

MEETING DATE: September 8, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: D

TO: BSCC Chair and Members

FROM: Ricardo Goodridge, Deputy Director, ricardo.goodridge@bscc.ca.gov

SUBJECT: Establishing Process for Emergency Grantmaking Procedures:
Requesting Approval

Summary

This agenda item requests Board approval of the *Grant Proposal Evaluation Process* (September 2022, Attachment D-1), an update to the September 2021 *Grant Proposal Evaluation Process*, that includes emergency grant development procedures for administering state or federally funded grant programs.

Background

One of the responsibilities of the BSCC is to award competitive grants to local government entities and nongovernmental, community-based organizations for a wide variety of purposes set forth in federal and state law. State and federal funding is typically available to the BSCC around the same time each year, and the process for accepting and administering federal funds is often the same. The Grant Proposal Evaluation Process outlines the process by which grant proposals are evaluated to ensure the awards are based on the strengths of the proposals and the excellence of the proposed projects.¹

In responses to the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance allocated funding to states to administer the Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Funding (CESF) program. The BSCC received \$58.5 million in CESF that was subsequently awarded to state and local agencies. In a 2021 audit, the California State Auditor recommended that the BSCC have grant policies and procedures in place for allocating future emergency funds.

In the event the Board is asked to administer future emergency funding, *The Grant Proposal Evaluation Process* has been updated to reflect the following:

- The Board will provide guidance to BSCC staff on the appropriate manner to administer emergency funds in accordance with state or federal requirements.
- The Board may direct staff to modify the steps outlined in the *Grant Proposal Evaluation Process* document to ensure the timely administration of emergency funds.

¹ Penal Code section 6024, subdivision (d), requires that the BSCC establish priorities for the use of funds as are available pursuant to federal acts and approve the expenditure of all funds pursuant to such federal acts, while Penal Code section 6027, subdivision (b)(5), requires the Board to develop comprehensive, unified, and orderly procedures to ensure that applications for state and federal grants are processed fairly, efficiently, and in a manner consistent with the mission of the board.

- The Board may provide guidance on an alternate grant development process to ensure funding is released in a timely manner.
- The general competitive grant development process is typically implemented over a 12-month period. In the event emergency funding is received, all efforts will be made to reduce the 12-month timeline while complying with applicable state and federal legislative requirements.

Recommendation/Action Needed

Staff recommends that the Board:

1. Approve the updated *Grant Proposal Evaluation Process* (September 2022), make it effective immediately, and authorize its posting on the BSCC website

Attachments

D-1: Grant Proposal Evaluation Process: Technical Report (September 2022)