

**IT INVESTMENT CAPITAL FUND
PROJECT STATUS REPORT**

To: Information Technology Strategy and Investment Committee
John Vittner, Office of Policy & Management

FROM: Peggy Reeves

AGENCY/PROJECT NAME: SOTS / Improving Voter Service at Polling Places

PROJECT MANAGER: Peggy Reeves

REPORTING PERIOD: Project Inception through 12/31/2015

Total Funds Requested: \$ 4,550,000

Bond Commission Approval(s): Date: Sept. 2015 Amount: \$ 4,550,000

Accumulative Total Capital Fund Expenditures to Date: \$ 0

Brief Project Description/Summary: Electronic poll books provide the means for checking and managing voter registration records at the polling locations on Election Day. Currently the check-in system is completed manually with paper and pen and requires several poll workers to administer. Voters are divided into two or more lines based on their residential street name. At peak voting times, and during high turnout elections, this is an inefficient and sometimes confusing process that perpetuates long wait times, which, in turn will cause many to leave without voting. An unfortunate experience such as long wait times will also factor into the individual's likelihood of voting in the future. Electronic poll books will improve the speed of service to voters, without the need to separate voters in lines by street name because each poll worker involved in the check in process will have access to the entire voting list for the district. The poll books will also improve the speed and accuracy of post-election data reports such as turnout percentages and voter history. Currently that process is done manually and is quite laborious for the Registrars of Voters and poll workers.

Summary of Progress Achieved to Date: The Office of the Secretary of the State has published Requirement Specifications for an electronic poll book system. Solutions have been submitted by third party vendors and are being evaluated against the requirements specified in that Document. The University of Connecticut Center for Voting Technology Research (VoTeR Center) is performing the evaluation of vendor solutions. Two evaluations have been completed and documented. One evaluation was completed and documentation is in progress. There are two systems currently being evaluated.

Issues and Risks: None at this time

Next Steps & Project Milestones: The immediate next steps are to document the evaluation of the third submitted system, and complete the evaluation of the two remaining systems (VoTeR Center, expected with a few weeks). Once the five evaluation reports are complete, the Office of the Secretary of the State will make the determination and decide on the next steps.