

CARS PROJECT NEWS

CA Secretary of State

February 2020

CARS SYSTEM INTEGRATOR IDENTIFIES NEW SYSTEM PLATFORM

The CARS system integrator (SI) is pivoting to Salesforce as the new platform for CAL-ACCESS. The Salesforce platform provides significant benefits to the CARS project, including:

- High configurability
- Less customization (Existing platform and CRM, so we configure)
- Ease of maintenance
- History of success at SOS and other CA Agencies

These features support the CARS project's aggressive implementation schedule, which continues to target implementation by February of 2021.



TEAM EXPANDS

SI adds additional Subject Matter Experts

With the new platform comes an expanded implementation team for the SI, who will add additional subject matter experts (SMEs) to assist with the application of California's complex campaign finance disclosure requirements. The collective background of the new SMEs includes political treasurer experience as well as experience from the Fair Political Practices Commission.



Events in February

There are no events currently scheduled for February 2020

Upcoming Events (Tentative)

March 2020 | CARS SIG Meeting

March 2020 | Software Vendor / Service Provider Meeting

Visit the [CARS project website](#) to sign up for electronic updates or to check out the [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#).

The CARS Project team will continue to hold CAL-ACCESS Project Meetings throughout the implementation. If you have questions not answered by one of these meetings, please email us at PRDCARS@sos.ca.gov. In the meantime, see page 2 for highlights of our December meetings with the Stakeholders Input Group and Software Vendors and Service Providers.

CAL-ACCESS Project Meetings

The CARS Project Team met with the Stakeholders Input Group (SIG) on November 14 and December 4, 2019. Topics of discussion included:

- Users types and user permissions
- Memo fields
- Amendments
- Electronic attestations
- Transaction ID numbers
- Complicated filing scenarios such as:
 - Large Media Buys
 - Estimated Values
 - Sub-vendors of sub-vendors
 - Transactions with date ranges

SIG meetings provide opportunities to discuss real-life filing scenarios and new CAL-ACCESS functionality. In the coming months, the CARS Project Team will analyze input received during SIG meetings and use it to influence best practices recommendations and new CAL-ACCESS system development as appropriate.

SIG is tentatively scheduled to meet again in March 2020.

The CARS Project Team met with software vendors and service providers on December 11, 2019. Draft vendor certification regulations were reviewed and participants provided feedback.

Please visit the [CARS project website](#) for details about SIG and other project meetings or sign up to [receive e-updates](#).

About CARS

"CARS" stands for CAL-ACCESS Replacement System. The California Secretary of State has undertaken a project to replace the current CAL-ACCESS with a new online data-driven filing and disclosure system.

About the Newsletter

CARS Project News is a production of the CARS Project Team and the Secretary of State Political Reform Division.

For questions or comments regarding this project, please contact the Secretary of State via email at PRDCARS@sos.ca.gov, by phone at (916) 653-6224, or by writing to:

Secretary of State, Political Reform Division
1500 11th Street, Rm 495
Sacramento, CA 95814

CARS QUESTION OF THE MONTH



Given the change in platform, is the information in previous newsletters still valid?



The new platform will necessitate a change in approach to many functions, making some information in previous newsletters obsolete. It would be best to refer to current newsletters for the most up-to-date information.

CARS PROJECT TIMELINE – February 2020

