

Alameda County

Phase 2 Project Documentation Package Staff Report

Summary

Alameda County	Amounts
Phase 2: Staff Recommended Funding Award Amount	\$652,257.66
Phase 2: Remaining VMB Approved Allocation Amount	\$652,257.66
Phase 2: Required County 3:1 Matching Amount	\$217,419.22
Phase 2: County's Estimated Total System Cost	\$23,756,520.88
Remaining Initial Formula Allocation	
Remaining Allocation Amount	\$0.00
Remaining 3:1 Matching Amount	\$0.00

Voting System:

Hardware:

ImageCast Central Scanners (16 Units)
ImageCast X Ballot Mobile Device (2150 Units)
ImageCast X Mobile Ballot Printing Device (2150 Units)
ICX Transport Bag Set (2150 Units)

Software:

Democracy Suite Software
ImageCast Adjudication Software
Mobile Ballot Printing Application Software
ImageCast Remote UOCAVA/RAVBM Software
Ranked Choice Voting Software

Vendor:

Dominion Voting Systems

Acquisition Schedule:

Delivery of the Dominion Voting Systems Democracy Suite v5.2 Suite equipment began in January 2019 and was completed in February 2019.

Project Completion Date:

Alameda County projects a project completion date of November 5, 2019. The full-suite of the Democracy System will fully be operational for the March 3, 2020, Presidential Primary Election.

Alameda County
Phase 2 – Project Documentation Plan - Staff Report

Staff Report:

Alameda County's Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan meets the requirements for completeness. The Democracy Suite System is certified for use in California.

A settlement agreement between Alameda County and Diebold Elections Systems, Inc. stipulated that part of the original VMB allocation be deposited back into the VMB Fund. In September 2009, the funds were deposited and set aside in a sub-account with the Secretary of State. Alameda County is requesting the remaining balance from the original VMB allocation in the amount of \$652,257.66.

Alameda began their search for a new voting system in 2013 after experiencing increasing challenges conducting routine maintenance of their existing Sequoia Voting System. Replacement parts were no longer produced by the vendor, leading to the use of refurbished replacement parts from secondhand voting equipment. The Registrar of Voters was left to become self-sufficient in maintaining the hardware, which proved to be both labor intensive and costly. Alameda conducted a thorough search to select a new voting system, and ultimately selected the Dominion Democracy Suite System due to its integrated functionality and flexibility. Alameda entered into agreement with Dominion Voting Systems in December 2018.

Unlike the previous system, the Democracy Suite System is a comprehensive election management suite that performs a range of functions including remote accessible vote-by-mail, print on-demand ballots, efficient vote tabulation and enhanced ballot layout. Through its Audio-Tactile Interface and touch screen display, the Democracy Suite System is accessible for voters with disabilities. Moreover, the system is capable of supporting eight languages, and can be configurable to adjust to possible future language requirements. The new system will assist in establishing a central count model, which will reduce the time to process ballots, leading to more efficient Election Night reporting of results.

An array of outreach efforts to educate and inform voters to introduce the new voting system was completed in 2018, with over 200 events planned to be completed by the end of 2019. Alameda asserts that all outreach events are designed to reach diverse populations of voters including seniors, young adults, people with disabilities, and communities who speak foreign languages. Public outreach events include high school education programs, events at community centers, and citizenship ceremonies. The system was first used in the April 9, 2019, City of Alameda Special Election. The City of Alameda voters overwhelmingly embraced the new voting system and provided positive feedback of their overall voting experience.

Please note that the staff-proposed funding award is based upon allowable reimbursement under Proposition 41 for voting equipment hardware and software only. Alameda County will only receive VMB payments once it has submitted a payment request and it has submitted detailed invoices for its voting equipment.

Staff Recommendation:

It is our recommendation that Alameda County's Phase 2 Project Documentation Plan be approved and a Funding Award Letter be issued in the amount of \$652,257.66