

Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee (ITPAC) Meeting Summary

September 9, 2021

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	
Sadaqat Ahmad	Hunter Mill District	X	
Michael Aschenaki	Lee District	X	
William Berg	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	
Richard Kostro	Mt. Vernon District	X	
Mark Lay	NOVA Technology Council	X	
Andie Powell	Fairfax County Public Schools	X	
VACANT	Chamber of Commerce		X
Sean Rastatter	Springfield District	X	
Kathryn Walsh	At Large Member	X	

County Staff Present:

DIT – Greg Scott, Chief Technology Officer (CTO); George Coulter; Nate Wentland; Mike Dent (CISO); Robert Barr; Michelle Breckenridge; Simran Dhami; Debra Dunbar; Adam Eldert; Brian Heffern; Linda Moore; Mike Palacios; Maura Power; Anita Rao; Kim Satterthwaite; Randhir Singh; Afsaneh Tibbs
DMB – Kim Panzer; Mark Thomas
DTA Jay Doshi

September 9, 2021 Meeting Agenda:



ITPAC agenda
September 9.pdf

Note: Meeting materials were posted online at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/informationtechnology/itpac and were sent to ITPAC members via email. An audio recording of this meeting will be posted on the ITPAC website and www.soundcloud.com/fairfaxcounty

ITPAC COMMITTEE MATTERS: Today's meeting was called to order at 8:05 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. Of note: Anne Cahill's voice was not able to be heard during roll call. She was able to call in on an alternate device later in the meeting and participated in the meeting but did not vote. In addition, Chairman Ed Blum arrived after the roll call and votes discussed below but was able to participate once logged on.

Vice Chairman Walsh 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 12-0 (Anne Cahill not voting while working out technical issues and Ed Blum not voting as he had yet to arrive).

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.

Vice Chairman Walsh 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://us02web.zoom.us/j/85369428001?pwd=ZXYzYXJZY3dwUndnSINsNzRRajlxUT09>

The meeting can also be accessed by entering the meeting code **853 6942 8001** and passcode **660986** or via phone.

The motion was seconded by John Hanks and approved unanimously (12-0).

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

Finally, Vice Chairman Walsh 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 (12-0).

Minutes

- A motion to approve the minutes from the 6/10/21 meeting was moved by Sue Hoffman and seconded by Kathy Walsh. It was approved unanimously (12-0).

In Brief

- ITPAC members were thanked for all completing the acknowledgement form of the County One Fairfax policy by the revised deadline of September 17, 2021.

- Brian Heffern gave a brief description of the proposed updates to the ITPAC Remote Meeting Policy that were required to be consistent with State law changes that became effective on 7/1/21. After a brief discussion, a motion to approve the revised policy was made by Kathy Walsh and seconded by John Hanks. It was approved unanimously (12-0).

Membership Matters

- ITPAC members were reminded that the following memberships expire on December 31, 2021: Sadaqat Ahmad (Hunter Mill); Michael Aschenaki (Lee); Anne Cahill (LWV); Andie Powell (FCPS); and Kathy Walsh (At Large).

DISCUSSION:

The recently instituted “**Issue of the Day.**” segment was 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.

- Dennis Carlton discusses research he completed on IT security at a high level and concludes that Fairfax is in excellent hands with CISO Mike Dent (as he was referenced in many of the articles he referenced) and thinks further ITPAC research should be targeted in other areas of IT interest such as blockchain technology. A brief discussion ensues on blockchain with several ITPAC members participating. CTO Greg Scott says he will revisit this issue with Board IT Committee Chairman Walter Alcorn. Sadaqat Ahmad noted the following provided a good primer on blockchain: <https://www.theverge.com/22654785/blockchain-explained-cryptocurrency-what-is-stake-nft>
- CTO Greg Scott also notes that he recently had a discussion with his to King County, WA about their data governance work. Fairfax County is looking to implement something in a similar. A brief discussion ensued on this topic.
- Other topics discussed include: DIT’s successful intern program with George Mason University graduate students; recent meetings CISO Mike Dent and CTO Greg Scott had with each individual Board member on security and other related issues of IT interest; and the Strategic Plan outreach work session on June 22, 2021, for which Sadaqat Ahmad and Sue Hoffman attended the meeting on ITPAC’s behalf.

AGENDA:

The first primary presentation on the agenda is a conversation/dialogue with ITPAC about areas where DIT can benefit from ITPAC experience, input, and feedback. CTO Greg Scott noted that some areas that could be discussed either today or in the future include:

- *Emerging Technologies and IT Build Out*
- *Forward Thinking IT – What are things DIT Should Be Looking at?*
- *Augmented Reality-What should Government’s be Looking at?*
- *Enhancing Equity/Broadband-Any ITPAC experiences in these areas*
- Other topics that were brought up in the discussion include: Robotic Process Administration; the reality that sometimes what leadership seeks in the pandemic-era are actually business process solutions or cultural change but are still looking for technology solutions; and the difficulty in securing technology talent.
- It is noted that ITPAC experience, input and feedback can be more direct once it is known specifically “What is the problem you are trying to solve?”
- A lengthy discussion materializes on the topic of broadband, specifically affordability, including those not covered by school programs such as the elderly. Anne Cahill noted that we should be looking in getting technology into the county’s subsidized housing to support our low-income residents. Consensus is that broadband should be thought of as a utility.

The second primary presentation on today's agenda is an overview on the **Tax and Business System (TABS)** implementation. *The main presenter was Robert Barr.*



Sept 9 - TABS system
RB.pptx

- Rob goes through the attached presentation in detail, including an extended demonstration of how the new system works. It is noted that this has been many years in the works and is designed to provide substantially enhanced efficiencies.
- Anne Cahill asks several technical follow up questions and DTA Director Jay Doshi joins the call and thanks all of those involved for their work and ITPAC for their support.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 A.M. The next regular ITPAC meeting is currently scheduled for October 21, 2021 at 8:00 A.M. IT will be determined at a later date whether this meeting will be held in-person in the Government Center or remote.