

MEETING DATE: April 19, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: B

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Colleen Curtin, Field Representative, colleen.curtin@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: California Violence Intervention and Prevention (CalVIP) Grant Funding Recommendations: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval of the California Violence Intervention and Prevention grant awards as recommended by its Executive Steering Committee (ESC) (Attachment B-1). If the proposed list of grantees is approved, the two-year grant period will begin May 1, 2018 and end April 30, 2020. Proposals recommended for funding include ten submitted by cities and ten submitted by community-based organizations (CBOs). A list of proposals recommended for funding is provided in Attachment B-2. Corresponding proposal summaries are provided in Attachment B-3.

Background

Authorizing Legislation. The Fiscal Year 2017-2018 State Budget Act (Statutes of 2017, Chapter 14), (Attachment B-3), included funding in the amount of \$9,215,000 for the CalVIP Grant Program, to be administered by the BSCC. This program replaced the former California Gang Reduction, Intervention and Prevention (CalGRIP) Grant Program, which had been funded annually through the State Budget Act.

As a part of CalVIP, the State Budget Act requires a non-competitive grant in the amount of \$1,000,000 for the City of Los Angeles and specifies that the remaining \$8,215,000 be made available as a competitive grant available to California cities and CBOs. The Act further specifies that a grant shall not exceed \$500,000 and that each city that receives a grant must distribute at least 50 percent of the grant funds it receives to one or more CBOs. A dollar-for-dollar match is required from all applicants.

RFP Development. On September 22, 2016, to prepare for the possibility of FY 2016-2017 CalGRIP funding, the Board appointed Board Member Michelle Brown, Chief of the San Bernardino Probation Department, as Chair of the CalGRIP ESC and delegated authority to Chief Brown to oversee the development of the Request for Proposals (RFP).

- The ESC met on November 3 and 4, 2016 to begin development of the RFP, but work was suspended when the CalGRIP grant did not appear in the Governor's Proposed FY 2016-2017 Budget.

- In lieu of the CalGRIP grant, the Legislature appropriated funding for the CalVIP Grant and the ESC reconvened on September 28, 2017 to update and make final an RFP.
- On November 9, 2017, the Board approved the release of the CalVIP RFP (Attachment B-4). In addition to the statutory requirements listed above, the RFP contained the following key components:
 - The \$8,215,000 available for the competitive grant was divided in half, with \$4,107,500 earmarked for city applicants and \$4,107,500 earmarked for CBO applicants.
 - Applicants would be scored in part on how well they demonstrate that the program they propose to implement is one that has “been shown to be effective at reducing violence.”
 - Preference would be given to applicants in cities or regions that are disproportionately affected by violence.

Preference Points. In defining “disproportionately affected by violence,” the ESC considered crime data reported to the California Department of Justice by city law enforcement agencies for 2015 and 2016, ranked for three crimes classified as “violent” by the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Uniform Crime Reporting Program: (1) homicide, (2) robbery and (3) aggravated assault.

Preference points were assigned to cities (and to CBO applicants that proposed to provide services in those cities) ranked in the top 5 percent statewide for homicide rate, robbery rate and aggravated assault rate, as follows:

- 8 points (worth 5 percent of total score) for applicants that appeared in the top 5 percent for *all three* violent crimes;
- 5 points (worth 3 percent of total score) for applicants that appeared in the top 5 percent for *two of the three* violent crimes;
- 2 points (worth 1 percent of total score) for applicants that appeared in the top 5 percent for *one of the three* violent crimes.

Proposal Rating Process. The CalVIP RFP was released on November 22, 2017 with a proposal due date of January 22, 2018. The BSCC conducted two bidders’ conferences, one in Sacramento and one in Van Nuys, to address questions from prospective applicants. The BSCC received a total of 121 proposals requesting \$55 million, 91 from CBOs and 30 from cities.

Since it would not have been feasible for each ESC member to read and score all 121 proposals, giving equitable consideration to each, a multi-panel rating process was used. This process consisted of dividing the 12-member ESC into four panels of three members each. The subject matter expertise represented by the ESC members was distributed across the panels, with each containing one CBO/service provider representative, one law enforcement representative, and one “other” representative (e.g., advocacy, legal or academia).

Five proposals, referred to as overlapping proposals, were read and scored by all four panels to assess 1) the extent to which comparable ratings were provided for the proposals across the four panels and 2) inter-rater reliability across all raters. The remaining 115 proposals (one proposal was withdrawn) were randomly distributed across the four panels. On February 7, 2018, members of the CalVIP ESC attended a Rater Training at which they reviewed the RFP and rating criteria, received training on how to use BSCC rating forms and participated in a mock rating exercise.

After the ESC members' preliminary ratings were submitted, BSCC's Research Division ran a series of analyses to assess the consistency and absolute differences in ratings across all ESC members for the overlapping proposals and the remaining proposals within the four panels. The analyses informed whether the raters were providing comparable ratings for the same proposals. As a result, inconsistencies and differences in ratings were identified.

On April 3 and 4, 2018, the CalVIP ESC members convened to discuss the proposals and their preliminary ratings, and had an additional opportunity to evaluate the proposals. The Research Division assisted with guiding these discussions. During this discussion, ESC members were permitted to change their preliminary ratings, but were not required to do so. Following the discussion and after any rating changes were made, as requested, final proposal scores were calculated.

For the multiple-panel rating process, final proposal scores are calculated as standardized scores. The use of standardized scores is an accepted, common methodology for various multiple-panel processes in applied settings. Standardized scores make it possible to compare scores from different panels and minimize differences. Standardized proposal scores substantially reduce the possibility that chance random assignment to a particular panel is more likely to result in either a higher or lower proposal score.

At the end of the April 3 and 4, 2018 CalVIP ESC meeting, once the standardized proposal scores with preference points were calculated, two ranked lists were generated: one for city applicants and one for CBO applicants. The ESC is recommending awards to the highest-ranked applicants, based on the standardized scores.

Recommendation/Action Needed

On behalf of the CalVIP ESC, staff recommends that the Board:

- Fund the City of Los Angeles for a \$1 million non-competitive grant, as authorized in statute.
- Fully fund nine city proposals and nine CBO proposals (Attachment B-2), for programs and initiatives to prevent and reduce violence.
- Partially fund the City of Pasadena and the Young Visionaries Youth Leadership Academy, which fell at the funding cut-off points on the city and CBO ranked lists, respectively.

- In the event a grantee is unable to accept the conditional grant award, authorize staff to accept relinquished awards and offer conditional award to grantees next in line on the rank order list.

Attachments

B-1: CalVIP Executive Steering Committee Roster

B-2: List of CalVIP Proposals Recommended for Funding

B-3: CalVIP Proposal Summaries

B-4: Budget Language

B-5: CalVIP Request for Proposals