

PROJECT SCOPE

Mobile App

November 5, 2015

OVERVIEW

1. Project Background and Description

Thurston County voters and candidates need a more convenient and modern way to access election related data. In addition the Millennial generation (ages 18 to 29) have a disturbingly low turnout rate in the United States, and Thurston County is far below the nationwide average. Research has shown this generation is more likely to connect to voting through a mobile app.

To create this app we have partnered with a team of Evergreen State College (TESC) students and professors. The TESC team is tasked with writing the technical portion of the Android App and invent a portion of the app that appeals to the Millennial generation.

2. Project Scope

The TESC team will portray a business, and the Auditor their customer. The TESC team will be Professor Richard Weiss, student Brianna Benson, and student Eli Sobylak. The Auditor team will be Auditor Mary Hall, Chief Deputy Diana Benson, Elections Manager Tillie Naputi-Pullar, Business Applications Manager Carrie Wack (Project Manager), and Voter Outreach Coordinator Valerie Walston.

Both teams will convene for an initial meeting where expectations are conveyed and a plan set in place (Setup). Next, Carrie and Valerie will meet regularly with the TESC team to regulate progress and content (Development). The other Auditor team members are welcome to join in any of these meetings.

Once the app is completed it will be tested thoroughly (Debugging and Testing). When we are satisfied with the results and any web pages needed are ready, the Android app will be published (Publishing).



3. High-Level Requirements

The Mobile Application must include the following:

- Current Election: Candidates and Voters' Pamphlet
- Election Results
- Election Results by district
- Election Dates for that Year
- District and Precinct Map
- My Districts and Precinct Maps
- Ballot Drop Box Locations
- Register to Vote (Secretary of State's Office)
- An element that attracts and engages the Millennial generation

4. Resources

- Time dedicated to regular meetings with TESC team
- Prior to publishing the App we may need a test environment on Thurston County servers. This will be discussed in the first meeting. Will the test environment be on the TESC servers or on Thurston County's servers?
- When the App is published there may be some licensing fees, but I have not found any reference to a cost of publishing with Google Play. The only costs I have found are if you are going to charge for your app and need to license it.
- Prior to and after the App is published we will need to advertise. This may have an expense.
- After the App is created it may need updates in the future. This may have an expense.

5. Affected Parties

The Auditor's Office:

Auditor's team will spend time meeting with the TESC team, testing the product, and publishing the final product.

Central Services:

Central Services will be involved if the test environment is housed on Thurston County's web server.

TESC:

The TESC Team will be responsible for product research and concept, writing the code, and testing the app.

6. High-Level Timeline/Schedule

November (2015):

Hold initial meeting with TESC Team to formulate the project plan

December:

The TESC Team conducts research and, with the Auditor Team, creates a plan for the content and look and feel.

January-February (2016):

The TESC Team writes the code for the app

March-May:

Both Teams will test the app and the TESC Team will make code updates.

May-November:

Publish app. Advertise app

7. Milestone Dates

December 31, 2015: Concept of the design and functionality will be complete

February 29, 2016: Initial code writing complete.

May 31, 2016: App published

Required Mobile App Content

Current Election: Candidates and Voters' Pamphlet (Auditor Website)

Election Results (Secretary of State's Office [SOS])

Election Results by District (SOS)

Election Dates for that Year (Auditor Website)

District and Precinct Map (Auditor Website)

My Districts and elected officials (Auditor Website)

Ballot Drop Box Locations (Google Map Application)

Register to Vote (SOS)

element(s) that attracts and engages the Millennial generation

Desired Content

Games

Trivia

get geo location from phone
display map
create marker

- local news feed
- linking pages as a first challenge