From: Commissioner Jerdonek
Date: May 11, 2023

Subject: Information Not Carried Over to Department's New SFGov Site

The purpose of this memo is to document for the record some information that used to be on the Department's website but that doesn't currently seem to be online anymore after the Department's switch to the new SFGov website. It would be good if this information can be restored because of its importance.
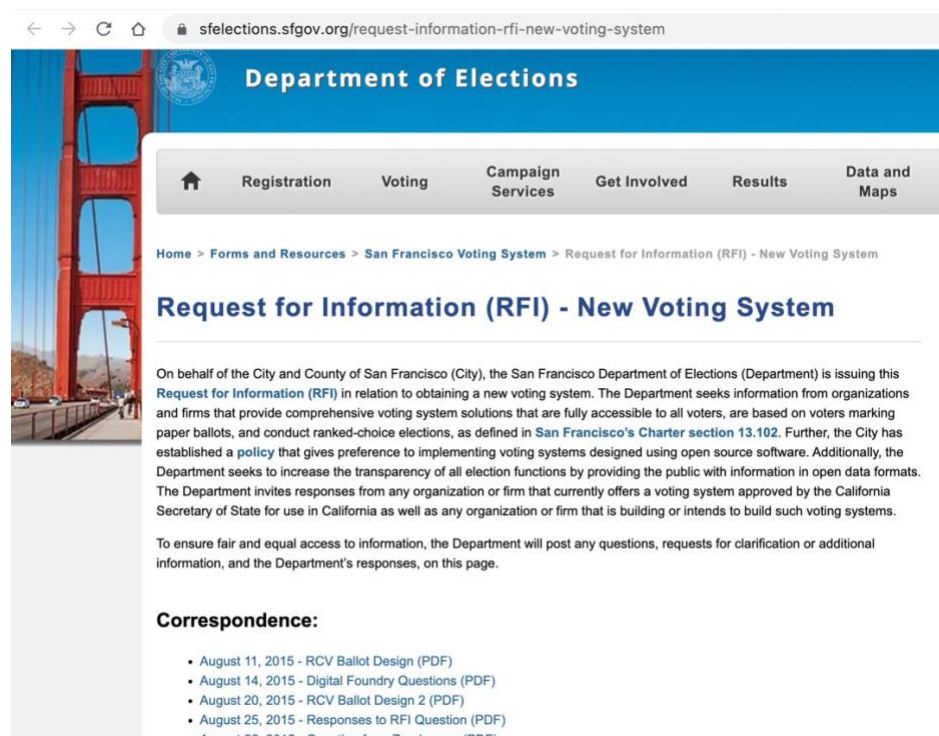
Background

At the April Commission meeting, the Commission discussed the Department's upcoming transition to the new SFGov website. During the meeting, I mentioned that the Department's website includes a lot of valuable historical information, including around past voting system RFPs, and I asked if that information would be preserved. Director Arntz assured us that no content would be lost.

Information about August 2015 Voting System RFI

In August 2015, the Department issued a press release and RFI for a new voting system. The RFI was important in part because it highlighted the City's policy preference for open-source systems. Several individuals and organizations responded to the RFI with questions and proposals for open source systems, including CAVO, PRIME III, Alan Dechert, Digital Foundry, Galois, and OSET Foundation. However, the RFI and the various responses don't seem to be available online anymore after the Department's switch to SFGov. For example, Google searches didn't seem to pull the pages up anymore, and the link that was on the old website didn't have an analog on the new website.

The following pages contain screenshots of the old and new websites.

Below are screenshots of the old website's pages about the RFI.

Here you can see links to the correspondence, responses, and comments to the RFI. A number of these are about open-source voting and can't be found elsewhere.

Press release on the old website about the RFI:

San Francisco Department of Elections Issued a Request for Information Regarding Obtaining New Voting System

Thursday, August 06, 2015

Department of Elections
City and County of San Francisco
John Arntz, Director

For Immediate Release

SAN FRANCISCO, Thursday, August 6, 2015 – The Department of Elections has issued a Request for Information (RFI) regarding the City and County of San Francisco obtaining a new voting system.

The Department seeks information from organizations and firms that provide comprehensive voting system solutions that are fully accessible to all voters, are based on voters marking paper ballots, and conduct ranked-choice elections, as defined in San Francisco's Charter section 13.102. Further, the City has established a policy that gives preference to implementing voting systems designed using open source software. Additionally, the Department seeks to increase the transparency of all election functions by providing the public with information in open data formats. The Department invites responses from any organization or firm that currently offers a voting system approved by the California Secretary of State for use in California as well as any organization or firm that is building or intends to build such voting systems.

The RFI is posted on *sfelections.org/rfi/votingsystem*. The deadline to submit a response to this RFI is August 28, 2015.

To ensure fair and equal access to information, the Department will post any questions, requests for clarification or additional information regarding this RFI, and the Department's responses on *sfelections.org/rfi/votingsystem*.

Here is the page on the old website that links to the RFI page above. The item circled in red is what links to that page.

Below is the new, SFGov version of the page above. You can see that the item circled in red is missing from the page below.