

MEETING DATE: April 10, 2025

AGENDA ITEM: C

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Adrienne Winuk, Assistant Deputy Director, adrienne.winuk@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Proposition 47 Grant Program, Cohort 5 Request for Proposals:
Requesting Approval

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval to release a Request for Proposals (RFP) in the amount of \$127 million for Cohort 5 of the Proposition 47 Grant. Eligible applicants are California public agencies. This agenda item also requests approval to convene a Scoring Panel to read and rate the proposals submitted in response to this RFP (Attachment C-1).

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. Its purpose, as stated in the ballot initiative, is as follows:

The people enact the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act 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).)

Funding for the Proposition 47 grant program comes from the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, which is funded by savings that accrue to the state from the implementation of the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act. Sixty-five percent of the funds deposited into this fund are disbursed to the BSCC annually to administer the grant program.

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. (Pen. Code, § 6046.3, subd. (b)(3).) Grants may fund programs that serve both adults and juveniles.

In November 2023, the BSCC conducted a survey seeking input from constituents and stakeholders on the administration of the Proposition 47 Grant. The survey ranked community needs related to Proposition 47 and prioritized fund allocation across mandatory program areas. Survey results revealed a greater need for residential treatment options and higher funding thresholds. The prior Cohort 4 RFP addressed these changes. The Cohort 5 RFP is a reissuance of the Cohort 4 RFP.

The RFP for Cohort 5 also recognizes the enactment of Proposition 36. In November 2024, voters passed Proposition 36, also known as The Homelessness, Drug Addiction, and Theft Reduction Act. Among its provisions, Proposition 36 enacted a new class of crime called a “treatment-mandated felony” and established a court process where individuals could have their charges dismissed upon completion of a court approved treatment program. (Health & Saf. Code, § 11395.) Proposition 36 also states that the BSCC may allocate funds disbursed from the Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Fund and transferred into the Second Chance Fund to counties and local governments to fund the implementation of these new mandated treatment programs. (Gov. Code, § 7599.200, subd. (b).) As such, this RFP reflects that funds may be used to fund substance use and mental health treatment programs already eligible under the Cohort 4 RFP, including those authorized by Proposition 36.

Successful applicants will be funded for a 45-month grant period from October 1, 2025 to June 30, 2029. The full grant period includes:

- Three (3) months for start-up and implementation and activities,
- Three (3) years for service delivery, and
- Six (6) months for completion of the required evaluation report and close-out.

Key components of the Proposition 47 Grant include:

- Eligible applicants are public agencies.
- Public agencies must partner with one or more non-governmental, community-based organization(s) (CBOs) and pass through a minimum of 50 percent of the total grant award to one or more non-governmental, CBOs.
- Applicants will choose to apply in either a “Small Scope” or “Large Scope” category, depending on the size of their proposed project.
 - In the Small Scope category, public agencies may apply for **up to \$2 million**.
 - In the Large Scope category, public agencies may apply for **up to \$8 million**.
 - Los Angeles County may submit one application for **up to \$20 million**.
- Under Proposition 47, funds must be used for mental health services, substance use disorder treatment, diversion programs, or some combination thereof.
 - In addition to these required services, 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.
- Funds may also be used for treatment programs under Proposition 36, as specified in section 11395 of the Health and Safety Code.
 - A treatment program may include, but is not limited to, drug treatment, mental health treatment, job training, any other conditions related to treatment or a successful outcome for the defendant that the court finds appropriate.

Proposed Timeline

Below are the proposed activities and tentative timeline for the Proposition 47 Cohort 5 Grant Program:

Activity	Tentative Timeline
Release Request for Proposals	April 11, 2025
Grant Information Session for Prospective Applicants	May 7, 2025
Proposals Due to the BSCC	June 23, 2025
Proposal Rating Process and Development of Funding Recommendations	July-August 2025
Present Funding Recommendations to the Board	September 11, 2025
Grant Period Begins	October 1, 2025
Grant Period Ends	June 30, 2029

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommend that the Board:

- Approve the release of the Proposition 47 Cohort 5 Request for Proposals.
- Delegate authority to BSCC staff to establish a diverse Scoring Panel with relevant subject matter expertise and to modify membership as needed, including the potential inclusion of BSCC staff as raters.

Attachments

C-1: Proposition 47 Cohort 5 Request for Proposals