SPENCER J. COX
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Mona Harrington, Acting Executive Director
U.S. Election Assistance Commission
1335 East-West Highway, Suite 4300
Silver Spring, MD 20910

Dear Ms. Harrington,

The State of Utah plans to utilize the 2020 HAVA Elections Security Grant Funds and matching funds for the following priorities:

- Implement additional training measures and needs for both counties and the state.
- Upgrade physical security features throughout the counties and state.
- Upgrade several state websites to meet better cybersecurity needs.
- Implement additional digital security measures for both the counties and the state.

The State has requested all available HAVA funds ($4,603,931) immediately. The State of Utah is working with the legislature and our budget office on obtaining the $920,786 in matching funds. The following narrative describes the State of Utah's plan for the $5,524,717 total HAVA Elections Security Grant Award.

Timeline:

Before December 31, 2021:
- All counties will be required to have completed a physical and cyber security assessment provided by the Department of Homeland Security.
- The State of Utah will have completed a scope of work on the three websites that need to be upgraded and will have a quote on how much each of these updates will cost.

Before June 1, 2022:
- All counties will be required to have requested reimbursement for physical security upgrades.

Before December 31, 2022:
- Website upgrades and physical security upgrades in counties will be complete.

Plans for Spending Funds Prior to the 2020 Election

The State of Utah has utilized most of the 2018 HAVA funds preparing for the 2020 election and as such intends to use the 2020 HAVA funds for 2021 and beyond. Due to this, no 2020 HAVA funds will be spent prior to the 2020 election.

Additional Training Measures and Needs ($604,717)

The State of Utah intends to put on new and upgraded security trainings throughout the state. These trainings will aid and educate counties on election security, including best practices and general guidelines. They will also help counties create a communications plan, emergency procedures, as well as build and foster relationships with professionals throughout the state to ensure that they have access to all possible resources. We intend to invite county clerks, IT managers, emergency management professionals, law enforcement, our federal partners and anyone else who would contribute to these trainings to help foster the development of relationships that will be advantageous to election administrators.

Additionally, the State of Utah intends to put on an Elections Security Conference where all state elections officials and those from various federal agencies (such as the Department of Homeland Security and the Federal Bureau of Investigation) can come together and learn from one another. This will help ensure that the state moves forward on a unified front in matters of elections security.

The State also plans on hiring a "Cyber Navigator" who will assist with the planning and implementation of these trainings as well as aid the counties in assessing and acting on their needs. The individual will work directly with counties in ensuring that they have the resources and connections available to improve their overall cyber and physical security needs to help ensure a safe election.

Enhancing Physical Security Features ($2,210,000)

In the State of Utah, 4 out of 29 counties have completed a physical security assessment with the Department of Homeland Security. Our goal is to have all 29 counties complete this assessment. We intend for the counties to utilize the feedback from these assessments and enhance their physical security in whatever capacity is needed. These funds will be allocated according to a formula averaging each county's active voters and the total number of votes cast in the 2018 General Election. Counties may also use these allocated funds for making any necessary ADA upgrades to their buildings under this section.

Upgrading Websites ($2,210,000)

The State of Utah is also intending on making long overdue and necessary security upgrades to three of our highly trafficked websites during elections. These upgrades will likely consist of entirely new websites that can have security features that ours are currently lacking. The three websites we are looking at upgrading are our campaign finance website, voter registration website and our election night results website. Currently all three websites execute their necessary duties but due to their age, lack any sophistication that would allow for heightened cyber security. During election years these websites are heavily utilized and often scrutinized. Having upgraded features would not only aid in public trust but they would help our office maintain a greater defense overall with regard to cyber security.

Enhanced Security ($500,000)

The State of Utah is already providing enhanced digital monitoring and scanning services to secure election systems and establishing protocols for a statewide coordinated cyber response in case of an incident. The State is proposing $500,000 in HAVA funds to be used before December 31, 2022 to assist in this effort.

Sincerely,

Spencer J. Cox
Lieutenant Governor
State of Utah