

# Placer County

## Phase 1 – Project Documentation Package - Staff Report

### Summary

<b>Phase 1</b>	<b>Amounts</b>
Phase 1: Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$1,514,901.08
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$2,015,870.78
Phase 1: 3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$504,967.03
Phase 1: Total System Cost (without interest)	\$2,019,868.11
<b>Phase 2</b>	
Phase 2: Remaining Allocation Amount	\$500,969.70
Phase 2: 3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$166,989.90
Phase 2: Total System Cost (Estimate)	\$1,402,875.00

### Voting System:

**Hardware:** AccuVote-OS (Optical Scan) – 335 Units  
(20 AccuVote-OS units are used for training and back-up only)  
AccuFeed Ballot Feeder – 5 Units

**Software:** GEMS Software Version – 1.18.18

### Vendor:

Diebold Elections Systems, Inc.

### Acquisition Schedule:

Placer County has secured the Phase 1 voting system equipment and this new equipment was implemented during the March 2002 Primary Election.

### Project Completion Date:

The Phase 1 voting system was fully implemented during the March 2002 Primary Election. The Phase 2 voting system has not yet been determined.

### Accessible Voter Verifiable Paper Audit Trail (AVVPAT):

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

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**Staff Report:**

Placer County's "Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package" meets the requirements for completeness. The AccuVote optical scan voting system being used by Placer County is certified for use in California.

While Placer County's current voting system appears to meet the requirements for reimbursement under Proposition 41, it should be noted that any money allocated for this system would considerably reduce the amount of money the county will have to purchase accessible voting equipment during their second phase.

Placer County conducted a full-scale (county wide) demonstration using optical scan equipment during the November 2000 General Election. Based on the positive feedback from their community the county chose to upgrade from their Datavote Punch Card voting system to optical scan technology. Placer County voters appeared to like the optical scan capability because it provided them with ease in casting their ballots and quick reporting returns on Election night.

The county was cognizant of their increasing population growth and geographically diverse areas in their county while determining the new voting system. The county recognized that the system they acquired must be able to work in "...old gold rush era buildings with limited power and phone service as well as in the most modern of new community facilities."

To assist with the implementation of the new optical scan voting system, the county conducted extensive outreach through presentations and numerous demonstrations of the equipment at senior centers, community centers, schools, and service clubs. The county formed an advisory panel of a diverse group of individuals from their county, including representation from each city in their county, active county political party individuals and other community members to assist with the assessment of community needs before switching to a new voting system. The Diebold AccuVote optical scan system was ultimately selected in late 2001 and was fully implemented at the March 2002 Primary Election.

Placer County's "Phase 1" optical scan equipment does not fully address the new state and federal requirements for accessibility. However, Placer County does have a comprehensive voter accessibility plan which includes: (1) community input through the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee; (2) audiotapes of ballot measures; (3) accessible polling locations and materials (such as accessible voting booths, large type voting instructions and magnifying devices, voting pens with attached grip adapters for voting ease, and poll worker or staff assistance for curbside and assisted voting); and, (4) outreach programs to assist the disabled community.

To fully comply with state and federal law, Placer County plans to incorporate a "Phase 2" into their overall plan and intends to purchase one accessible touch screen unit for each of their polling places.

Placer County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted invoices for their voting equipment.

**Staff Recommendation:**

It is our recommendation to approve Placer County's "Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$1,514,901.08.