

Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee (ITPAC) Meeting Summary

July 21, 2022

8:00 A.M. – 10:00 A.M.

Remote Video Conference Meeting During Local COVID-19 Emergency Declaration

Committee Members:

Name	District/Organization	Present	Not Present
Edward Blum, Chairman	Providence District	X	
Michael Aschenaki	Lee District	X	
Carter Bates	Braddock District	X	
Anne Cahill	League of Women Voters	X	
Dennis Carlton	Sully District	X	
Rajni Goel	Dranesville District		X
John Hanks	Federation of Citizens Association	X	
Susan Hoffman	Mason District	X	
Kendall Holbrook	Chamber of Commerce	X	
Richard Kostro	Mt. Vernon District	X	
Mark Lay	NOVA Technology Council	X	
Brian McMahon	Hunter Mill District	X	
Sean Rastatter	Springfield District	X	
Kathryn Walsh, Vice Chair	At Large Member	X	
VACANT	Fairfax County Public Schools		X

County Staff Present:

DIT – Greg Scott, (CTO); George Coulter; Mike Dent (CISO); Rob Barr; Michelle Breckenridge; Simran Dhami; Debra Dunbar; Adam Eldert; Charles Gore; Brian Heffern; Mike Liddle; Mike Palacios; Maura Power; Anita Rao; Charmaine Reed; Kim Satterthwaite; Randhir Singh; Velma Dessuit (Admin Support)
DIT Interns – Eshan Agarwal, Sweta Das; Ashwath Karunakaram, Joshua Lee, Michael Lee, Ashley Paik, Alejandro Rodriguez, Sharvani Roy, Charles Schmidt, Emily Tran, Suleman Waheed, Julien Ward
OPA - Amanda Kastl; Gabrielle Glass (intern)

July 21, 2022 Meeting Agenda:



ITPAC agenda July
21.pdf

Note: Meeting materials were posted online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/informationtechnology/itpac and were sent to ITPAC members via email. This document will be posted on the ITPAC website.

ITPAC COMMITTEE MATTERS: Today's meeting was called to order at 8:04 A.M.

Brian Heffern read through a detailed script required to hold a meeting electronically. In order to conduct this meeting wholly electronically and to effectuate the emergency procedures authorized by FOIA, ITPAC needed to make certain findings and determinations for the record.

Audibility of Members' Voices

First, because each member of ITPAC is participating in this meeting from a separate location, it was necessary to verify that a quorum of members is participating, and that each member's voice is clear, audible, and at an appropriate volume for all of the other members. Accordingly, a roll call was conducted, and each ITPAC member participating in this meeting was asked to state their name and the district/group they represent.

Chairman Blum then made the following motion: "I move that each member's voice may be adequately heard by every other member of ITPAC on the call." The motion was seconded by John Hanks and approved unanimously.

Need for an Electronic Meeting

The next step was to establish the nature of the emergency that compels these emergency procedures, the fact that ITPAC is meeting electronically, what type of electronic communication is being used, and how we have arranged for public access to this meeting.

Chairman Blum moved the following: "the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it impractical for ITPAC to physically assemble and for the public to physically attend such a meeting, and that as such, FOIA's usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of ITPAC and the physical presence of the public, cannot be implemented practically....and further moved that ITPAC is conducting this meeting electronically through a dedicated Zoom video conference, and that the public may access this meeting by following this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86220609608?pwd=QW1UQk1xcWw1MXNYdmdVK0hJVVFpdz09>

The meeting can also be accessed by entering the meeting code **862 2060 9608** and passcode **426643**. In addition, live audio of the meeting may be accessed by dialing: **1-877-411-9748** and entering the conference code: **2909363**.

The motion was seconded by John Hanks and approved unanimously.

Need to Dispense with FOIA's Usual Procedures to Assure Continuity in Govt./Continue Operations

Finally, Chairman Blum moved the following: "It is required that all of the matters addressed on today's agenda address the Emergency itself, are necessary for continuity in Fairfax County government, and/or are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of ITPAC's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities." The motion was seconded by John Hanks and approved unanimously.

Minutes

- A motion to approve the minutes from the 5/19/22 meeting was moved by Kathy Walsh, multiply seconded, and approved unanimously.

Membership Matters

- Since the last ITPAC meeting on 3/24/22:
 - Welcome and Introduction of Carter Bates, representing the Braddock District. Mr. Bates works for Customer Values Partners (CVP), a large federal consulting firm providing IT, management, and communication services. Mr. Bates gives a brief self-introduction to the committee.

- There is one remaining vacant ITPAC seat representing the Fairfax County Public School Board. The FCPS staff liaison has been notified and continues to work with leadership to identify a candidate.

DISCUSSION:

The “**Issue of the Day.**” segment is next on the agenda. This interactive discussion is placed on the agenda prior to any formal DIT presentations, to encourage meaningful discussion and conversation on IT topics of interest.

- CTO Greg Scott updates ITPAC about Fairfax placing second in the annual Digital County Survey for jurisdictions with a population of 1 million or greater.
- Chairman Blum asks if there is any support work for the IT Department concerning the situation with Monkeypox. CTO Scott responds that Dr. Gloria Addo-Ayensu, Director of the Health Department (HD) provided a briefing at the recent Senior Management Team (SMT) meeting and noted that HD is working the issue and is in a pretty good place with regards to that situation currently. Mr. Scott noted that DIT is on standby and ready to provide any assistance requested by HD.
- Dennis Carlton asks about the status of discussions on the Chief Data Officer topic. CTO Scott noted that conversations are ongoing and he anticipates they will pick up in the near future now that budget and other priority topics have been addressed. No action required on ITPAC's part for now.

The primary focus of today's discussion is to provide a forum for an open question and answer session in which DIT's summer interns will ask questions of ITPAC members on topics of IT and related areas of interest and let the conversation develop from there. The following questions were asked by DIT interns and engaging discussion and insight ensued:

- I am interested in information systems, specifically data and analytics. What kind of data do you work with as part of the Information Systems and Supply Chain Management Systems Department and how is that data being utilized?
- What do I need to start learning and doing now if was interested in working in demographics and statistical research?
- How can I start learning about networks and get practical experience with networks?
- What was your introduction to the Artificial Intelligence (AI)/Machine Learning (ML) field and how do you keep current as the field is advancing and changing quickly? Also, can you provide an example of a big project you have been working on?
- How can someone learn and experiment with AI if they don't own powerful enough hardware to run extremely complex tasks?
- Being both a Person of Color and a Woman, what was your experience like in gaining your successful positions and what were the hardships you had to face?
- How have you seen data analytics be applied in important matters, whether that be examples or otherwise?
- What was your most valuable learning experience that prepared you for your position and/or what mistakes have you made from which you learned a valuable lesson you could share?
- What are some of the main growth areas in IT you see in the next 5 years and how are you positioning your companies/area to make the most of this?
- To what degree has community engagement played a role in your work from planning to implementation? If to a significant degree, what cross-applications of this community engagement do you see as possible in related efforts?
- As members/former members of organizations that provide IT/cyber security services to the federal government, why does it seem like the United States is frequently getting hacked and what role have your organizations played in mitigating threats?

- What has ITPAC achieved that has had the biggest positive impact on the county as a whole?
- As CIO at Share Our Strength, what is your biggest goal within the next three years?

Sharvani Roy also discusses a couple of group projects the interns are working on, one using Microsoft HoloLens technology to provide career experience or sustainability experiences for youth in the county and the other is a trivia app to engage youth to allow them to learn more about the county.

CONCLUSION:

Before adjourning, a brief discussion on whether to hold the upcoming September 22, 2022 ITPAC meeting in person or remotely was undertaken. The desire, if conditions allow, is to hold this meeting in person in GC Conference Rooms 9-10. The situation will continue to be monitored and if this needs to change, notice will be given. It will likely be necessary to continue having these discussions at each meeting.

Other presentations on the meeting agenda were held for the next meeting due to time constraints and the excellent conversation with the DIT interns.

Before adjourning, a quick discussion ensued on 988 (suicide and crisis lifeline) services. Recently, the FCC has designated the code "988" as a nationwide Mental Health Crisis and Suicide Prevention number. CTO Scott notes that DIT is looking to work with the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board on this issue moving forward.

The meeting adjourned at 10:03 A.M.

The next regular ITPAC meeting is scheduled for September 22, 2022 at 8:00 A.M., with an additional meeting scheduled for December 1, 2022 at 8:00 A.M. The remaining BOS IT Committee meeting date for 2022 is October 18, at 11:00 A.M.