

MEETING DATE: June 15, 2023

AGENDA ITEM: C

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Helene Zentner, Field Representative, helene.zentner@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Proposition 64 Public Health & Safety Grant Program, Alameda County, Seven-Month No-Cost Extension: **Requesting Approval**

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval of a seven-month extension for Alameda County grant within the Proposition 64 Public Health and Safety (Prop 64 PH&S) Cohort 1 Grant Program. The Prop 64 PH&S Grant Program is funded by an ongoing portion of tax revenue generated from the cultivation and retail sale of legal, adult-use cannabis or cannabis products in California.

Background

The Prop 64 PH&S Grant Program was established in November 2016 as part of a voter-approved initiative, The Control, Regulate and Tax Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA). This initiative legalized the recreational use of cannabis in California for people aged 21 and older. As part of the initiative, a portion of tax revenue generated from the cultivation and retail sale of cannabis or cannabis products goes toward implementing AUMA within the State and provides funds for a variety of grant programs to assist in mitigating impacts due to the legalization of recreational cannabis. The Board approved funding for the first cohort of grantees at its September 2020 meeting (C-1).

In the years following the Board's approval, Prop 64 PH&S grantee projects experienced significant implementation delays due to COVID-19 restrictions, procurement delays, staffing shortages, limited in-person contact with clients, and counties could not deliver services as intended.

In October 2022, a Prop 64 PH&S Request for Proposals (RFP) was released for a third round of funding (Cohort 3). Eligibility included all previously awarded city/county grantees (i.e., Cohort 1 and Cohort 2). Although nine of the 10 Cohort 1 awardees applied and were subsequently awarded Cohort 3 funding, the County of Alameda was unable to determine if their continued challenges with county-wide staffing shortages would allow for the successful implementation of another grant award and therefore did not apply for funding through Cohort 3 RFP. The county has requested the ability to extend their current contract for Cohort 1 by seven months to continue expending their initial grant award (\$1 million) on grant-related activities, contingent upon approval of this Board. The seven-month extension will align dates and final project deliverables with those grant projects in Cohort 2.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends the Board approve a seven-month extension period for the Alameda County Prop 64 PH&S Cohort 1 grant project. Staff also recommends the Board direct staff to make any amendments, extensions, and addendums to Alameda County's grant agreement as needed to complete the Program as proposed.

Attachments

C-1: September 10, 2020- Board Agenda Item G, Proposition 64 Public Health and Safety Grant Program Funding Recommendations