



VSAP

ISSUE 7
DECEMBER 2016

VOTING SYSTEMS ASSESSMENT PROJECT

Quarterly Newsletter

IN THIS ISSUE

Message from Dean

Kickoff Meeting
with Gartner

Public Engagement

Special News

Phase III Report

Stay Connected

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MESSAGE *from Dean*

The recently concluded November General Election presented valuable insights that are significant to the VSAP. During this election, we expanded on election services by providing voters new opportunities to cast a ballot. Voters responded well to the expansion of election services such as early voting and ballot drop-off locations. Over 25,357 voters cast a ballot at an early voting location. This validates the need to expand beyond the one-day, one-location polling place model and the necessity of providing services that are better aligned with the lifestyle of our voters. The VSAP's vision is to create a voting experience that responds well to our voter's expectations, while ensuring transparency and accountability.

This newsletter provides an update on project milestones and activities during this past quarter. Moving forward to 2017, we anticipate another year of collaboration with various stakeholders and the public as we tackle this critical stage in the project. As always, your feedback and involvement is highly encouraged and appreciated.

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

KICKOFF MEETING WITH GARTNER

We officially kicked-off the VSAP Manufacturing and Certification Phase (Phase IV). To kick-off this phase, on October 24th, the VSAP team met with Gartner to discuss the activities and tasks for the next few months.

Gartner is an information technology research and advisory company who will assist with the development of a sourcing strategy and implementation plan for the new voting experience designed through the VSAP. To achieve this goal, through this engagement, Gartner will conduct a departmental readiness assessment and a market scan of potential manufacturers to build the different components of the new voting system.



Gartner Team tours the Election Operations Center (EOC) where the different polling place supplies, equipment, and current voting system is maintained and stored.

The work continues as we discuss the critical next steps in the project for the Manufacturing and Certification Phase.



PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

It was an eventful quarter with numerous election-related activities. We continue to involve communities and organizations for prototype demonstrations and feedback. Our comprehensive outreach efforts continue in this new phase of the project.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS

We gave a project update to the members of the Community and Voter Outreach Committee (CVOC) on October 5th and to the members of the Voting Accessibility Advisory Committee (VAAC) on October 12th. The update provided an overview of milestones and next steps.

PROTOTYPE DEMOS

SEPTEMBER 27, 2016

National Voter Registration Day (NVRD)



Prototypes were on display during a departmental National Voter Registration (NVRD) event to encourage widespread voter registration. Organizations, County staff, media, and the public experienced a simulated voting exercise using the BMD.

OCTOBER 3, 2016

Department of Human Resources ePR Kickoff Meeting

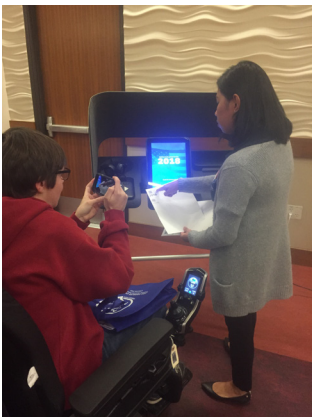
Department of Human Resources staff interacted with the prototype during on-site visit. Participants were impressed with the look and feel of the voting system.



OCTOBER 3, 2016

“Politics Meet Tech” Event at USC

PoliNav, an organization who aims to keep voters informed about the legislative process hosted an event to showcase current technologies such as mobile apps and online platforms that seek to increase voter participation, awareness on current issues, voter guide on candidates and measures on the ballot, as well as other technologies that help safeguard human rights. During this event, we provided attended demonstrations of the BMD and presented on overview of the project.



Monica Flores, VSAP Project Manager, gave a presentation about the project to USC students and other organizations present at the event.

PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

OCTOBER 13, 2016 Civil Grand Jury Tour

The VSAP team prepared a display of the voting system for the Civil Grand Jury and gave a demonstration of the new voting experience.

OCTOBER 18, 2016 Communities Actively Living Independent and Free (CALIF)

CALIF invited the VSAP team to conduct a demonstration of the BMD prototype touch screen and audio interface. The members of the organization were happy to learn about the Interactive Sample Ballot, Early Voting and Vote Centers which would greatly benefit their community.



OCTOBER 21, 2016

Cambodian Journalists Visit



Kenneth Bennett, VSAP IT Project Manager, explained the step-by-step voting process to the Cambodian Journalists during their tour of the Department.



OCTOBER 27, 2016

Los Angeles County Management Council (LACMC) Fall Educational Conference

The VSAP team demonstrated the voting process on the Ballot Marking Device (BMD) and its other features such as the Interactive Sample Ballot (ISB) and the audio user interface to fellow LA County employees who attended the LACMC Fall Conference.

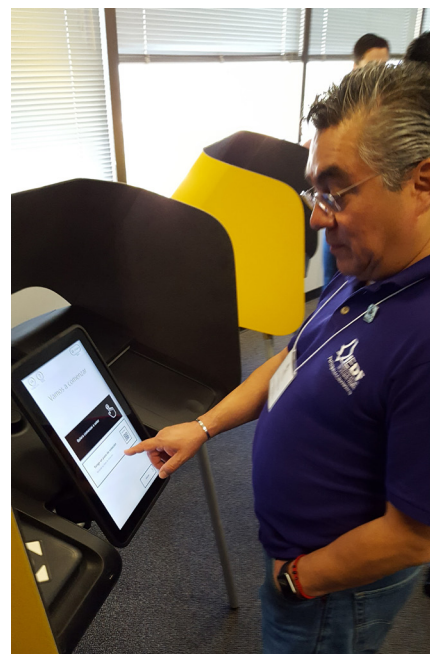


Managers from different County Departments learned more about the VSAP through a presentation given by Jeramy Gray, Principal Project Manager.

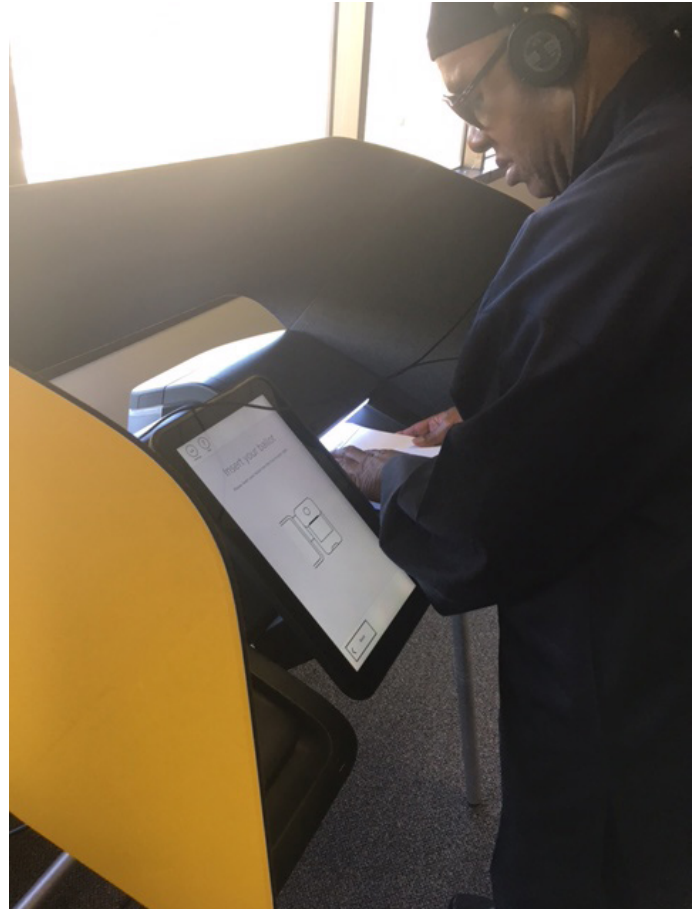
PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

NOVEMBER 5, 2016 Mexico Study Group

We provided an overview presentation and BMD demos to a group of elected officials and election administrators who visited us as a study group. Participants were excited about the project and are interested in continued discussions to share best practices.



SPECIAL NEWS



Musical legend Stevie Wonder dropped by the office where we had the opportunity to share the BMD with him. He used the BMD audio interface and the tactile keypad to simulate the voting experience. We explained to him the process and the accessibility features of the system. He was impressed by the features of the device and indicated his support for the project.

PHASE III REPORT

We released our official report on the System Design and Engineering Phase. This report sums up all Phase III activities including user testing, committee meetings, community engagement activities and the design evolution of the system. Most importantly, the report provides comprehensive information on the various components of the new voting experience which will change the way Los Angeles electorate will vote in future elections.

You may access the Phase III Report on the VSAP website:

<http://vsap.lavote.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/VSAP-Phase-III-Report.pdf>

IN THE NEWS

The link below provide access to the news article that features the VSAP:

November 1, 2016 - Voting Technology Needs an Upgrade, But Who Will Pay for It?

<http://www.governing.com/topics/elections/gov-voting-technology-machines.html>

STAY CONNECTED

HAVE YOU VISITED OUR NEW WEBSITE?

Get the latest updates and project developments at [VSAP.lavote.net](https://vsap.lavote.net)

You can view an animated video of the envisioned future voting experience in LA County. 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 it at vsap@rrcc.lacounty.gov to be featured on our blog.

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