



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder



Date: April 3, 2014
Board Meeting Date: May 20, 2014
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Mark Church, Assessor-County Clerk-Recorder & Chief Elections Officer

Subject: Acceptance of a Help America Vote Act 303(a) Grant for a maximum of \$52,764.61.

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing:

- A) The County of San Mateo to receive a \$52,764.61 grant from the California Secretary of State under Section 303(a) of the Help America Vote Act to help implement the VoteCal Statewide Voter Registration System; and
- B) The Chief Elections Officer to execute an agreement with the California Secretary of State to receive said grant.

BACKGROUND:

In 2014 the Secretary of State of California was awarded funds under Section 303(a) of the Help America Vote Act and allocated those funds on a proportional basis. On February 12, 2014, the Secretary of State awarded San Mateo County a grant for up to \$52,764.61 contingent upon execution of an agreement which governs use of the grant. The grant (the "HAVA 303(a) Grant") may be used by the Registration & Elections Division (the "Elections Division") to cover the cost associated with attending VoteCal Advisory Group activities and meetings, participating in VoteCal solution training and testing, and converting County data to the statewide VoteCal database.

DISCUSSION:

Section 303(a) of the Help America Vote Act requires that each state election official implement a computerized statewide voter registration list that contains the registration information for every legally registered voter in the state. The HAVA 303(a) Grant will allow the Registration & Elections Division to assist the state election official in compliance with the requirements of Section 303(a). All expenditures under this grant must be made by June 30, 2016, and only actual expenses (including travel costs and staff salary and benefits) are reimbursable.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution and Agreement as to form.

Approval of this Resolution and Agreement contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Collaborative Community by ensuring that the state and the county are in compliance with all federal and state regulations

PERFORMANCE MEASURE(S):

Measure	FY 2012-13 Actual	FY 2013-14 Projected
Percent of eligible voters registered to vote.	75%	72%

An estimated 3% drop in the percentage of voter registration is typical within a 4-year election cycle where voter interest diminishes after a presidential election. The percentage will rise slightly, to 73%, with the Gubernatorial General Election in FY 2014-15.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This agreement has no Net County Cost.