

Meeting Date: November 4, 2015  
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**Request for *approval* of a modification of Proposition 1 grant program scoring criteria and re-solicitation timeline for grant proposals.**

**November 4, 2015**

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**RECOMMENDATIONS**

Staff evaluation of concept proposals indicates that non-state and state cost share is not available to the extent anticipated when scoring criteria were developed. Based on the discussion at the October 21<sup>st</sup> Program and Policy Subcommittee meeting, staff has identified two alternatives for modifying the scoring of grant proposals. Staff recommends the board consider, select, and approve an alternative scoring criteria and grant timeline. After Board approval of scoring criteria, the concept proposal solicitation period will be re-opened for 45 days, delaying the timeline by one to two months.

**Alternative 1 – Modify Point Allocation**

- Assign three points for state cost leverage (reduction by 2 points) and five points for non-state cost share (reduction in points by 5)
- The “extra” points resulting from a reduction in points from cost share will be given to the readiness (from 10 to 15) and local support criteria (from 5 to 7)
- Modify timeline to reopen the solicitation period for concept proposals
  - Re-open the solicitation period for concept proposals until December 18, 2015
  - Board approves concept proposals at January 2016 board meeting
  - Submission of full proposals will be scheduled for March 2016
  - Board approval of full proposals will be scheduled for April or May 2016

**Alternative 2 – Reduce the Threshold for Considering Proposals for Funding**

- Reduce the minimum score for considering concept and full proposals for funding from 85 points to 75 points.
- Modify timeline to reopen the solicitation period for concept proposals
  - Re-open the solicitation period for concept proposals until December 18, 2015
  - Board approves concept proposals at January 2016 board meeting
  - Deadline for submission of full proposals will be scheduled for until March 2016
  - Board approval of full proposals will be scheduled for April or May 2016

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### **BACKGROUND**

The Conservancy is receiving \$50,000,000 for the Proposition 1 Grant Program. The first solicitation process began in August and concept proposals were due September 15<sup>th</sup>. Conservancy staff reviewed the concept proposals based on the evaluation criteria approved by the Conservancy Board. Staff evaluation of concept proposals indicates that non-state and state cost share is not available to the extent anticipated when scoring criteria were developed. The Cost Share and Leveraging categories accounts for a total of 15 points, 10 of which are allocated based on non-state cost share; and 5 points for leveraging state cost share; losing points in these categories could significantly impacted a proposal's likelihood of meeting the 85-point minimum threshold.

### **Contact Person:**

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