

# 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.

# Solano County

## Project Documentation Package Staff Report

### Summary

Solano County	Amounts
Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$2,297,314.22
VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$2,297,314.22
3:1 Matching Fund Amount	\$765,771.33
Total System Cost	\$4,065,092.58

#### **Voting System:**

Diebold AccuVote – TS (Touch Screen System) – 1,171 Units

#### **Absentee Voting System:**

Diebold Absentee Scanner Unit – 1 Unit  
Diebold AccuVote – OS (Optical Scan) – 2 Units

#### **Vendor:**

Diebold Election Systems, Inc.

#### **Acquisition Schedule:**

Solano County plans to receive their new voting equipment in April 2003. The acquisition will be fully completed by July 2003. The county plans to use their new voting equipment for the first time at their November 2003 UDEL election.

#### **Project Completion Date:**

Solano County has projected that their project completion date will be upon certification of the November 2004 General Election.

#### **Staff Recommendation:**

Solano County's "Project Documentation Package" meets all of the requirements for completeness. The Diebold AccuVote touch screen system is certified for use in California. Solano County currently uses the Votomatic system. The Votomatic voting system has been decertified and Solano County is under a federal court order to replace their system before March 1, 2004.

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Solano County's Registrar of Voters completed a Request For Proposal (RFP) process that included responses from seven vendors. Staff from several Solano County departments reviewed the RFP responses and, after ranking the responses, determined that Diebold Election Systems' AccuVote was the first choice.

Solano County selected the AccuVote voting system for the following reasons: (1) the system uses current technology and software; (2) the system is already being successfully used by other election offices; (3) it was determined to be the easiest to install and implement; (4) the system will increase unassisted voting for senior and disabled voters; (5) it provides the county with the best system at the best cost; and (6) it brings Solano County into compliance with state and federal regulations pertaining to voter accessibility.

Solano County plans to begin installation of the new voting system in April 2003. Their project plan includes detailed equipment acquisition plans, staff training components, and a voter education outreach program designed to allow voters the opportunity to use touch screen voting prior to Election Day. The timeframe set out in their plan allows for three complete elections to occur before final acceptance of this new system.

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

It is our recommendation to approve Solano County's "Project Documentation Package" and issue a "Funding Award" letter in the amount of \$2,297,314.22.