

# San Francisco County

## Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package Staff Report

### Summary

Phase 1	Amounts
Phase 1: Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$2,431,303.50
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$5,742,339.82
Phase 1: 3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$810,434.50
Phase 1: Total System Cost	\$3,749,922.00
Phase 2	
Phase 2: Remaining Allocation Amount	\$3,311,036.32
Phase 2: 3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$1,103,678.77
Phase 2: Total System Cost	Unknown at this time

### **Phase 1 -- Voting System:**

Optech IIP Eagle - Optical Scan – 682 Units  
Optech IV-C - Optical Scan Ballot Tabulators – 2 Units

### **Phase 1 -- Vendor:**

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

### **Phase 1 -- Acquisition Schedule:**

The City and County of San Francisco has secured the Phase 1 voting system equipment and this new equipment was implemented during the November 2000 General Election.

### **Phase 1 -- Project Completion Date:**

The Phase 1 voting system was fully implemented during the November 2000 General Election. The Phase 2 voting system has not yet been determined.

### **Phase 1 -- Staff Recommendation:**

The City and County of San Francisco's "Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package" meets the requirements for completeness. The ES&S Optech Eagle optical scan system is certified for use in California.

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While San Francisco's current 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 another system during their second phase.

In 1998, San Francisco began the process to change their voting system from the Votomatic punch card system. San Francisco worked with numerous community organizations to select the best system for their community. At the time the county went through the Request for Proposal (RFP) process, their community expressed interest in both the optical scan and Direct Recording Electronic (DRE) technology. However, no DRE systems were certified for use in California during the county's RFP period; therefore, the county only considered purchasing optical scan voting equipment.

In 1999, San Francisco entered into a contract with ES&S to purchase the Optech Eagle optical scan system. The switch to the optical scan system has significantly reduced the amount of time it takes the county to produce election results on Election Day. The purchase of the optical scan system was San Francisco's first step towards modernizing the county's voting system. However, San Francisco's "Phase 1" optical scan equipment does not fully address the new state and federal requirements for accessibility.

If San Francisco's second phase includes a DRE system, it will bring their county into compliance with both state and federal law. San Francisco plans to incorporate a "Phase 2" into their overall plan to select a system that will address their city charter which mandates Ranked Choice Voting. San Francisco is considering to further upgrade their system to DRE technology. At this time, California does not have a certified voting system that can administer elections using Ranked Choice Voting.

San Francisco's contract with ES&S includes a clause for an "option to upgrade" their optical scan system to newer technology offered by ES&S (which includes their touch screen system) at any time throughout the term of the contract.

The City and County of San Francisco will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted "invoices" for their voting equipment.

It is our recommendation to approve the City and County of San Francisco's "Phase 1 -- Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$2,431,303.50.