

MEETING DATE: February 10, 2022 **AGENDA ITEM:** H

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Dameion Renault, Field Representative, dameion.renault@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Proposition 47 Grant Program, Cohort III Request for Proposal:
Requesting Approval

Summary

This agenda item requests that the Board approve for release the proposed Request for Proposals for the Proposition 47 Grant as recommended by its Executive Steering Committee. This updated RFP for the third round of Prop 47 funding represents the first significant changes in grant requirements since its inception in 2014. The Grant Agreement covers September 1, 2022 to June 1, 2026. Approximately \$143 million is projected to be available.

Background

Proposition 47 codified Government Code sections 7599-7599.2 in a 2014 voter-approved initiative that reduced sentencing penalties for some lower-level crimes (Attachment H-1). Its purpose, as stated in the ballot initiative, is as follows:

Proposition 47, Government Code sections 7599-7599.2, known as the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act, was enacted to ensure that prison spending is focused on violent and serious offenses, to maximize alternatives for nonserious, nonviolent crime, and to invest the savings generated from this act into prevention and support programs in K–12 schools, victim services, and mental health and drug treatment.

As stated in the proposition, the BSCC's responsibilities are 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, with an emphasis on programs that reduce recidivism of people convicted of less serious crimes, such as those covered by this measure, and those who have substance abuse and mental health problems. (Gov. Code, § 7599.2, subd. (a)(3).)

Assembly Bill 1056 (Chapter 438, Statutes of 2015) added related legislative priorities for this grant program, including housing-related assistance and other community-based supportive services, job-skills training, case management and civil legal services. Grants may fund programs that serve both adults and juveniles (Attachment H-2).

On September 16, 2021, the Board appointed Board Member Janet Gaard as Chair of the Proposition 47 ESC. Concurrently, the Board approved the establishment of an ESC membership and directed the ESC to oversee the development and release of the Cohort III RFP.

Changes to the RFP from previous years include:

- Modified and Expanded Existing Guiding Principles that include requirements to:
 - Expand access to culturally congruent quality mental health and substance-use disorder services, including services for co-occurring mental health and substance-use disorder needs and the use of evidence-based or community-defined practices.
 - Identify and address known barriers to serving target populations, such as a lack of jobs, housing, or employment
 - Expand and improve efforts to divert individuals away from system involvement through increased diversion programs and improved behavioral health services or community supports.
- A new requirement to ensure that non-governmental organizations that receive Proposition 47 grant funds (as either a direct grantee, subgrantee, or subcontractor) have been duly organized, in existence, and in good standing for at least three (3) years prior to the effective date of its fiscal agreement with the BSCC or with the Proposition 47 grantee.

Key Grant Components

The 13-member ESC (Attachment H-3) convened November 16, 17, and December 4, 2021, to develop the RFP that is now provided for the Board's consideration (Attachment H-4). Key grant components include:

- That funds must be used for mental health services, substance-use disorder treatment, diversion programs, or some combination thereof. In addition to these required services and programs, applicants are encouraged to provide supplemental housing-related services and other community-based supportive services, such as job skills training, case management, and civil legal services.
- That eligible applicants for this grant are public agencies.
- That public agencies must partner with one or more non-governmental, community-based organization(s) to apply.
- That grant funds may not be used for programs or services provided in a custodial setting.
- That a minimum of 50 percent of the total grant award must be passed through to one or more non-governmental, community-based organizations.
- That funding is categorized into a "Small" and "Large" category.
- That in the Small category, public agencies may apply for up to \$1 million for the entire 45-month grant period.
- That in the Large category, public agencies may apply for more than \$1 million and up to \$6 million for the entire 45-month grant period.
- That the County of Los Angeles may submit a single application for up to \$20 million for the entire 45-month grant period.

Proposed Activities

Below are the proposed activities and the tentative timeline necessary to administer a competitive RFP process for the Proposition 47 Grant Program:

Activity	Tentative Timeline
BSCC Board Considers Chair Appointment and ESC Establishment	September 16, 2021
ESC Recruitment and Formation	September - October 2021
RFP development	November 2021 - January 2022
Present the RFP for BSCC Board approval	February, 2022
Release the RFP to the Field	February, 2022
Bidders' Conference	March, 2022
Proposals Due to the BSCC	May 2022
Proposal Rating Process and Development of Funding Recommendations	May - July 2022
BSCC Board Considers Funding Recommendations	July 2022
Grants Begin	September 2022

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board:

- Approve the release of the Proposition 47 Request for Proposal as recommended by the Executive Steering Committee

Attachments

H-1: Proposition 47 Request for Proposal

H-2: Proposition 47 Prop 47 Executive Steering Committee Membership Roster