

SOS/FPPC CARS Solution Overview

April 10, 2025



CARS

CAL-ACCESS REPLACEMENT SYSTEM
CALIFORNIA SECRETARY OF STATE



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Agenda

- Welcome, Background and Introductions
- CARS Opportunities
- Prime Vendor Presentation
- Current Project Status
- Questions and Answers



The Political Reform Division

- Dedicated to upholding transparency, accountability, and integrity in California's political process.
- Serves as the filing Officer for all state-level campaign and lobbying reporting
- Works closely with the FPPC to provide filings for audits and investigations



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CAL-ACCESS

- The California Automated Lobbyist and Campaign Contribution and Expenditure Search System (CAL-ACCESS)
- The public's window into California's campaign disclosure and lobbying financial activity
- Being replaced to provide a user-friendly, data-driven system
- FPPC Staff involved on a regular and reoccurring basis



Executive Sponsors

Lisa Martin, *Chief Deputy Secretary of State*

Reginald Fair, *Deputy Secretary of State for Operations*



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Project Leadership

Margie Hieter, *Political Reform Division Chief & Project Sponsor*

Tristian Cormier, *Chief Information Officer*

Harjit Basi, *Project Director*

Denise Tower, *CGI Project Director*

John Heinlein, *Assistant Project Director*



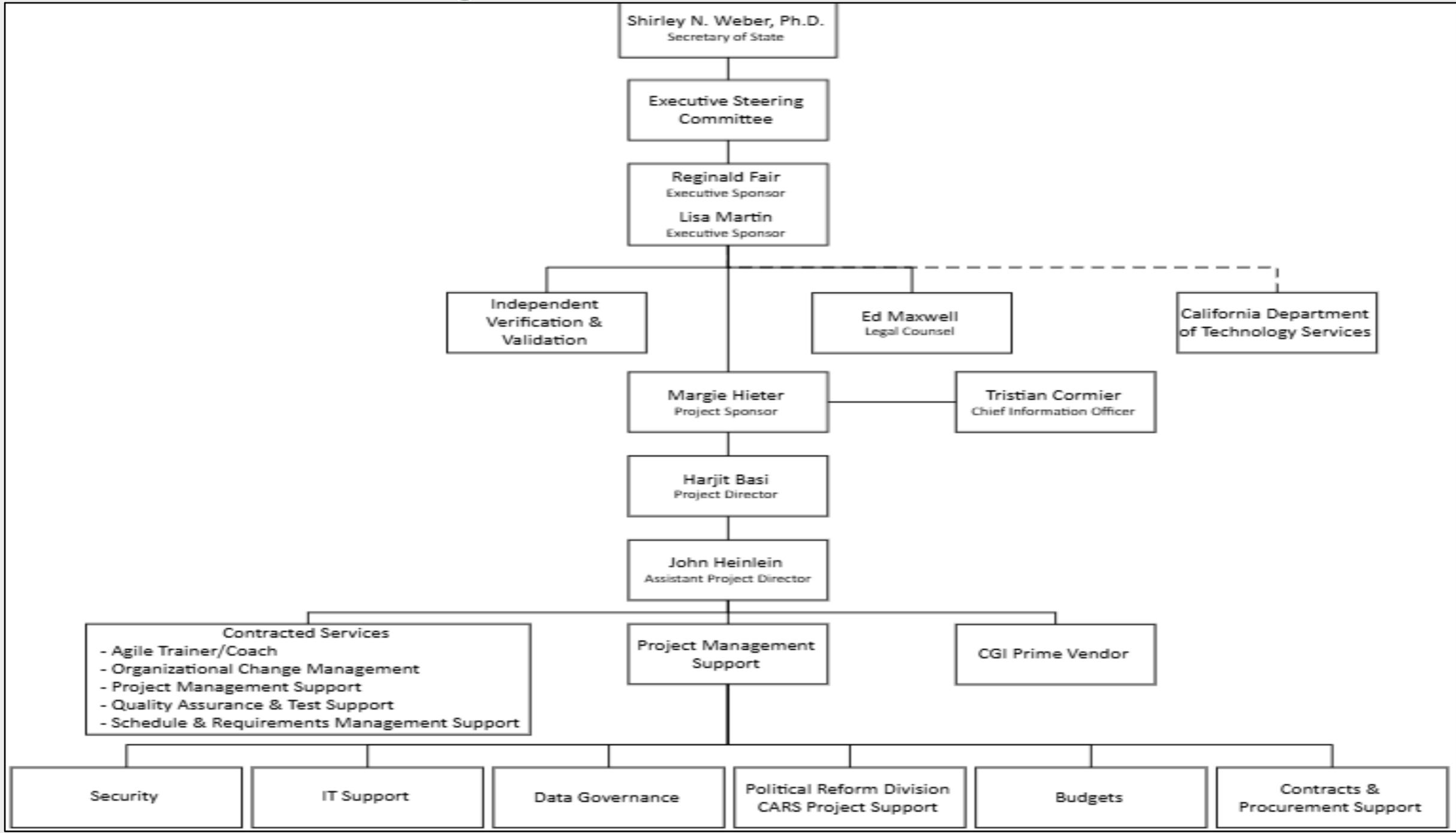
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CARS Opportunities

- Automate processes
- Enhance data quality and validation
- Implement a modern, data-driven, and secure system
- Enhance filer efficiency
- Improve public information access

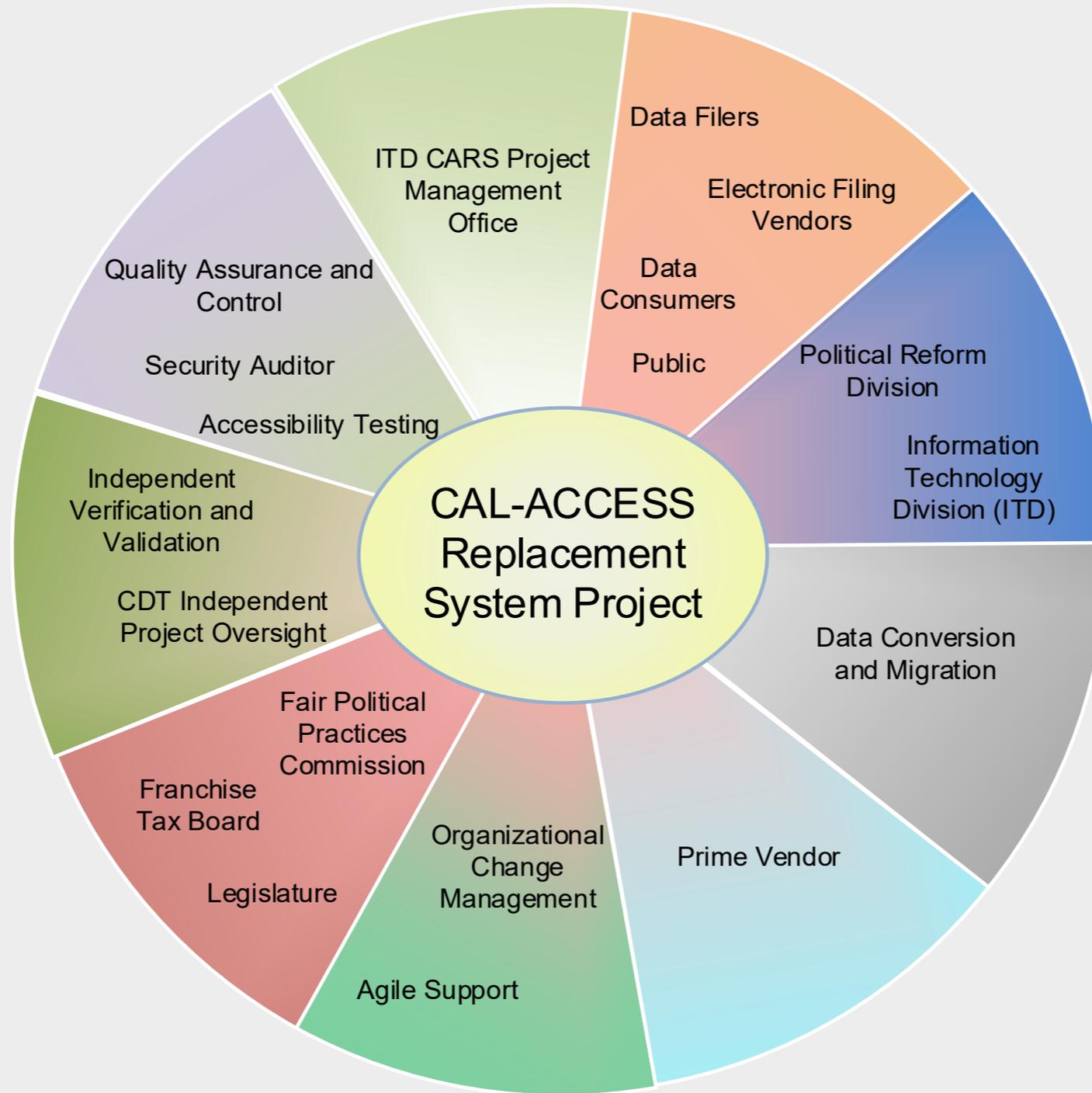


CARS Project Team



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CARS Project Team



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CARS Key Project Areas

1. Project Management and Approach
2. Project Schedule
3. System Architecture
4. System Development Lifecycle
5. Data Conversion and Migration
6. Interface Management
7. Testing
8. Training



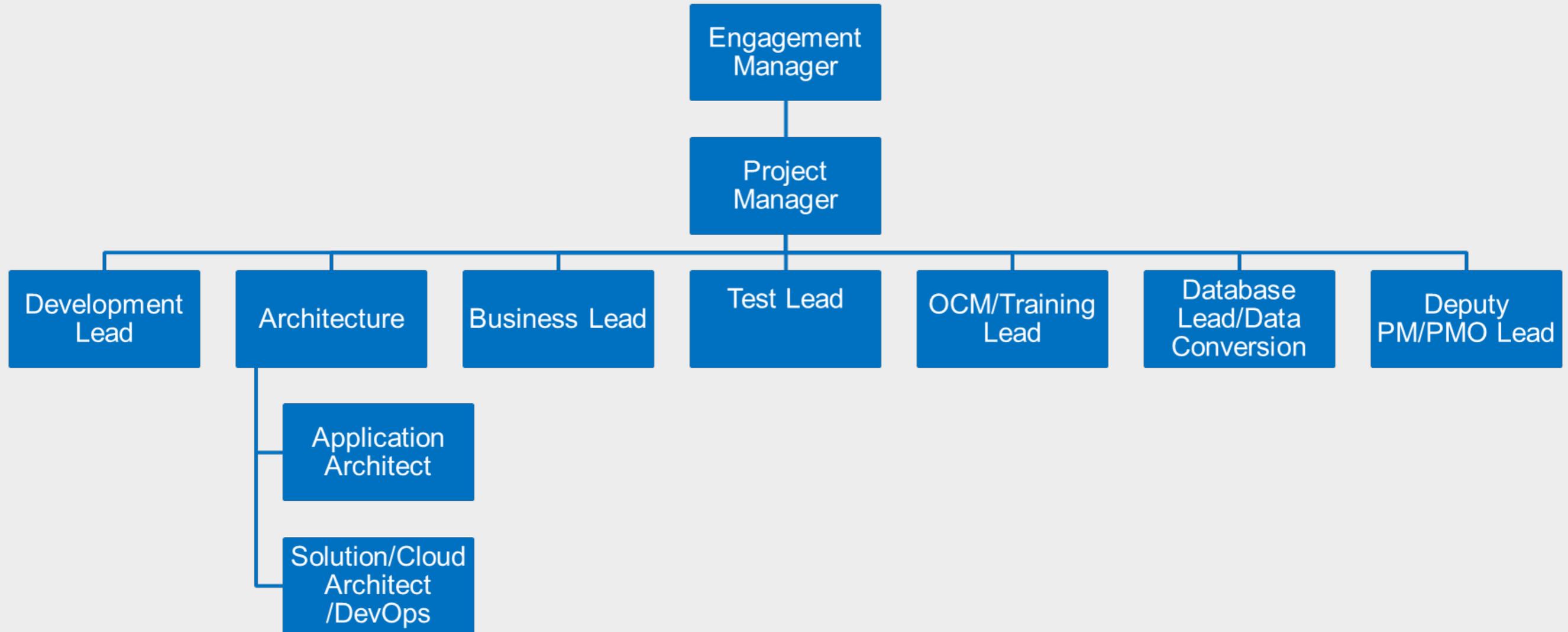
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CGI Organization



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Team CGI Organizational Chart



Project Management and Approach



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Overall Approach

An Integrated System

- Address existing pain points for system stability with a modern solution built to support process automations that streamline processes and facilitates compliance reviews.

Tailored Team of Experts

- Bring deep domain knowledge and experience to work with other key stakeholders to implement California's next generation CARS solution.

Purpose Built Custom Solution

- Deliver a tailored, purpose-built custom software solution implementing the project requirements, including the flexibility to easily configure future changes.

Experience and Research

- Informed by our decades of experience developing and integrating large and complex IT solutions, RFP requirements, Independent Assessment, Stakeholder outreach, and extensive solution development.



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Proposed Solution Overview

CGI's CARS solution architecture is crafted to effectively address the regulatory and operational requisites of the Political Reform Division (PRD). This architecture offers a holistic and unified solution, catering to stakeholder needs and incorporating features for near real-time updates and validations.

- Customized, fully integrated, stable, and configurable solution to reduce the amount of manual data entry, filing review and error correction.
- Flexible application and architecture that enables changes to filing requirements, including updated FPPC requirements and revised business rules.
- Industry standard infrastructure capacity management establishing our operational approach to provide system availability and scalability. (MS Azure Cloud)
- Expanded online information access, audit and report filing capabilities for better user experience.
- Aligns to the SOS Technical Architecture Vision.



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Azure Cloud Overview

- The CARS hosting execution plan is a multi-region active-active configuration which provides high performance and increased reliability hosted in Azure Government.
- Key Features:
 - Application is designed as a collection of micro-services, databases, and a business rules engine which allow CARS to scale based on load.
 - Multi-region configuration results in excellent reliability and redundancy.
 - CARS multi-region Cloud solution provides a secure, stable and highly performant platform to successfully host current and future demands.



Project Schedule



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Project Schedule Overview

Design, development, and implementation (DD&I) services are anticipated to be approximately thirty (30) months including a three (3) month Warranty period. Following the Warranty period, a Maintenance and Operations (M&O) period will be for one (1) year.

Project Phases

Phase 1 – Kickoff and Planning

- Establish the foundation for managing the CARS project and "aligning" all project team members and stakeholders regarding scope, schedule, objectives, and critical project processes.

Phase 2 – System Design, Development, Testing and Implementation

- CARS solution is developed, tested, and deployed to production. Development occurs over four increments, each consisting of a series of two-week sprints where we design, develop, test, and demonstrate the CARS solution components.

Phase 3 – First-Year Maintenance and Operations (M&O)

- M&O support for the live CARS solution over the initial 12-month period.



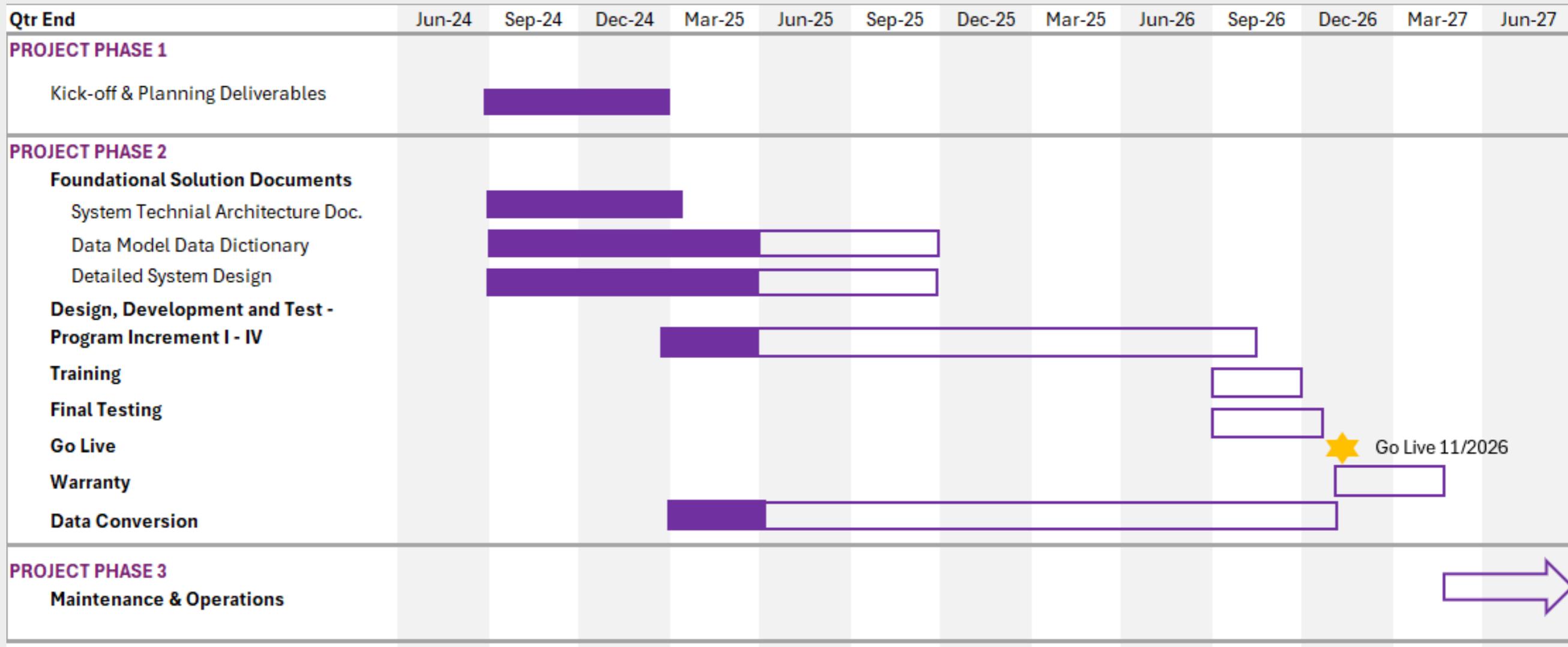
Project Schedule Overview

Phase 2 – System Design, Development, Testing and Implementation

- Program Increment I – Focus Filer Registration and Filer Disclosure, begin the Third-Party Software Vendor APIs, in Development
- Program Increment II – Focus: System Administration, Financial Transactions
- Program Increment III – PRD Portal, Reports, Correspondence
- Program Increment IV – Data Retrieval/Public Portal, Reports



Project Timeline



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Project Increments vs Requirements

Business Area	Program Increment 1		Program Increment 2		Program Increment 3		Program Increment 4		Total	
	Requirements (F+BR)	Percent to Total								
Filer Disclosure	629	96%	2	0.3%	22	3%	0	0%	653	28%
Filer Registration	563	91%	32	5%	22	4%	0	0%	617	26%
API	118	41%	156	55%	1	0%	10	4%	285	12%
Financial Transaction	0	0%	39	28%	99	72%	0	0%	138	6%
System Admin & Support	7	6%	97	80%	18	15%	0	0%	122	5%
Filer Data Retrieval & Display	0	0%	3	3%	11	10%	98	88%	112	5%
Non-functional	60	64%	14	15%	13	14%	7	7%	94	4%
Correspondence	0	0%	0	0%	79	100%	0	0%	79	3%
System Reports	0	0%	0	0%	34	52%	31	48%	65	3%
User Account Maintainance	39	81%	9	19%	0	0%	0	0%	48	2%
Global	40	91%	0	0%	4	9%	0	0%	44	2%
User Notification	36	100%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%	36	2%
User Support	0	0%	0	0%	29	100%	0	0%	29	1%
Miscellaneous	1	8%	0	0%	8	62%	4	31%	13	1%
Total	1493	64%	352	15%	340	15%	150	6%	2335	100%



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Program Increment I – Major Workstreams

Campaign	Lobbying
Candidate – In Development	Lobbyist Employer/Coalition - In Development
State Mailer Organization – In Development	Lobbyist – In Development
Recipient Committee	Lobbying Firm
Major Donor/Independent/E-530/Business Entity	Remaining (\$5,000)

Total Development Sprints: 40

- Currently in Sprint 9: April 7 – April 18
- Completed Sprint 8: April 4



Candidate Intention Statement

Page Title

Registration

Dashboard

Candidate

Committee

Slate Mailer

Disclosure

Lobbyist

Lobbyist Employer

Correspondence

Financial Transactions

Reference Page

1. Candidate

2. Election

3. Verification

First, we need to collect some general information about the candidate.

Candidates are required to identify the office and the election they are seeking.

Are you registering for yourself or someone else?*

Myself

Someone Else

Continue

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[Home](#) > [Filer Portal](#) > [Candidate Registration](#)
Candidate Intention Statement

- Page Title
- Registration
- Dashboard
- Candidate
- Committee
- Slate Mailer
- Disclosure
- Lobbyist
- Lobbyist Employer
- Correspondence
- Financial Transactions
- Reference Page

1. Candidate 2. Election 3. Verification

Election information

Provide the candidate's election year. Select if the candidate's election falls under primary/general or special/runoff, the office sought, district number or county if applicable and identify the agency name.

Jurisdiction*

State

Election Race Information

Election Year*

Election*

Office sought*

District / County*

Agency name*

Party*

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[Help](#) [Notifications](#) 64 [Language](#) [Logged in](#)

[Home](#) > [Filer Portal](#) > [Candidate Registration](#)

Candidate Intention Statement

Page Title

Registration

Dashboard

Candidate

Committee

Slate Mailer

Disclosure

Lobbyist

Lobbyist Employer

Correspondence

Financial Transactions

Reference Page

1. Candidate 2. Election 3. Verification

Step 3

You are ready to submit your registration

I certify under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that the foregoing is true and correct.

Candidate Name Chris Candidate

Executed On 04/07/2025

[CandidateIntentionStatement.PreviewPDF](#)

Attest

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Lobbying Report

Page Title

[Registration](#)

[Dashboard](#)

[Candidate](#)

[Committee](#)

[State Mailer](#)

[Disclosure](#)

[Lobbyist](#)

[Lobbyist Employer](#)

[Correspondence](#)

[Financial Transactions](#)

[Reference Page](#)

Lobbying Report

Lobbyist

Review your statement

Review the general information to ensure it is correct and up to date. Select whether or not you have reportable activity expenses or campaign contributions. Any reportable expenses or contributions can be reviewed in the filing summary.

Filing Period

General information

[View](#)

Filing Summary

Filing summary

[View](#)

Transaction Entry

In Progress

Activity Expenses

[Edit](#)

Not Started

Campaign contributions

[Start](#)

[I don't have anything in this category](#)

[Preview PDF](#)

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Skip to Main Content | Skip to Footer

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Home > **Lobbying Report**

Lobbying Report
Lobbyist Employer

Page Title

- Registration
- Dashboard
- Candidate
- Committee
- State Mailer
- Disclosure
- Lobbyist
- Lobbyist Employer
- Correspondence
- Financial Transactions
- Reference Page

Payments received by lobbying coalitions [if lobbying coalition]

Disclose payments received from coalition members. Enter zero if a member has not made a payment during the quarter.
[Review instructions](#)

Payments received by lobbying coalitions Subtotal: \$33,141.57

new

Coalition Member	Amount Received	Cumulative Amount	
New Coalition member on Apr	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00	⋮

1 10 Items per page 1 of 1 pages (1 item)

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Transaction created successfully

Data Conversion

Data Quality

- Data must be of the highest possible quality prior to load into Production.
- Converted data will have the same validations and rules applied as the data entered directly into the system.
- Error reports for data found in violation of these rules will be reviewed with SOS data owners to determine the best course of action to resolve.

“Dirty” Data

- Any data that does not conform to cleansing standards will be retained ‘as-submitted’ in text format.
- Non-conforming transactions will be flagged to identify their sub-standard content until Filers can amend and correct the transaction.



Interface Management Overview

Stakeholder communication

- Organize meetings with the interface partners including third-party filers in the beginning and go over all the use cases that affect them.
- Set realistic expectations – be aware of limitations and constraints.
- Focus on shared goals – emphasize mutual benefits of a successful partnership.
- Open communication – regular meetings during implementation.



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Testing Types

- **Unit Testing** – we use a test-driven development (TDD) approach to guide development in each sprint
- **System/Integration Test (Including External Stakeholders)** – comprehensive system and integration scripts using converted data
- **Performance Test Cases** – load and stress testing performed in each increment using high priority business functions with defined metrics
- **Functional Test Cases** – broad functional testing including exception and boundary tests performed for each sprint using mock data and converted data where possible
- **Regression Test Cases** – automated and manual regression testing during sprints, with broader coverage for each project increment
- **UAT** – system and integration test scripts available to SOS and we will support UAT test activities
- **Security Testing** – each project increment includes code vulnerability scans and code reviews
- **Accessibility Testing** – evaluates the system's compliance with WCAG 2.2
- **Penetration Testing** – CGI will support the SOS Contractor Team performing Penetration testing activities



Training

- Industry standard ADDIE (Analyze, Design, Develop, Implement, Evaluate) Model.
- Training will be tailored to the needs of various stakeholder groups, keeping a human-centered perspective (ILT, Webinars, Self-paced learning).
- Audience analysis will determine which training is needed by each stakeholder group, and what training format will best serve that audience.
- Training materials are developed within each Program Increment (PI), validated with UAT testers in each PI, and updated after the final UAT and system test (ST).
- Knowledge checks ensure learner understanding.



Current Status

- **Project Phase I : Project Initiation and Planning**
 - 10 of 10 Deliverables Completed (Project Governance Documents)
- **Project Phase II: Design, Development, Testing and Implementation**
 - System Technical Architecture Document: Completed
 - Data Model Data Dictionary – Program Increment I Completed
 - Detailed System Design – Program Increment I Completed, started Joint Application Design Sessions from remaining increments
 - Development – Sprint 8 Completed of 40 Development Sprints
 - System Testing – Started in Sprint 7



What do we need from you?



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- Continued Involvement - We appreciate the project interaction by the FPPC team and look forward to your contributions through the rest of the project.
- Continued Communication - Effective communication is essential to the CARS Project success. We will appreciate timely decisions, when decisions and input are needed.



Q & A

CAL-ACCESS Replacement System (CARS) Project



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