



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: Sheriff's Office
Department No.: 032
Agenda Date: February 10, 2026
Placement: Administrative Agenda
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: Bill Brown, Sheriff-Coroner
Contact: Erik Raney, Commander, Criminal Investigations Division
SUBJECT: Acceptance of Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) – Cohort 2 Grant

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Behavioral Wellness

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt and authorize the Chair to execute a Resolution approving, ratifying, and authorizing the Santa Barbara Sheriff's Office (SBSO) to submit a grant proposal and sign an agreement with the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) for grant funds available through the federal Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (Byrne SCIP) in an amount not to exceed \$993,452 for a project period from August 1, 2025 through September 30, 2027;
- b) Approve and authorize the Sheriff, or designee, to execute subsequent reports pursuant to the BSCC grant agreement, or make immaterial amendments that do not change the total agreement amount, do not extend the term of the agreement, or change any other substantive terms of the BSCC grant agreement and subject to the Board's ability to rescind this delegated authority at any time; and
- c) Find that the proposed actions do not constitute a "project" pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) guidelines, section 15738(b)(4), as they are the creation of a government funding mechanism or other government fiscal activity, which does not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

This item is before your Board to accept Byrne SCIP grant funding of \$993,452 to support the County's Co-Response program. The BSCC is the designated state administering agency for the Byrne SCIP grant, which is federally funded through the Bureau of Justice Assistance. The goals of BSCC Byrne SCIP funding is to decrease gun violence in California, support local jurisdictions in their efforts to improve firearms relinquishment procedures, and support the enhancement of collaborative court programs that address behavioral health issues, with a focus on people who are at higher risk for gun violence.

Discussion:

Due to the short timeline of the grants request for proposals, and the uncertainty of existing funding for the co-response program, the grant application was not brought to the BOS prior to submission. The Sheriff's Office successfully submitted the Byrne SCIP grant application and has received a conditional award of \$993,452. The proposal submitted to BSCC outlined the intended use of the funds to include two co-response deputies for two years including the necessary equipment and specialized training / travel expenses. However, in order to avoid potential supplantation issues that were subsequently identified, the Sheriff's Office anticipates modifying the budget to instead include two Co-Response deputies and two Behavioral Wellness (BWell) clinicians for one year.

SBSO responded to a request for proposals for the SCIP grant for the following program purpose areas: Referrals to Community-based Services for People in Crisis (PPA 2) and Funding for Law Enforcement Crisis Intervention Programs or Initiatives (PPA 3). As the lead agency, SBSO is seeking funding to support the County's Co-Response program, consisting of two Special Duty Deputies to be a part of a Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Co-Responder model, where they are paired with clinicians from the Department of Behavioral Wellness (BWell). The CIT will operate as a two-person team, responding to behavioral health and mental health crises that come through 911. They will divert persons from the criminal justice system when appropriate, educating persons on gun violence protection including Gun Violence Restraining Orders (GVROs), and preventing violence utilizing Behavioral Threat Assessment and Management principles and practices.

A Special Duty Deputy is a Deputy Sheriff with a technical specialty. In the Co-Response model as requested for this grant, the deputy is a crisis intervention-trained deputy whose primary responsibility is to respond to 911 calls involving people in mental health crisis and perform behavioral threat assessment and management. These deputies are trained in the use of 5150 holds, diversion from the criminal justice system using a variety of de-escalation tactics and services available. The Co-Response CIT program has shown to be an effective intervention for individuals in the community struggling with a behavioral health crisis. The team is able to arrive on-scene quickly, and with the shared expertise of a clinician and deputy they are able to de-escalate situations and connect individuals with the help they need. The team is effective in de-escalating and preventing arrests, thereby reducing recidivism and the numbers of individuals with behavioral health needs getting booked into County jails. In addition to responding to active calls, the teams also respond to "check the welfare" calls and provide follow-up visits to individuals recently contacted. These additional services allow for more community engagement by the team with the hope that these individuals will engage in treatment. These deputies are trained and well-versed in the tools available to reduce gun violence, specifically in writing GVROs and subsequent search warrants for un-relinquished firearms, as well as 5150 holds and placement in Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) rated facilities requiring a federal firearms ban.

Background:

The Sheriff's Office and BWell's joint Co-Response program has been operating successfully for many years. The program currently has four teams, each comprised of a Special Duty Deputy and a BWell Clinician. In past budget years and in the FY 2025-26 Adopted Budget, the two Co-Response deputies that are contemplated to continue through this Byrne SCIP grant have been funded through Proposition 47 and American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grants. The current Prop 47 and ARPA funding for these positions will conclude at the end of FY 2025-26.

Performance Measures:

The goals of the Santa Barbara County Co-Response Team program are to provide a safe, compassionate, and effective response to individuals with behavioral health issues who come into contact with the crisis systems; prevent unnecessary hospitalization and/or incarceration; increase public safety in potentially dangerous situations; and decrease arrests and prosecutions of individuals with mental health and substance use disorders.

The following targets help to ensure progress toward the goals of the program.

1. Goal 1: Provide a safe, compassionate, and effective response to individuals with behavioral health issues who come into contact with the crisis systems.
 - a. *Target related to frequency of team operation*
 - b. *Target related to number of calls responded to*
 - c. *Target related to the number of follow-ups and engagements*

2. Goal 2: Prevent unnecessary hospitalization and/or incarceration
 - a. *Target related to the number of individuals diverted from hospitalization*
 - b. *Target related to the number of individuals diverted from incarceration/criminal justice system*
 - c. *Target related to narcotics involvement*

3. Goal 3: Increase public safety in potentially dangerous situations
 - a. *Target related to time freed up for other deputies as a result of co-response*

4. Goal 4: Decrease arrests and prosecutions of individuals with mental health and substance use disorders
 - a. *Target related to the number of individuals diverted from incarceration/criminal justice system (same as 2.b. above)*

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No; once the BSCC budget revision has been completed, the Sheriff's Office will return to your Board with a budget revision to appropriate the funds.

Fiscal Analysis:

Funding Source	FY 2025-26	FY 2026-27	FY 2027-28	Total
General Fund				
State				
Federal	\$455,333	\$496,726	\$41,393	\$993,452
Fees				
Total	\$455,333	\$496,726	\$41,393	\$993,452

The grant period runs from August 1, 2025, through September 30, 2027. The initial grant submission identified the following proposed budget:

- Special Duty Deputy: 2.0 FTE @ \$253,548 (year 1) + \$253,548 (year 2) + benefits @ 46% = \$423,596 Grant Funds = \$930,692
- County Motorpool charges: One vehicle @ \$18,000 per year for two years = \$36,000
- Cell Phone: Two cell phones @ \$1,600 per year for two years = \$3,200
- Association of Threat Assessment Professionals annual conference: \$2,500 for 2.0 FTE for two years = \$10,000
- Travel to Sacramento for grant-related trainings: \$520 (hotel and per-diem) for 3.0 FTE = \$1,560
- Provide 40-hour CIT training to County Law Enforcement: Two classes per year for two years @ \$3,000 per class = \$12,000

However, as mentioned above, in order to avoid potential supplantation issues with other Co-Response program funding available in the current fiscal year, the Sheriff’s Office is working with the BSCC on a budget revision that would modify the budget reflected above and detailed in Attachment B, likely by adjusting the funding timeline and potentially funding two deputies and two clinicians for one year, instead of the currently approved two deputies only.

Staffing Impacts:

None; acceptance of the Byrne SCIP grant will support continuation of two existing Special Duty Deputy positions within SBSO and two existing clinician positions within Behavioral Wellness.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board: Please send two copies of the signed Resolution and the Minute Order to the Sheriff’s Office, Attention CFO Hope Vasquez and Commander Erik Raney.

Attachments:

- Attachment A** – Grant Agreement (Byrne SCIP 2 Santa Barbara County Contract)
- Attachment B** -- Byrne State Crisis Intervention Program (SCIP) – Cohort 2 Request for Proposals
- Attachment C** – Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors Resolution

Contact Information:

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