DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

April 4, 2017

TO: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chair
        Supervisor Hilda Solis
        Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
        Supervisor Janice Hahn
        Supervisor Kathryn Barger

        Sachi A. Hamai, Chief Executive Officer

FROM: Dean C. Logan, Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

VSAP Quarterly Report – 1st Quarter, 2017

The following is the first quarterly update of 2017, detailing project activities and accomplishments during the period of December 1, 2016 to February 28, 2017. This report is provided to inform your Board and the public on the progress of the Voting Systems Assessment Project (VSAP). This report is prepared in response to the motion adopted by your Board on September 7, 2010.

During this quarter, the Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk (Department) continued development of a strategy for system implementation, including the competitive solicitation process for system manufacturing and a readiness assessment. Project staff continues to engage the public as important next steps are defined.

Gartner Engagement Update

The Department has continued to work with Gartner in preparation of system manufacturing and implementation. Gartner conducted interviews with Department management in Election Operations, Information Technology and Administration as part of the Readiness Assessment. This evaluation of the organizational and operational readiness will be instrumental in shaping the VSAP Implementation plan which will guide the sourcing strategy and requirements for potential manufacturers in the Request for Proposal (RFP) anticipated during this phase.

Gartner is also conducting a market scan to gauge overall market responsiveness and identify potential manufacturers from traditional and non-traditional voting system market. As a part of this market scan, Gartner conducted an online survey to gather information from potential vendors. In this regard, the Department has amended the current contract with Gartner to extend the term until June 2017 and add to the scope of work a Request for Information (RFI). Your Board was notified of the said amendment for Enterprise Services Master Agreement (ESMA) Work Order 2016-001 on February 16, 2017.

Public Engagement

In this reporting period, the VSAP met with key stakeholders and local communities to provide project updates and conduct system demonstrations.

January 25, 2017 – Community and Voter Outreach Committee (CVOC) Meeting
We informed the members of the CVOC about the Gartner engagement and the ongoing activities in the project as part of the Manufacturing and Certification Phase.

January 30, 2017 – Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) Meeting
The VSAP team updated the VAAC on project developments and community activities. We encouraged the members to stay informed on the project through the quarterly newsletters and the VSAP website.

February 15, 2017 – Los Angeles County Commission on Disabilities
The VSAP was invited by the Commission to conduct a demonstration of the touch screen and audio user interface. Terri Lantz, a member of the VSAP Advisory Committee and Gabriel Taylor, a member of the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC), conducted a presentation on the challenges and barriers to higher voter engagement within the disability community, and how Los Angeles County is overcoming these obstacles through the VSAP and the envisioned new voting experience.

February 16, 2017 – City of Pasadena Special Joint Meeting
Aaron Nevarez, Governmental and Legislative Affairs Manager and VSAP Advisor, discussed the regulatory requirements of the Voter's Choice Act (SB 450) during the Special Joint Meeting of the Pasadena City Council and the Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education. He also presented the components of the new voting experience and the new services that will be in place for future elections. Members of the City Council, Board of Education and the public interacted with the prototype.

Recognition

The VSAP is one of the semifinalists for the 2017 "Innovations in American Government" and the "Roy and Lila Ash Award for Public Engagement in Government." Every year, the Harvard Kennedy School Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation recognizes the top government programs in the nation that uses creative and innovative approaches to address important issues of public concern.

Media Coverage

December 29, 2016 - New Model of Digital Election Equipment Produces Instantly Verifiable Results
http://www.govtech.com/products/New-Model-Digital-Election-Equipment-Produces-Verifiable-Results.html

January 19, 2017 - Los Angeles County Voting System Redesign Enters Solicitation Phase
http://www.govtech.com/products/Los-Angeles-County-Voting-System-Redesign-Enters-Solicitation-Phase.html

VSAP Newsletter

Attached to this report is the latest issue of the quarterly newsletter which is produced to keep the VSAP Advisory Committee, VSAP Technical Advisory Committee and the public informed on activities and developments in the project.

About the VSAP

Launched in September 2009, the Voting Systems Assessment Project (VSAP) was developed by the Department in response to the growing voting system needs and challenges faced by the County. While the County's current voting system has served the voters of Los Angeles County with accuracy and integrity, the design of these systems and the age of their technology do not offer the technical and functional elasticity necessary to continue to accommodate our growing and increasingly diverse electorate.

The size and diversity of Los Angeles County and the limited voting systems market, however, make it almost impossible to reasonably consider a commercial off-the-shelf voting system solution. Any voting system solution will entail a significant development or customization process in order to satisfy the County's needs, General Voting System Principles and technical requirements.

In response to these needs and challenges, the VSAP takes an unprecedented and comprehensive approach at modernizing the County's voting system. The vision of the project is to implement a voting system through a transparent process that takes into account the needs and expectations of current and future Los Angeles County voters. The VSAP aims at achieving three goals in this process: 1) give current and future Los Angeles County voters an unprecedented opportunity to participate in the assessment and development process; 2) increase voter confidence in the electoral process through the participatory structure of the project and; 3) synthesize public input and research to acquire or develop a new voting system for the County.

Stay Connected

More information regarding the Voting System Assessment Project (VSAP) is available to the public online at http://vsap.lavote.net. The pages on our website are frequently updated with news and information and are a great way to stay connected with the progress of the project between quarterly reports. We strongly encourage public input throughout the process and look forward to continuing to work with your Board on this critical project.

If you have any questions, please contact me directly or your staff may contact Kenneth Bennett, Technical Project Manager at kbennett@rrcc.lacounty.gov or (562) 462-6299.

VSAP
ISSUE 8
MARCH 2017

VOTING SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Quarterly Newsletter

MESSAGE *from Dean*

As we continue to prepare for the manufacturing, certification, and implementation of our new system, I would like to pause and recognize the great achievements we have accomplished through this project.

We have remained true to our commitment to design a voting system utilizing a data-driven, collaborative process that centers around the needs of the voter. Through this process, we have designed a truly accessible voting experience that is well aligned with voter behavior and preferences.

The elections community, voting system market and other jurisdictions continue to follow our project and recognize these accomplishments. Most recently, our office received notice that the VSAP was selected to advance as a semi-finalist in the 2017 Innovations in American Government Awards competition, hosted by the Harvard Kennedy School. This was all made possible through your hard work and commitment to the success of modernizing the voting experience for Los Angeles County. Thank you!

DEAN C. LOGAN
Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
Los Angeles County

GARTNER ENGAGEMENT UPDATE

Gartner continues to work with the Department to develop the manufacturing and implementation strategy for the new voting experience. Gartner conducted interviews with Department management in Election Operations, Information Technology and Administration as part of the Readiness Assessment. This evaluation of the County's organizational and operational readiness will be instrumental in shaping the VSAP Implementation plan which will guide the sourcing strategy and requirements for potential manufacturers in the Request for Proposal (RFP) anticipated during this phase.

Gartner also conducted a market scan to gauge overall market responsiveness and identify traditional and non-traditional potential voting system manufacturers. In this regard, the Department has amended the current contract with Gartner to extend the term until June 2017 and add to the scope of work a Request for Information (RFI).

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

We continue to involve communities and organizations for prototype demonstrations and feedback. Our outreach efforts will continue in the new phase of this project.
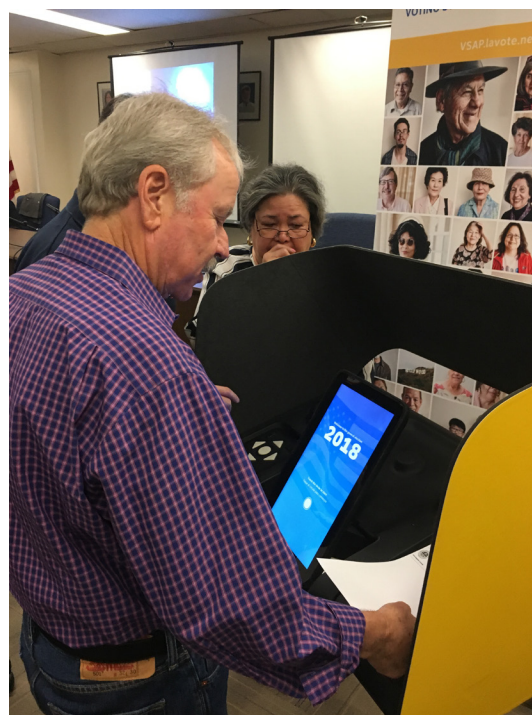
COMMITTEE MEETINGS

We gave a project update to the members of the Community and Voter Outreach Committee (CVOC) on January 25th and to the members of the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) on January 30th. The update provided an overview of milestones and next steps.

PROTOTYPE DEMOS

FEBRUARY 15, 2017
Los Angeles County Commission on Disability

The VSAP was invited by the Commission to conduct a demonstration of the touch screen and audio user interface. Terri Lantz, a member of the VSAP Advisory Committee and Gabriel Taylor, a member of the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC), conducted a presentation on the challenges and barriers to higher voter engagement within the disability community.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

City of Pasadena Special Joint Meeting

Aaron Nevarez, Governmental and Legislative Affairs Manager and VSAP Advisor, discussed the regulatory requirements of the Voter's Choice Act (known as SB 450) during the Special Joint Meeting of the Pasadena City Council and the Pasadena Unified School District Board of Education. Members of the City Council, Board of Education and the public interacted with the prototype.

RECOGNITION

The VSAP is one of the semifinalists for the 2017 "Innovations in American Government" and the "Roy and Lila Ash Award for Public Engagement in Government." Every year, the Harvard Kennedy School Ash Center for Democratic Governance and Innovation recognizes top government programs in the nation that use creative and innovative approaches to address important issues of public concern.

VSAP
VOTING SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Creating the Voting Experience of the Future

IN THE NEWS

January 19, 2017 - Los Angeles County Voting System Redesign Enters Solicitation Phase
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December 29, 2016 - New Model of Digital Election Equipment Produces Instantly Verifiable Results
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FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

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STAY CONNECTED

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR NEW WEBSITE?

Get the latest updates and project developments at **VSAP.lavote.net**

You can view an animated video of LA County's future voting experience. Learn more about the project, access full research reports, media coverage and read the blogs from our team and committee members.

INTERESTED IN SHARING YOUR THOUGHTS ON THE PROJECT?

Submit at **vsap@rrcc.lacounty.gov** to be featured on our blog.