highlight the flexibility afforded by the authorizing legislation in the types of activities that could be implemented and encouraged collaborative applications among one or more tribes. At the urging of tribal representatives, BSCC also increased the application period from two months to four months.

On November 17, 2023, the Board approved the release of the Cohort 2 MMIP RFP with a due date of March 15, 2024. The RFP made \$19.92 million available across three fiscal years to implement the grant program, subject to future appropriations (Attachment E-5).

In response to the Cohort 2 MMIP RFP, BSCC received 20 proposals requesting almost \$21.25 million in funding. Eighteen of the proposals met all submission criteria and were provided to the MMIP ESC for funding consideration. Once all ESC scores were submitted, BSCC staff generated a ranked list of all proposals eligible for funding. All 18 proposals are recommended for funding. If the Board approves the ESC funding recommendations, \$19.58 million would be allocated. Approximately \$346,000 would remain unallocated.

### **Recommendation/Action Needed**

On behalf of the MMIP Executive Steering Committee, staff recommends that the Board:

- Fully fund 18 proposals totaling \$19.58 million for grant projects to federally recognized Indian tribes in California to support efforts to identify, collect case-level data, publicize, and investigate and solve cases involving missing and murdered indigenous people.

## **Attachments**

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E-1: MMIP Executive Steering Committee Roster

E-2: MMIP Applicants Recommended for Funding

E-3: MMIP Proposal Summaries

E-4: Budget Act of 2023 (Senate Bill 101, Chapter 12, Statutes of 2023)

E-5: MMIP Cohort 2 Request for Proposals