

Stanislaus County

Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

Phase 1	Amounts
Phase 1: Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$1,126,459.50
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$2,438,812.87
Phase 1: 3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$375,486.50
Phase 1: Total System Cost	\$1,948,686.00
Phase 2	
Phase 2: Remaining Allocation Amount	\$1,312,353.37
Phase 2: Remaining 3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$437,451.12
Phase 2: Estimated Total System Cost	\$1,265,850.00
Estimated Total System Cost For All Phases	\$3,214,536.00

Phase 1 Voting System:

Hardware: ES&S Model 100 Precinct Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) – 250 Units
ES&S Model 650 High Speed Central Ballot Counters (Optical Scan) – 2 Units

Software: ES&S Model 100 version 5.0.0.0
ES&S Model 650 version 1.2.0.0
Unity Software version 2.4.3

Vendor:

Elections Systems and Software, Inc. (ES&S)

Acquisition Schedule:

Stanislaus County has secured the Phase 1 voting system equipment, and this new equipment will be implemented during the November 8, 2005, Consolidated Election.

Project Completion Date:

The Phase 1 voting system will be fully implemented during the November 8, 2005, Consolidated Election. The anticipated Phase 2 voting system, the AutoMark voting system, will be implemented after the system has completed the state certification process and is certified for use in California by the Secretary of State.

Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (AVVPAT):

The VVPAT requirement does not apply to Stanislaus County's Phase 1 Project Documentation Plan, as the system is a paper-based optical scan voting system.

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Stanislaus County's Phase 1 – Project Documentation Package meets the requirements for completeness. The ES&S Model 100 and 650 optical scan voting system units are certified for use in California.

Stanislaus County acquired their new ES&S optical scan voting system in September 2004, and this system will be used for the first time during the November 8, 2005, Consolidated Election. Stanislaus County believes that the phased approach will allow for an orderly transition to the new ES&S optical scan system. Stanislaus County assembled a community panel to evaluate and rate each of the proposed systems during the selection process. The ES&S optical scan system was selected by Stanislaus County because the county believes that optical scan technology, being a paper based system, will avoid the controversy regarding the DRE's and voter verified paper audit trail.

Stanislaus County is currently conducting an extensive voter education and outreach program to introduce the new voting system to the public. The county plans to attend community events and involve the local media to promote the new voting system. The county has retained the services of a professional project manager to oversee the implementation of Phase 1. The county plans to extend poll worker training classes to include one hour of training on the new voting system equipment. Stanislaus County plans to solicit feedback from poll workers and voters after the November 8, 2005, Consolidated Election.

Stanislaus County's Phase 1 optical scan equipment does not fully address the new state and federal requirements for accessibility. To fully comply with state and federal law, Stanislaus County plans to incorporate a Phase 2 into their overall plan and intends to purchase one accessible unit for each of their polling places.

While Stanislaus County's Phase 1 voting system appears to meet the requirements for reimbursement under Proposition 41, it should be noted that any money allocated for this system would reduce the amount of money the county will have to purchase accessible voting equipment during their second phase. A Phase 2 Project Documentation Package will need to be submitted once the county begins receiving the Phase 2 accessible voting equipment units.

Stanislaus County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted detailed invoices for their Phase 1 voting equipment. Please note that the staff proposed Phase 1 funding award is based upon allowable reimbursement under Proposition 41 for voting equipment hardware and software only. The "Election Support Service" list in the Stanislaus County contract with ES&S would not be covered as a reimbursable claim under Proposition 41.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation to approve Stanislaus County's Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$1,126,459.50.