



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



**Date:** December 16, 2015

**Board Meeting Date:** January 26, 2016

**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 Accessibility Grant

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a resolution authorizing:

- A) The County of San Mateo to receive a \$25,865.20 grant from the California Secretary of State under Section 261 of the Help America Vote Act to improve election accessibility for individuals with disabilities; and
- B) The Chief Elections Officer to execute an Agreement with the California Secretary of State to receive said grant.

**BACKGROUND:**

On March 27, 2015, the Chief Elections Officer applied to the California Secretary of State for a grant pursuant to Section 261 of the Help America Vote Act ("HAVA") to address election accessibility for individuals with disabilities. On November 16, 2015, the Secretary of State approved of the grant request in the amount of \$25,865.20 contingent upon execution of an agreement which governs use of the grant. This contract reflects an agreement term: November 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016. The grant (the "HAVA 261 Grant") may be used by the Registration & Elections Division (the "Elections Division") for accessibility improvements to county website, public advertising of information on accessibility of polling places and voting, surveying polling places, attending Secretary of State-sponsored polling place surveyor training, purchasing equipment to improve accessibility to polling places (including signage), and developing voter education or poll worker training programs related to polling place accessibility.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Elections Division regularly engages in the public advertisement of information on the accessibility of polling places and voting. The Elections Division uses [www.shapethefuture.org](http://www.shapethefuture.org) to inform the public about voting and elections. The HAVA 261

Grant will allow the Elections Division to improve the website, inform the public about voting and polling place accessibility, and purchase additional equipment to improve polling places accessibility. All purchases under the grant must be made between November 1, 2015, and June 30, 2016.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution and agreement as to form.

Approval of this resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 Outcome of a Collaborative Community by ensuring that the County's polling places are in compliance with federal and state regulations regarding accessibility.

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES:**

<b>Measure</b>	<b>FY 2014-15 Actual</b>	<b>FY 2015-16 Projected</b>
<b>Percent of progress toward ensuring polling places are in compliance with federal and state regulations.</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

This agreement has no net county cost.