

Los Angeles County

Phase 2 Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

Los Angeles County	Amounts
Phase 2: Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$2,803,990.25
Phase 2: Remaining VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$49,026,236.33
Phase 2: County 3:1 Matching Amount	\$934,663.41
Phase 2: County's Estimated Total System Cost	\$4,697,952.00
Remaining Initial Formula Allocation	
Remaining Allocation Amount	\$46,222,246.08
Remaining 3:1 Matching Amount	\$11,555,561.52

Voting Solutions for All People (VSAP) Vote-by-Mail Tally 1.0 System:

Hardware:

IBML Imagemtrac Scanner Version 6400 (4 Units)
Sentio Lite Ballot Printing System (6 Units)
Computer HP Z640 Workstation (6 Units)

Software:

VSAP Vote-by-Mail Tally 1.0 System

Vendor:

Digital Foundry Inc.
Runbeck Election Services

Acquisition Schedule:

The VSAP Vote-by-Mail Tally 1.0 System was certified on August 21, 2018 by the California Secretary of State.

Project Completion Date:

Los Angeles County's initial phase of the VSAP Vote-by-Mail Tally 1.0 System was fully implemented during the November 2018 General Election.

Los Angeles County
Phase 2 – Project Documentation Plan - Staff Report

Staff Report:

Los Angeles County's Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan appears to meet the requirements for completeness. The VSAP Vote-by-Mail Tally 1.0 System and corresponding components are certified for use by Los Angeles County.

The VSAP project was launched by Los Angeles County in 2009 in response to growing voting system needs and unique challenges as a result of the increasing voting population and complexity of election administration. The County asserts that the previous voting system did not offer the technical and functional elasticity necessary to accommodate the growing demands of the electorate's diversity and size. As such, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk sought to create a new comprehensive system that could fulfill the goals of increased accuracy, transparency, and security with a human-centered focus.

Los Angeles County has adopted a multi-phased approach to modernizing its voting system. Phase 1 funding was awarded to Los Angeles County for 171 AccuVote TS Diebold units in 2004. This current plan represents a request for reimbursement of the first phase of the new VSAP system. This initial phase consists of the implementation of a new vote-by-mail tally system. This includes a redesigned vote-by-mail ballot, a modernized tally system, and a certified ballot on demand system. These components were fully implemented during the November 2018 General Election.

Los Angeles County contracted with two vendors to acquire the components of the first phase of the VSAP. Los Angeles County contracted with Digital Foundry for services that included development, manufacturing, and testing of software which directly lead to the completion and acquisition of the certified VSAP Vote-by-Mail Tally 1.0 system. In addition, Los Angeles County purchased Runbeck Election Services' Sentio Lite Ballot Printing System (ballot on demand system).

Los Angeles County established two formal advisory committees to provide insight and expertise on the implementation of their VSAP system. The VSAP Advisory Committee is composed of 24 members including community leaders from language minority groups, voters with disabilities, and various ethnic communities to advise Los Angeles County on the creation and implementation process. The County also established the VSAP Technical Advisory Committee to provide oversight on the testing and implementation on the new software and hardware components. Los Angeles County contends that the new vote-by-mail ballot and ballot on demand equipment garnered positive responses both in public demonstrations in the community and on Election Day.

Los Angeles County will only receive VMB payments once they have submitted detailed invoices for its certified voting equipment and software. Please note that the staff-proposed funding award is based upon allowable reimbursement under Proposition 41 for voting equipment hardware and software only. Planning and report documents are not required as components of the software package and therefore are not allowable for reimbursement under Proposition 41. However, other funding mechanisms are available to the county to seek reimbursement of these items.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that Los Angeles County's Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award Letter be issued in the amount of \$2,803,990.25.