

**WA OSOS RFI 16-04 Elections Modernization System
Amendment 5
Q&A November 12, 2015**

Q36: The RFI states "County ballot creation and Tabulation systems are the only elections systems excluded from the scope of this RFI." Please expand on how ballot creation systems are excluded from the scope as it is apparent that Online Ballot Delivery support is within scope.

A36: Tabulation systems are the only systems excluded from this RFI. We will amend the RFI accordingly.

Q37: Please provide clarification on the signature verification requirements.

A37: Some Washington counties have explored using automated signature verification systems, however no counties are currently using them. Please respond to this RFI indicating best practices associated with the use of these processes. Please indicate if this would be a feature that drastically increases our cost, within your response to request number 2.

Q38: Does Washington request the right for additional deliberation after the RFI submission period?

A38: Yes. We may choose to ask vendors follow-up questions pertaining to their RFI responses.

Q39: Will counties be able to keep their existing solutions?

A39: We do not have an answer to this question yet. The Counties and OSOS have worked together as a team on this effort. Together, we have been disciplined to not make system architecture decisions (a single system, existing systems...). We will use vendor responses to the RFI to complete our set of business requirements. We will then use vendor responses to our complete set of business requirements, via the anticipated RFP, to select the vendor recommendation we believe best satisfies the Counties and OSOS business requirements. An answer to this question will become clear as we learn more from the vendor marketplace as to what solutions they believe best satisfy Washington's needs and desires.

Q40: We have assumed that Washington is looking for a top-down, single system.

A40: Please do not make this assumption. There is some sense of security in the existing model, where Washington State Counties have 3 VR/EMS solutions to choose from. The vendors in place are aware that if their county customers are not satisfied, the county can choose to work with one of the other three vendors. Likewise, Washington counties range in size from 1.8 million registered voters to 1,000 registered voters. There is a high degree of variation in the needs of counties at opposite ends of this spectrum. Small counties like that they don't have to wait in line behind a very large county to have their phone calls returned. Likewise, large counties have needs that small counties do not so that a solution geared to small counties would not satisfy the needs of the largest counties. However, the existing system lacks the interoperability and sustainability that we acknowledge we need. Requirements 1, 2, 4 and 32 are examples of reference to this need.

As stated in Answer 39, we have not made any system architecture decisions. We have not crafted our business requirements with a leaning towards a particular system architecture. We will look to the vendor marketplace to assess our business requirements and recommend the solutions that you believe to best satisfy our requirements.

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Q41: Is internet voting a requirement for Washington? Some of the business requirements suggest that it is. For example, requirement 419, "System must provide a means for displaying a voter-specific, electronically delivered, online markable ballot."

A41: No, internet voting is not a requirement and is not included in our requirements documentation. The cited requirement pertains to a Move Act compliant ballot and the ability to deliver a blank ballot to a voter.

Q42: Is Washington State looking to be the administrator of the replacement system?

A42: We have not made a decision on this topic yet. We have requested vendor recommendations regarding system support. We will use responses to the RFI to guide our decision on this topic. See RFI request 10 on page 6.

Q43: Will the payment for the system be strictly state funded?

A43: We have not made a decision on this topic yet. We have requested vendor recommendations regarding system funding and cost distribution, based upon your observations of best practices. See RFI request 7 on page 5. In conjunction with vendor RFI responses, we have engaged a County and OSOS task team that is working towards a recommendation for Washington State Elections Officials pertaining to funding and cost distribution.

Q44: Who was the Apparently Successful Contractor for RFP 14-13 for Business Analysis and Business Requirements?

A44: Quest Information Systems, Inc. was the ASC for RFP 14-13.