VSAP Request for Information for VSAP
Questions submitted by Vendors -- Responses due to Vendors 5/19/17

#	Question	Company	Response
1	Is it possible to get a list of all the vendor attendees that were at the meeting?	Smartmatic	Yes. The list of vendors who attended Vendor Day will be posted on the VSAP RFI website (vsap.lavote.net/request-for-information/)
2	Can we get paper specifications for Thermal paper to be used in the ballot marking device at vote centers	Provote	Please see Section 2.2.2 of the RFI. Ballot size: 8" x 11" (for 55 contests and less) and 8" x 13.25" (for up to 75 contests). Stock will be thermal paper with a thickness between 143 to 175 μm. Top surface coatings: Paper will have thermal coating that is suitable for sharp resolution printing to accommodate QR codes and single pixel font line weights. Paper will also have a topcoat to protect the thermal layer during pre and post election handling and storage. Back surface coating: Sourced paper will have no coating on the back surface to enable a unique ballot ID to be inkjet printed during tally.
3	Can we get paper samples of the Thermal paper to be used in the ballot marking device at vote centers or the name of the paper supplier you worked with.	Provote	RR/CC has thermal paper samples available. Vendors interested in receiving a sample should contact RR/CC to make shipping or pick-up arrangements.
4	Can we get paper specifications for VBM ballots	Provote	Ballot size: 8" x 11", and 10.5" x 17". Secrecy sleeve: small and large sizes. Outbound envelope: No. 10 and No. 14 sizes. Return envelope: No. 9 and No. 12 sizes.
5	Does the county have an interest in adding security features to the ballot stock for either Vote centers or VBM ballots	Provote	The County has not considered additional security features in detail. Vendors are encouraged to provide their proposal in their RFI response.
6	We know the Executive Summary is limited to 10 pages. Are there any other page limit restrictions – can responses to specific template items be long in nature?	Smartmatic	No, there are no page restrictions aside from the Executive Summary.
7	When will current detailed design specifications and code developed to date be available to better understand the true scope of the VSAP effort covered under the RFI?	Smartmatic	The County is considering providing relevant portions of the Software Solution Design Documents (SSDD) as part of the contract solicitation. It does not intend to share it as part of the RFI process. Distribution of the SSDD will require signing of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) by a Corporate Officer and the individual Consultant.
8	Does the county still plan on central tabulation for all ballots?	Smartmatic	Yes, the County still plans on central tabulation. However, the County is considering distributed scanning of the paper ballots to electronic format.
9	How many vote centers does the County expect to have in place by the 2018 or 2020 general elections?	Smartmatic	The County will not implement Vote Centers as defined by the Voters' Choice Act prior to 2020. In the 2020 General Election, the County estimates approximately 900 Vote Centers. That estimate will be refined as the project progresses.
10	On average, how many Ballot Marking Devices would the County expect to have at a Vote Center?	Smartmatic	The County is currently estimating approximately 20 Ballot Marking Devices (BMDs), on average, per Vote Center. That estimate will be refined as the project progresses.

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11	On average, how many Ballot Activation Mechanisms would the County expect to have at a Vote Center?	Smartmatic	One (1) Ballot Activation Mechanism (BAM) printer will function as a peripheral printing device to the ePollbook. The County anticipates having approximately two (2) to four (4) ePollbooks per Vote Center, assuming 20 BMDs on average. That estimate will be refined as the project progresses.
12	How would the County envision selected vendor(s) working with IDEO on completing detailed development efforts?	Smartmatic	The County has entered into contract with IDEO for design stewardship. IDEO will be available to the awarded Systems Integrator to answer questions relating to the design of the voting system. IDEO will also assist the County in making design-related decision with respect to production engineering and manufacturing.
13	Can this support be provided from overseas (such as Panama, México)? Reference: Page 15 - Tier 2 Help Desk Tier 2 support for the solution the SI has developed	Smartmatic	Please see Section 3.4 of the RFI. The County is seeking candid feedback from the vendor community on any issues or challenges related to prohibition or limitations of offshore development or business operations services. The RFI Response Template includes questions related to the implications of prohibiting offshore development or services. Respondents are encouraged to provide input.
14	What is the expected scope and SLA for this support? Reference: Page 15 - VSAP Ongoing Maintenance and Support Ongoing Maintenance and Support of all software and hardware components within the Systems Integrator's scope	Smartmatic	Please see Section 2.2.2 of the RFI. The Service Level Requirements (SLRs) have not been defined, but will be provided in a resulting contract solicitation.
15	What is the expected scope and SLA for this support? Reference: Page 15 - VSAP Ongoing Maintenance and Support Servicing and repair of BMDs	Smartmatic	Please see Section 2.2.2 of the RFI. The Service Level Requirements (SLRs) have not been defined, but will be provided in a resulting contract solicitation.
16	What is the expected limitations for the Development under this circumstance? Reference: Page 26 - Offshore Development	Smartmatic	Please see Section 3.4 of the RFI. The County is seeking candid feedback from the vendor community on any issues or challenges related to prohibition or limitations of offshore development or business operations services. The RFI Response Template includes questions related to the implications of prohibiting offshore development or services. Respondents are encouraged to provide input.
17	Does the County envision that the advanced prototypes will be the starting point for developing the final solution or are the prototypes envision used as a reference model for the eventual solution?	CGI	The County expects the awarded vendor to produce a production unit with the highest fidelity to the design validation units (prototypes) and the Ballot Marking Device specifications as defined in the Software Solution Design Documents (SSDD). As such, the design validation units should serve as both a starting point and reference model for eventual solution implementation.
18	Given the complex nature of the system that has been envisioned, it is naturally difficult to convey, through a written response to the RFI, all of the critical factors involved in achieving success with this project. As such, in addition to submitting a response to the RFI in writing, we would like to know if interested vendors could schedule an in-person presentation to Los Angeles County staff for the purpose of providing deeper explanations of the responses contained in their respective RFI responses, as well as to more fully explain their intent to bid (should an RFP come forward) and their approach to fulfilling Los Angeles County's vision for a new voting system?	ESS	After reviewing the RFI responses, the County will consider making requests for in-person presentations from vendors about which the County believes additional information or clarification is required.
19	Do you have any documents or specifications related to the scanner portion of the RFI?	Brother	Assuming this refers to the internal scanner component of the BMD. See response to #21 below.

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20	What are the dimensional constraints for the BMD available?	Brother	Assuming this refers to the dimensional constraints for the printer within the BMD. The County is currently determining the level of detailed information it can provide as part of this RFI to provide vendors with a better understanding of the footprint of the BMD. If information is made available, it will be posted in the RFI Library.
21	Can you share the source and part numbers and/or the specifications of the components that are currently being used in the prototype?	Brother	The County is considering providing the specifications of the components used in the design validation units as part of the contract solicitation. It does not intend to share it as part of the RFI process. Release of this information will require signing of a Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) by a Corporate Officer and the individual Consultant.
22	We may want to integrate some components that you have already selected. Can you verify the completeness of the BMD Prototype components list and their functions in the table below?	Brother	See answer to #21.

Component	Action(s)	Vendor/Part #	
Tablet/Screen	User Interface		
CPU/PC/OS	Controls the Tablet/Screen		
CPU Microcontroller	Controls the printer, paper handler, paper diverter, page scanner, and all the sensors.		
Thermal Printer	Prints the resulting ballot for voting.		
Printhead Lifter	Lifts the printhead so that the ballot may pass freely through the printing mechanism.		
Paper Handler	Moves paper in and out of the BMD.		
Paper Diverter	Diverts paper under the loading tray so that it is inaccessible to the voter while waiting for the voting to be complete for printing.		
Full Page Scanner	Scans Ballot QR Code and scans the printed ballot.		
Ballot Box Closed Sensor	Senses whether the ballot box is closed and locked.		
Ballot Box Level Sensor	Senses whether the ballot box is full or not.		