



# VSAP Advisory Committee Panel Discussion

## Addressing Challenges to Voting Systems Innovation

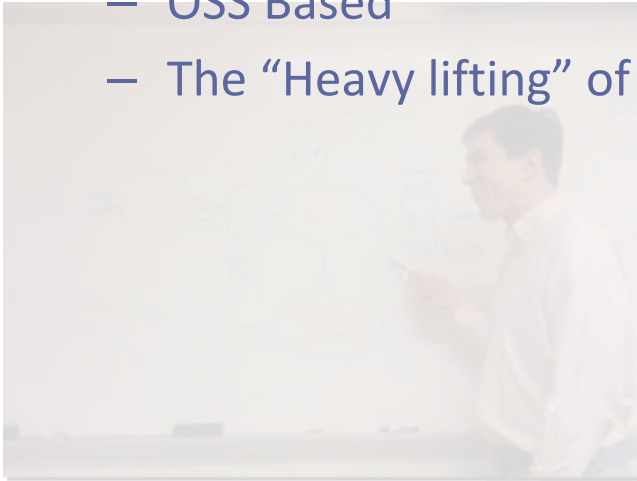
L.A. County Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk

04.Nov.2011



# What the OSDV Foundation Does

- Non-Profit, supporting the TrustTheVote Project
  - Developing Publicly Owned Elections Technology Framework
  - To Achieve Accuracy, Transparency, Verification, and Security
  - OSS Based
  - The “Heavy lifting” of R&D



# The TrustTheVote Project Vision

- Elections technology is *Critical Democracy Infrastructure*
  - Open Source Software Built on Commodity Hardware
  - Ballot of Record: a Physical Paper Artifact
  - Open Common Data Format Model
  - Adaptable Framework to Fit Any Jurisdictional Requirement
  - Componentized Certification Process
  - Catalyze Innovation and Encourage Interoperability



# Why is there little innovation in the voting systems market?

- Voting technology market is **malformed** and **dysfunctional**
  - No business incentive or mandate to innovate
  - Size of Market Opportunity Suppresses R&D investment
  - Structural Barriers to New Entrants
  - Innovation amounts to a negotiation over spare parts



# What could voting system innovation look like?

Travis County, Texas November 2, 2010 Election Day Results

**Scoreboard**

Local	State	Federal
<b>Precinct 324 38% Reporting</b>		
<b>Governor</b>		
Rick Perry	Republican	237 55.2%
Bill White	Democrat	163 38.0%
Kathie Glass	Libertarian	29 6.5%
Dan Shultz	Green	0 0.0%
Andy Starn	Other	1 0.2%
<b>Lieutenant Governor</b>		
David Dewhurst	Republican	260 65.1%
Linda Chavez-Thompson	Democrat	118 27.4%
Scott Jamerson	Libertarian	27 6.5%
Herb Gonzales, Jr	Green	5 1.2%
<b>United States Representative</b>		
Michael McCaul	Republican	277 66.5%
Ted Amodeo	Democrat	123 29.4%
Jessamyn Luff Perkins	Libertarian	18 4.3%
<b>Attorney General</b>		
Greg Abbott	Republican	298 69.6%
Stephany Ann Radtke	Democrat	112 26.2%
Jan Ralston	Libertarian	18 4.2%
<b>Comptroller Of Public Accounts</b>		
Susan Combs	Republican	298 78.6%
Mary J. Rowatt	Libertarian	41 10.8%

**Gubernatorial Race**

Perry 237  
White 163

Public Book

ch

First Name Address

464 P St. NW, Apt 1A, Washington, DC 20004

987 New Hampshire Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20004

3362 Allison St. NW, Washington, DC 20004

Public, John Q. 142 N St., Washington, DC 20004

Public, Karen L. 12 Girard St. NW, Washington, DC 20004

Public, Karl S. 45 N St., Washington, DC 20004

District of Columbia, November 9 Election

**John Q. Public**  
142 N Street  
Washington, DC 20004

Warning

You can be fined up to \$20,000 and/or jailed for up to five (5) years if you are convicted of any of the following:

- Making false statements about your qualifications for voting
- Voting or trying to vote more than once
- Bribe or intimidating any voter
- Hiding any of the votes cast in the election

Signature *John Q. Public*

I certify that I am the individual named above.

Print Ballot  
Polling Place Map

NY General Election

National  
State  
Local  
Sample Ballot

or

In legislature of the United States. Senators are present for activities, and research and structure legislation.

**Matthew Galligan**  
Democrat

**Karen Servantes**  
Socialist

**Dustin Mendel**  
Libertarian

**John Lanahan**  
Green

**Matthew Galligan**  
Platform: Make New York affordable and livable. Provide quality education. Improve access to social services. Ensure public safety.

**Karen Servantes**  
Platform: Make New York safe and healthier. Support NYC residents through rent control. Maintain free public NY education.

**Dustin Mendel**  
Platform: Address city economic crisis. End corrupt police government. Reduce City Council.

**John Lanahan**  
Platform: Access to safety and healthy living. Provide affordable housing. Create sustainable jobs and a secure economic future.



# What could voting system innovation look like?

- Enormous wealth of digital innovation available

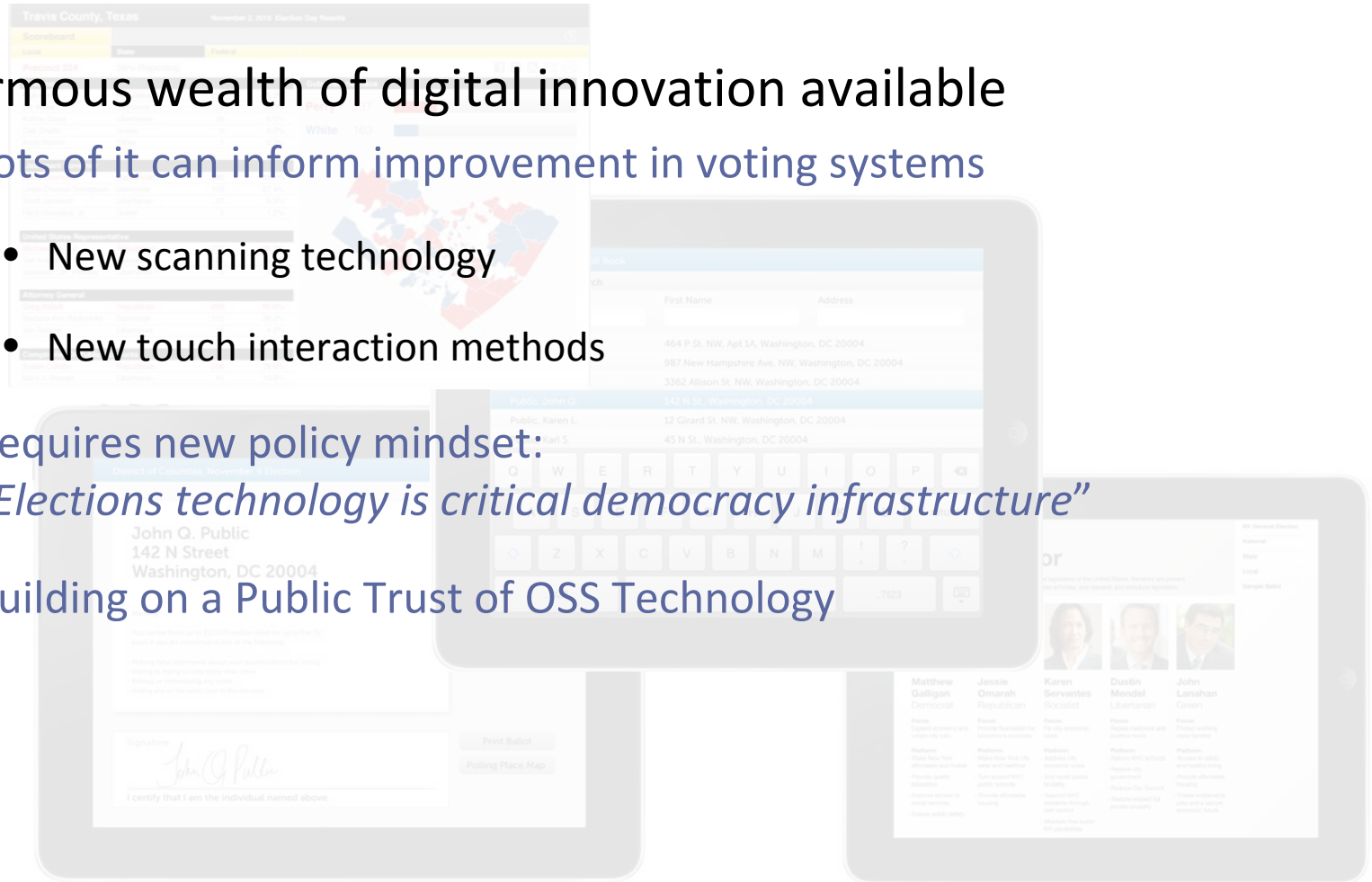
- Lots of it can inform improvement in voting systems

- New scanning technology
- New touch interaction methods

- Requires new policy mindset:

*“Elections technology is critical democracy infrastructure”*

- Building on a Public Trust of OSS Technology



# What could spur innovation?

- Restructuring current industry through OSS technology
  - Restructure cannot occur through legislation or regulation
  - Best through a well-funded public digital works project
  - OSS refocuses industry on business of adaptation, deployment and support



# What could spur innovation?

*Continued...*

- Open Source is *not*, in-of-itself, sufficient!
  - The typical processes of OSS development are insufficient.
  - Requires combination of Cathedral and Bazaar approaches.
  - Restructuring certification process can help...





# What is your view of the certification process?

- 2 Words: **archaic** and **hindering**
  - Fails to address a growing mandate of modularity
  - Creates artificial barriers to entry and innovation
  - Exacerbates the deployment cycle
  - Certification needs reinvention



# How can the certification process encourage innovation?

- **Benefits of rethinking certification**
  - Enables new market entrants
  - New entrants = new innovations
  - Componentizing focuses on the parts rather than monolithic whole
  - Creates cycle-time reduction and speeds innovation
  - Catalyzes deployment of common data formats model
  - Encourage interoperability
  - Breathes new life into voting system industry





# VSAP Advisory Addressing

Addressing

L.A. County



# Panel Discussion on Voting Systems

County Clerk

04.Nov.2011

