To whom it may concern,

I would like to propose a trial this November with the TEVS system to address a number of the concerns mentioned about the security and the lack of transparency in the Sequoia systems and any other privately run vote counting companies.

I am a member of two grant-giving foundations, the Threshold Foundation and the Grace Institute for Democracy and Election Transparency. Both organizations (501.C3s) have awarded grants to the TEV system founder, Mitch Trachtenberg, to refine the code of this open source system so that it can be used by anyone. The foundation members feel strongly that the development of a verification system needs to be both open source and remain in the hands of nonprofits so that the source code can be seen by anyone if need be. This openness, as you mention in your report, enhances voter confidence and trust. Additionally, by going through a nonprofit system, there are no dividends from stock that anyone can receive from using, buying or selling the system.

Two other advantages are worth noting if we in San Francisco were to use the TEVS system as a pilot this November. Additionally, one of these advantages is that we in San Francisco will have double-counting of some of our ballot totals. Double counting on two systems that are independent of one another creates another important security check. Secondly, the TEVS system can also be used to count all of the ballots should that be desired. It also can work with Ranked Choice Voting
.
The TEVS system has been used successfully in both Humboldt and Yolo county this year where all the ballots were counted in the November election by the TEVS system in addition to the Hart InterCivic systems. The scanners that were used were not connected to the Hart InterCivic system.The Grace Institute awarded last year the ROV's of Yolo and Humboldt awards for excellence in the field of election integrity and election transparency because these ROV's counted all of the ballots and made them available through open source through the TEVS system. The ROV's that used this system last year included Carolyn Crnich of Humboldt County and Freddie Oaklee and Tom Stannionis of Yolo County. Both of them are available to answer questions about the TEVS system from other election officials and members of the Voting System Task Force

This year, the Grace Institute is also offering the loan of a high speed scanner to do pilot projects with the TEVS system whether it is with all the ballots or a smaller number. Additionally some stipend money is available for people in any participating county who are involved in scanning ballots a second time using the TEVS system whether for all of the ballots or for a smaller number of them. Awards will be given again this year to registrars seeking to count all of the ballots with this system which the Institute has judged to be the most transparent of all systems.

I am also open to talking to anyone from the Voting System Task Force or to John Arntz , if desired as is Carolyn Crnich, whose number is ███████████ .

Sincerely yours in the Spirit of Democracy,

Lori Grace