

**Information Technology Policy Committee  
(Meeting Minutes from January 26, 2006)**

**ITPAC Members Present** – Edward Blum (Providence), Mike DiConti (Sully), Susan Hoffman (Mason), Anne Kanter (League of Women Voters), Paul Leslie (Braddock), Maribeth Luftglass (FCPS), Emily McCoy (Lee), Bob Mitchell (NV Technology Council), Thomas Mukai (Federation of Citizen Associations), Suresh Shenoy (Dranesville). John Skudlarek (Mt. Vernon), William Young (Hunter Mill).

**ITPAC Members Not Present** – Thomas Haser (Chamber of Commerce), Kathryn Walsh (At-Large Chairman),

**DIT Staff Present** – Wanda Gibson, Cleve Edwards, Gordon Jarratt, Gayle Berkeley, David Bartee, Cathy Spage, Mike Dent, Steve Brundage, Duff Barney, Dinese Drake, Robin Randall

**Other County Agencies** – Mike Long (County Attorney) Captain Ted Arnn (Police Department), Battalion Chief Dean Cox (Fire Department)

**ITPAC Committee Matters**

**Approval of Minutes:** Meeting called to order at 8:10 a.m. The meeting began with a review of the meeting minutes from the December 1, 2005 meeting. The minutes were approved.

**Membership Matters:** Elections for ITPAC Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson were held. Edward Blum was re-elected as Chairperson and Anne Kanter was re-elected Vice-Chairperson. Handouts included the proposed meeting schedule for FY 2006 and BAC Membership Report.

**1 – Public Safety Technology: CAD and Public Safety Information Systems Replacement Initiative**

Dinese Drake was introduced as Project Manager for the county's public safety initiative to develop an integrated Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) and Records Management System (RMS) for all Fairfax County Public Safety agencies. Denise introduced Captain Ted Arnn of the Police Department and Battalion Chief Dean Cox of the Fire Department as Project Management Team representatives for their respective public safety agency. Denise reviewed the background and events that lead to the CAD/RMS project, and provided an overview of the project objectives, requirements gathering activities, architecture, system components and interoperability needs.

The agencies involved in this initiative include:

- *Fire and Rescue Services*
- *Police Department*
- *Office of Emergency Management*
- *Department of Information Technology, Public Safety Branch*
- *Office of the Sheriff's*
- *Department of Public Safety Communications*

Working with hired consultants from Winbourne & Costas, Inc., the County has conducted a prequalification process for CAD/RMS vendors, and qualified six top tier vendors to bid on the project. Much of the past ten months has focused on working with the end user community to identify and document system requirements. The Request for Proposals (RFP) is nearing completion and scheduled for release in February.

Capt. Arnn and Battalion Chief Cox spoke briefly about the requirements gathering process used in their agencies. As a final step, each agency has established an Advisory Group tasked with confirming and validating the documented requirements. The county is seeking a modern, seamlessly integrated CAD/RMS platform that complies with the strategic direction of the county and meets operational and tactical information management requirements of the public safety agencies.

As a result of the project the County has developed and approved its first Public Safety Information System (PSIS) Architecture which provides the strategic direction and standard discussed and a common foundation for the RFP. Fairfax County is also working with other jurisdictions to insure interoperability between the new integrated CAD/RMS and other CAD products be utilized in neighboring jurisdictions.

## **2- 800 Mhz Radio Re-banding Update**

Duff Barney and Jack Anderson provided an update regarding the status and events regarding the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandated 800MHz Rebanding Process. The mandate requires all jurisdictions to implement rebanding over the next six months. This project impacts the County's Public Safety and Public Service Radio Systems, including all of the individual, portable radios used by police officers, paramedics, firefighters, school bus drivers, and so forth (almost 10,000 radios in the field). Further, the timing of the Regional Prioritization Plan (RPP), or Rebanding Implementation Calendar, could disrupt the regional interoperability of the public safety voice radios in use by Fairfax County and other jurisdictions in the area. Under the RFP, Fairfax County and the District of Columbia would be forced to move months ahead of others in the region, without the benefit of an essential software upgrade (under development) that would facilitate the Rebanding process and minimize the number of times that radios in the field would have to be manually reprogrammed.

Fairfax County is acting as the central point of contact for all affected 800MHz licensees in the MWCOG region, and has been working with the FCC-appointed Transition Administrator (TA), seeking an adjustment in the RPP to allow for the delivery of the Rebanding software, and to permit all jurisdictions to reband at the same time, thus simplifying the process, and retaining the mission-critical radio interoperability that we currently enjoy. While the TA's Office originally committed to seeking a delay from the FCC on behalf of the affected licensees, they changed their position and directed all licensees to file individually. Fairfax County is currently in the Mediation phase of the RPP, and is working with the Mediator and NEXTEL to finalize a Request for Planning Funding, before proceeding with negotiation of implementation plans. Fairfax County and its regional interoperability partners are continuing to work for an adjustment in the RPP.

## **3 – Resource Issues: Technology Growth Areas**

Cathy Spage presented a preview of next meeting's budget presentation which addressed increased, particularly in the area of interoperability, security, growth in wireless communications and demand for e-gov applications.

## **Conclusion**

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:30 a.m.

Next meeting, January March 30, 2006, 8:00 a.m., Room 232, Government Center