Thank you, Tisa – I've passed this along and will see about getting a new sample file for you.

TRAVIS KESTER | PROJECT MANAGER, OPERATIONS WEST

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Thursday, August 27, 2020 8:44 AM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>;
Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Travis,

Sounds good! Glad we're on the same page. Thanks for keeping us up to date with the options.

One of the things we were talking about is possibly removing all of the commas and colons from the Filipino text to see if that helps with readability. If it's okay, we would love to hear the text without the punctuation. I have attached the same spreadsheet with updated text.

We are also curious about how the ballot designations will sound, so if it's alright, I've put four in the spreadsheet to see how these will sound, too.

Thanks!
Tisa Ambrosino
Ballot and Elections Projects Manager
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City Hall, Room 48
San Francisco, CA 94102
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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 5:06 PM
To: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Arntz, John (REG)
<john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>

Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Sounds good, thank you Tisa. I think that going the synthesized voice route is the best call given our timeline. If anything comes through that changes that I'll certainly let you and the team know and we can discuss options. David is in agreement though that voice synthesis would be good.

Best,

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 3:20 PM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Travis,

Thank you for all of that background. I spoke with the team again to go over more of the concerns about the pronunciations. It sounds like though there are quite a few mispronunciations, it can be understood and the scripts are workable.

And with the difficulties of procuring talent, it sounds like voice synthesis for Filipino will be our best bet.

Thanks,
Tisa Ambrosino
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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 3:03 PM
To: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Tisa,

Thank you for the feedback. Although it is not ideal, I will say that the issues noted are somewhat expected for voice synthesis, as they often require a lot of adjustments – as have the other languages, historically.

I'm of the mindset that if we go through with the recording process we might as well record everything, including the contests and short pieces and you will likely get a cleaner end product at the expense of more days spent waiting. Although the voice synthesis route will not be as sonically pleasing to the ears as a live recording, the advantage to using a synthesis is greater flexibility in generating the files and getting the project ready. We do not have to schedule recording and then wait for audio files to come back to us.

Right now, my concern with audio recording is that the vendor is having some difficulties procuring a voice recorder which could push our timeline back, and we are already on a very tight turnaround time. I'll keep you updated when I receive news/updates from Language Link on the status of a voice talent.

Best,

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 2:47 PM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Travis,

Thank you for passing these along. The feedback from our team is that pieces such as titles like President and Vice President could be used, but there is quite a bit of worry about using voice synthesis for such large chunks of audio with the propositions and voter instructions.

The issues that were noted were that the mispronunciations were quite significant in the proposition text, there were significant (2 second) pauses in between words such as San and Francisco, and breaks in the word ballot. It also seems that all numbers were read in English, such a 5% and 10, though things such as million were read out in Filipino. Maybe, these numbers need to be written out in order to be read correctly.

The general consensus is that we could use voice synthesis for short pieces such as "President and Vice President" and "Fifth choice," but that it probably should not be used for the rest.

Please let me know if you have any thoughts on this.

Thanks,
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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 10:08 AM
To: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Tisa,

Please see additional samples attached and let me know your thoughts, thanks!

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 9:32 AM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Thank you, Travis!

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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 9:15 AM
To: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Arntz, John (REG)
<john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Thank you, Tisa! I will pass this along to our languages team.

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 8:29 AM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>;
Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Travis,

If making just the instructions to voters and measure I is easiest, just those two audio files would be great.
Otherwise, here are ten translations of instructions and measures for you.

Thanks!
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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 5:15 PM
To: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Arntz, John (REG)

<john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Tisa, would you mind pulling about 10 or so items from your translations file that you'd like to see Filipino audio samples for? We can generate more and provide that for your review – just let us know what all you'd like to see.

A simple spreadsheet with the translations works just fine. Thanks!

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:58 PM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>;
Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Great, thank you for that information. That makes a lot of sense. I passed this by two more of our translators and it's sounding like there are definitely pieces that are not understandable, but that this might be something we can do.

They were wondering if you might have a bit more for them to listen to, such as the voting instructions and something with more numbers in it, maybe proposition I? Is it possible to get these audio syntheses?

Thanks!
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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:27 PM
To: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Arntz, John (REG)
<john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Tisa, yes we can certainly adjust and alter content like we do for the other languages. Generally speaking, every language with synthesized audio requires a decent amount of adjustment to get more in line with correct pronunciation – Filipino audio would be no different.

Thanks,

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From: Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:16 PM
To: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>; Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: Filipino Audio - Update

Hi Travis,

Thank you for passing this along. After reviewing the files it seems that the short syntheses are good, but the longer pieces, such as prop 14, have quite a few mispronunciations in it. Is there any ability to modify the text to alter pronunciation or anything? It would be fantastic if we could synthesize the scripts for Filipino as well.

Thanks!
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From: Travis Kester <travis.kester@dominionvoting.com>
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:00 PM
To: Arntz, John (REG) <john.arntz@sfgov.org>; Ambrosino, Santisia (REG) <santisia.ambrosino@sfgov.org>; Lee, Catherine (REG) <catherine.lee1@sfgov.org>
Subject: Filipino Audio - Update

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Good Morning All,

As we are proceeding with your programming we are getting close to the time where we have historically recorded Filipino audio for insertion into the project. I am currently working with the vendor we usually use, Language Link, to procure voice recording talent.

At this time there is no firm date of recording since we don't have the final script and we don't know *when* they'll have someone available to record, although I know they are searching. However, to assuage any fears I wanted to let you all know that in 5.10A we <u>DO</u> have the ability to synthesize Filipino audio just like we do for other languages. Historically this has not been an option which is why we always recorded audio, but with 5.10A the Filipino audio process has been standardized. If you'd prefer to go the voice synthesis route instead of a live recording, the process could actually end up taking less time. I've attached some sample files for you to review so you can get a rough idea how this would function.

Please let me know your thoughts, thank you.

TRAVIS KESTER | **PROJECT MANAGER, OPERATIONS WEST**

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