

**MEETING DATE:** April 8, 2021

**AGENDA ITEM:** C

**TO:** BSCC Chair and Members

**FROM:** John Prince, [John.Prince@bscc.ca.gov](mailto:John.Prince@bscc.ca.gov), Deputy Director

**SUBJECT:** **Senate Bill 823:** Summary of Stakeholder Input Session, Release of Request for Applications: **Requesting Approval**

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### Summary

This agenda item proposes the release of a Request for Application (RFA) for the \$9.6 million Youth Programs and Facilities Grant Program portion of Senate Bill 823 (Chapter 337, Statutes of 2020) developed by the working group, co-chaired by Chair Linda Penner and BSCC Board Member David Steinhart, and the approval of a formation of a Scoring Panel to rate the applications.

### Background

On September 30, 2020, Governor Newsom signed Senate Bill 823, which began the closure of the state's Division of Juvenile Justice, realigning those state functions to county governments. As part of SB 823, \$9.6 million was set aside for the Board of State and Community Corrections to "award one-time grants, to counties for the purpose of providing resources for infrastructure-related needs and improvements to assist counties in the development of a local continuum of care."

At the November 19, 2020 meeting, the Board approved the formation of a working group, co-chaired by Chair Linda Penner and BSCC Board Member David Steinhart, to develop for county response a request for information (RFI). At the February 11, 2021 meeting, the Board approved the development of a RFA by the working group. (Attachment C-1)

After the meeting the working group solicited public comment in two distinct ways: written comment was requested from February 19, 2021 through March 22, 2021 (Attachment C-2) and concluded with a virtual Stakeholder Input Session on March 22, 2021, which can be viewed online. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RgESmNXYOk>)

The public comment received can be grouped into seven categories:

- flexible funding
- funding allocations
- general funding question
- grant making process
- infrastructure needs
- RFA recommendations
- funding use

Comments pertaining to flexible funding focused on allowing counties the ability to meet their individual needs in a timely manner. Recommendations for funding allocations varied with comments on grant competitiveness, funding distribution, and prioritization of projects. General funding questions were asked as to the local control of distributions and if a county could apply for more than one regional grant. There were also comments on the grant making process as it related to the inclusivity of stakeholders and survey solicitation for the RFI. Items recommended for inclusion in the RFA related to project oversight and best practices for positive youth development. Lastly there were comments on funding use for programming and CBO inclusion in the projects. A more detailed summary of the public comments received is included in Attachment C-2: Content Analysis of SB 823 Comment Submissions.

After consideration of all input, the proposed RFA was modified. Significant modifications include an increase of the number of regional project grants from four to five projects of up to \$1,000,000 each. A scoring system for the regional applications was added and a scoring panel will be convened to review regional applications. In addition, county juvenile population (instead of total population) will be used to determine county allocations for funding in the "All County Distribution" category. (Attachment C-3)

The proposed RFA is recommended to be split into two parts. Part A of the RFA will make \$5 million available to fund up to five projects (up to \$1 million each) to develop regional hubs to serve youth referred by other counties in the three high-needs programming and treatment areas: females, youthful sex offenders, and seriously mentally ill youth. Funding will be prioritized so that at least one project in each of the three high-needs areas can be funded. Part B will make \$4.12 million available to all counties (by formula) based on county juvenile population to support infrastructure and improvements for local programs and facilities for their in-county population of realigned youth.

The RFA also proposes that additional funds be made available for Part B under the following two scenarios:

1. Funds available in Part A are not exhausted. The amount remaining from Part A will be used to increase the amount available for Part B accordingly. The new total amount available will be distributed as follows: 40% to small counties, 30% to medium counties, and 30% to large counties.
2. One or more counties does not apply for Part B funds. Any individual county share that is not applied for will be distributed as follows: 40% to small counties, 30% to medium counties, and 30% to large counties.

If one or both of the two scenarios above occur, counties that applied will be notified, provided with the total amount of increased funding available, and will be permitted to adjust their project accordingly through a budget modification process.

It is proposed that the Board dissolve the working group and approve the formation of a five-member scoring panel which will be co-chaired by Chair Linda Penner and BSCC Board Member David Steinhart. All interested parties are invited to submit statements of interest to serve on the scoring panel, whose additional members will be selected by the co-chairs.

Contingent on the Board's approval, the RFA will be released on April 9, 2021, with a due date of May 12, 2021. Recommendations on awards to counties would be made at the June 10, 2021 meeting.

### **Recommendation/Action Needed**

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- 1) Approve the recommendations of the SB 823 Working Group, included in the revised RFA.
- 2) Approve and release the RFA.
- 3) Dissolve the SB 823 Working Group and approve the formation of a five-member Scoring Panel, co-chaired by Linda Penner and David Steinhart.
- 4) Approve the recommendation to invite participation on the Scoring Panel through the BSCC website.

### **Attachments**

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- C-1: February 11, 2021, BSCC Board Meeting – Agenda Item C
- C-2: Content Analysis of SB 823 Comment Submissions
- C-3: Youth Programs and Facilities Grant RFA
- C-4: Youth Programs and Facilities Grant Budget Table

Attachment C-4