CARS Project
External Stakeholder Meeting

Date: September 10, 2025
Time: 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

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Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.
California Secretary of State

Welcome and Introductions

Margie Hieter, Project Sponsor

Harjit Basi, Project Director

John Heinlein, Assistant Project Director

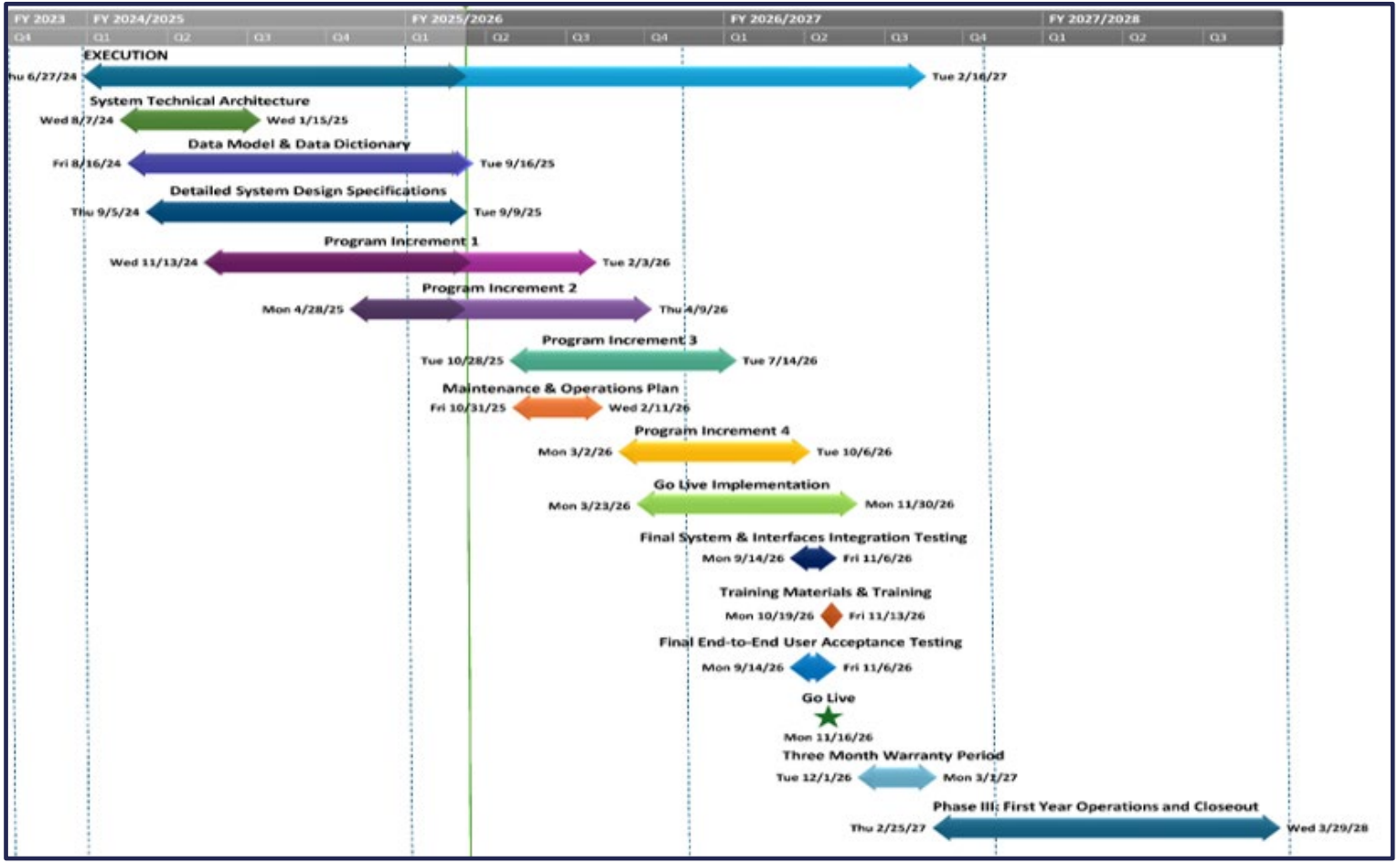
Denise Tower, CGI Project Director

Agenda

- Project Updates
  - Project Schedule
  - Program Increments I & II Activity
  - Third Party Software Vendors
- Functionality Preview
- Next Steps
- Q&A

Project Updates

Project Schedule



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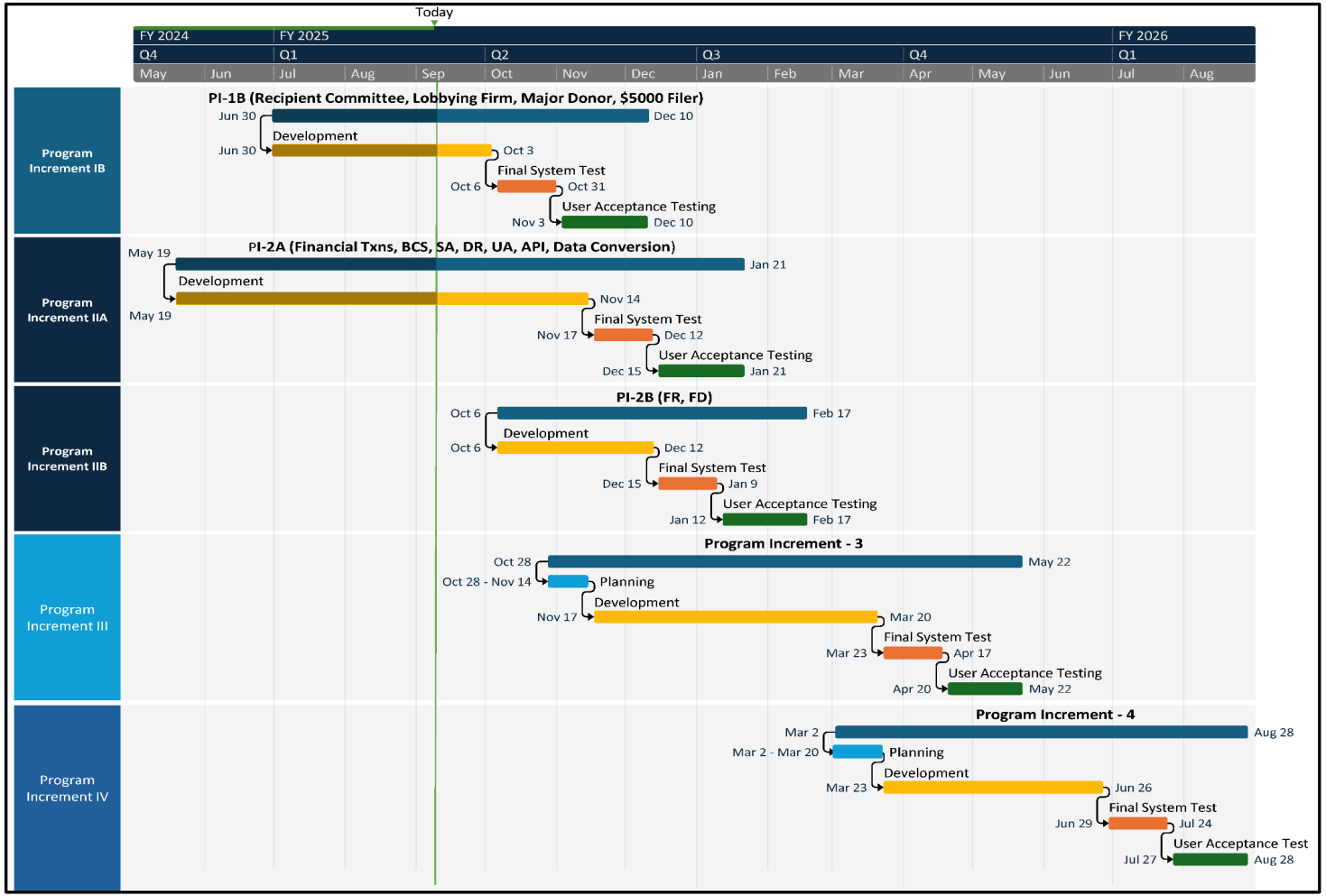
Project Schedule



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PROGRAM INCREMENT I

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II.4 Program Increment I – Design, Development, Testing: End to End Workstreams

Campaign	Lobbying
Candidate – UAT	Lobbyist Employer/Coalition - UAT
State Mailer Organization – UAT	Lobbyist – UAT
Recipient Committee – In Development/System Test	Lobbying Firm/$5000 filer – In Development/System Test
Major Donor/Independent/Other Specific Campaign Types – In Development/System Test	

Currently in Sprint 20: 9/8 - 9/19

PROGRAM INCREMENT IA – UAT UPDATE

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- Program Increment (PI) IA formal User Acceptance Testing (UAT) completed on August 29, 2025.
  - All 100 test cases successfully passed.
- Exploratory Testing of PI IA functionality is ongoing.
  - Exploratory testing goes beyond the usual business process flows to identify potential issues that might otherwise be missed.
- Test case writing activities for PI IB are underway. PI IB UAT is scheduled for early November 2025.
- During PI IB UAT, external stakeholders will be provided an opportunity to perform user acceptance testing.

PROGRAM INCREMENT IB - CAMPAIGN

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II.4 Program Increment I – Design, Development, Testing: End to End Workstreams

Recipient Committee	Major Donor/Independent Expenditure
FR-01: Register a Committee (410) - In System Test	FR-05: Establish Major Donor/Independent Expenditure/Other Filer Account – In System Test
FR06: Manage Penalty of Perjury Attestation – In System Test	FR-07: Request Linkage to a Registered User or Filing Entity – In System Test
FR02.1: Amend a Candidate or Campaign Registration – In Development	FD-01& FD-02: Enter & Modify Major Donor/Independent Expenditure Committee Campaign Statement (461) - In System Test
	FD-01& FD-02: E-530 Filer Enter and Modify an Activity Report – In System Test
	FD-01 & FD-02: Business Entity Enter and Modify an Activity Report – In Development

PROGRAM INCREMENT IB - LOBBYING

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II.4 Program Increment I – Design, Development, Testing: End to End Workstreams

Lobbying Firm
FR01: Register a Lobbying Firm – In System Test
FR06: Manage Penalty of Perjury and Attestation – In System Test
FR01: Lobbying Firm Activity Authorization – In System Test
FR06: Manage Penalty of Perjury – In System Test

Lobbying Firm - Continued
FR03: Terminate a Registration – In Development
FR02: Amend a Registration – In Development

PROGRAM INCREMENTS II, III, AND IV

Detailed System Design (DSD) and Data Model Data Dictionary (DMDD) – Requirements Clarification & Joint Application Design Sessions (Continued)

- DMDD submitted on 8/8/25 for formal review and approval. Approved 9/5.
- DSD submitted on 8/8/25 for formal review and approval. Resolving final few outstanding items.

PROGRAM INCREMENT(PI) II DEVELOPMENT

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II.4 Program Increment I – Design, Development, Testing: End to End Workstreams

Financial Transaction
FT-01: Create an Invoice – In System Test
FT-05: Enter and Post an Online (Credit Card) Payment – In System Test
FT-02: Adjust an Invoice/Re-allocate a Payment – In Development
FT-06: Enter and Post a Manual Payment – In Development

PROGRAM INCREMENT(PI) II DEVELOPMENT

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II.4 Program Increment I – Design, Development, Testing: End to End Workstreams

System Administration/User Account Management/Common Components	System Administration/User Account Management/Common Components
UA-07.2: Reset a Password – In System Test	SA-01.2: Configure System – Under Development
UA-09: Delete a Registered User Account – In System Test	SA-01.2A: PRD Portal Common Services /Navigation - Under Development
Filer Portal – Common Service/Navigation - In System Test	
UA-02: Create a User Account – Under Development	
UA-03: Update a User Account – PRD – Under Development	

THIRD PARTY SOFTWARE VENDORS

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Design sessions completed 9/9

- Continued to address design questions and review Application Programming Interface (API) specifications
- Next Meeting is 9/23 (Critical Meeting) – potential topics:
  - Project Status
  - Third Party Vendor API status/technical review
  - Attestation Process
  - Certification Process
  - Testing Schedule (POC, Integration, Certification)

Proof of Concept – Third Party Software Vendor

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Forms	Status
Form 501 – Candidate Intention Statement	Netfile (David Montgomery), PCG (Christian Ott), and GovAccess (Ray Kiddy) completed Step 1, working on dates for Step 2.
Form 400 – Slate Mailer Organization Statement of Organization Form 402 – Slate Mailer Organization Statement of Termination Form 604 – Lobbyist Certification Statement	Ready for testing with POC participants
EFile processing status endpoint	Ready for testing with POC participants. Using submission id to retrieve status

Step 1: POC testing participants use the Postman collection to test connectivity and send the payload we gave them, then show that the payload was processed in the backend.

Step 2: Testing participants send payloads from their own applications.

Step 3: 3rd Party SW Vendor using the submission id received in Step 1 and Step 2 to obtain information about their submission.

THIRD PARTY SOFTWARE VENDORS

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Campaign Forms

- Form 400 - Slate Mailer Organization Statement of Organization
- Form 401 - Slate Mailer Organization Campaign Statement
- Form 402 - Slate Mailer Organization Statement of Termination
- Form 501 - Candidate Intention Statement
- Form 470 - Officeholder/Candidate Campaign Statements
- Form 470s – Officeholder/Candidate Campaign Statements (Short Form

Lobbying Forms

- Form 603 - Lobbyist Employer/Lobbying Coalition Registration Statement
- Form 604 - Lobbyist Certification Statement
- Form 606 - Notice of Termination
- Form 607 - Notice of Withdrawal
- Form 615 – Lobbyist Report
- Form 630 – Payments made to Lobbying Coalitions
- Form 635 - Report of Lobbyist Employer/Lobbying Coalition
- Form 635-C – Payments received Lobbying Coalitions
- Form 640 – Other Payments to Influence Reporting

THIRD PARTY SOFTWARE VENDORS

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- APIs Delivered to System Test:
  - 400, 401, 402, 470/470s, 501, 603, 604, 606, 607, 615, 630, 635, 635-c, 640
- Information located on the CARS Stakeholder Repository on SOS SharePoint
  - YAML files for the APIs reviewed
  - Excel Spreadsheet from Design sessions – Topics and Notes Tabs
  - Feedback Log

PROGRAM INCREMENT I – FUNCTIONALITY PREVIEW

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Functionality Preview

- Recipient Committee Registration

Information & Feedback Channels

INFORMATION & FEEDBACK CHANNELS

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- Third Party Software Vendor API Meetings held 8/12/25, 8/26/25, 9/9/2025 – next meeting Tuesday, 9/23/2025
- Next External Stakeholder Meeting on 10/8/25
- PRD Website for Quarterly Updates
- Post-meeting survey: September 10, 2025

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Visit the CARS project website

https://www.sos.ca.gov/campaign-lobbying/helpful-resources/cal-access-replacement-system-project-cars-updates

- View documents, news, and events
- Sign up to receive project updates

CARS Project Email Address
Submit questions and comments to the CARS project team:

PRDCARS@sos.ca.gov

CARS WEBSITE REMINDERS

CARS Project Homepage

CARS Project Archive

For questions about project communications: PRDCARS@sos.ca.gov

Q & A

WRAP UP