AGENDA
NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
1526 Building, Lower Level - Development Center
1526 K Street
Lincoln, Nebraska
Live Stream Broadcast via Webex
Thursday, November 12, 2020
10:00 a.m. CT

10:00 a.m.   1. Roll call; meeting notice; Open Meetings Act information.

2. Public comment.

3. **Approval of July 9, 2020 meeting minutes.*** *(Attachment 3)*

4. Reports from the advisory councils and Technical Panel.
10:05 a.m.   a. Education Council report – Tom Rolfes. *(Attachment 4-a)*
                     i. Digital Education and Network Nebraska updates.
10:25 a.m.   b. GIS Council report – John Watermolen. *(Attachment 4-b)*
10:45 a.m.   c. Community Council report – Anne Byers. *(Attachment 4-c)*
                     i. Broadband update.
11:05 a.m.   d. eHealth Council report – Anne Byers. *(Attachment 4-d)*
                     i. **Approval of membership nomination.***
11:25 a.m.   e. Technical Panel report – Kirk Langer.
                     i. Enterprise projects. *(Attachment 4-e-i)*
                         1. **Close the following enterprise project: Dept. of Health and Human Services' Eligibility and Enrollment Systems (ESS) project.***
                         2. **Designate the following project as an enterprise project: Dept. of Health and Human Services' iServe Nebraska program.***
                         3. Enterprise project status dashboard report.
                     ii. **Approval of the Recommendations on Technology Investments for the 2021-2023 Biennium.*** *(Attachment 4-e-ii)*
11:50 a.m.   f. State Government Council report – Ed Toner.

11:55 a.m.   5. **Approval of the Progress Report to the Governor and Legislature.***
                 (Attachment 5)

12:00 p.m.   6. Adjourn.

* Indicates an action item.

The Commission will attempt to adhere to the sequence of the published agenda, but reserves the right to adjust the order and timing of items and may elect to take action on any of the items listed. If you need interpreter services or other reasonable accommodations, please contact the Commission at 402-471-3560 at least five days prior to the meeting to coordinate arrangements.

Meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on October 23, 2020. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on November 6, 2020.

Nebraska Open Meetings Act

LIVE STREAM BROADCAST INSTRUCTIONS
(Note: Commissioners may not attend via Webex.)

To join this online event

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1. Go to https://nvcn-cio.webex.com/nvcn-cio/j.php?MTID=e6d658f57168e7edd0c3de32a023323f6

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Attachment 3

NEBRASKA INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION
1526 Building, Lower Level - Development Center
1526 K Street, Lincoln, Nebraska
(Live Stream Broadcast via Webex)
Thursday, July 9, 2020, 10:00 a.m. CT
MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT:
Ed Toner, Chief Information Officer, Chair
Senator Bruce Bostelman, Nebraska Legislature
Dan Spray, Precision Technologies, Inc.
Shane Greckel, Greckel Farms, LLC
Gary Warren, Hamilton Telecommunications
Walter Weir, University of Nebraska

MEMBERS PRESENT VIA WEBEX FOR DISCUSSION ONLY:
LaShonna Dorsey, Mutual of Omaha
Dr. Terry Haack, Bennington Public Schools
Dorest Harvey, US Strategic Command/J84

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tom Nutt, Phelps County Commissioner

ROLL CALL; MEETING NOTICE; OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

The Chair, Ed Toner, called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. There were six members present at the time of roll call. A quorum existed to conduct official business. A copy of the Open Meetings Act was located on the table of the meeting room. The meeting notice was posted to the NITC website and the Nebraska Public Meeting Calendar on June 19, 2020. The agenda was posted to the NITC website on July 2, 2020.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

APPROVAL OF MARCH 12, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Spray moved to approve the March 12, 2020 minutes as presented. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Spray-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

REPORTS FROM THE ADVISORY COUNCILS AND TECHNICAL PANEL

TECHNICAL PANEL REPORT
Ed Toner

Enterprise Project Status Dashboard Report. Commissioner Toner provided an update on the following enterprise projects: Department of Health and Human Services-New Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS); Department of Health and Human Services Medicaid Eligibility & Enrollment System; Nebraska Council of Regions – Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network; and the Office of the CIO Centrex Replacement. Commissioners were given an opportunity to ask questions about the projects.

Technical Standards and Guidelines

Approval of Proposal 17. Revise the Agency Information Technology Plan Form. Mr. Becker introduced the proposal. The Technical Panel has recommended approval.

Commissioner Weir moved to approve Proposal 17. Commissioner Spray seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Spray-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

EDUCATION COUNCIL REPORT
Tom Rolfes

Approval of Membership Nominations. The Education Council met on April 15 but cancelled the June 17 meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for August 19. The Education Council recommends approval of the reappointment of the following eight members to serve July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022.
>	For the Higher Education sector: Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska System; Greg Maschman, Independent Colleges & Universities; Tom Peters, Community College System; and John Dunning, State College System
>	For the K-12 Education sector: Gary Needham, Educational Service Units; Dan Hoesing, Administrators; Alan Moore, School Board Members; and Burke Brown, Public Teachers

Commissioner Warren moved approval of the Education Council's membership recommendation. Commission Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Spray-Yes, Warren-Yes, Weir-Yes, Toner-Yes, and Greckel-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Network Nebraska Update. The revised Action Items and Network Nebraska vignette appear in the Statewide Technology Plan on pp 23-28. The State Purchasing Bureau and Office of the CIO released RFP 6206 to put 260 fiber circuits out for bid. Overall, as the Network Nebraska vignette shows, bandwidth continues to increase and costs for transport and internet continue to decrease. Mr. Rolfes encouraged the Commissioners to read the vignette.

Digital Education Update. The revised Action Items and Digital Education vignette appear in the Statewide Technology Plan on pp 29-32. On May 19, the Nebraska Public Service Commission voted unanimously to approve Docket NUSF-117, which created the Nebraska Special Construction Matching Fund of up to $1 million over four years to incentivize new fiber construction to public libraries and any remaining schools. The Nebraska Department of Education created the Launch Nebraska website (www.launchne.com) with technical guidance for school districts as they plan to resume education this fall. In the Hierarchy of Digital Learning Needs, student connectivity is #1, followed by computing devices, software systems, digital content, and teacher professional development. Nebraska K-12 has almost $84 million in CARES Act funding to use to overcome the challenges of the Homework Gap and continued virtual learning.

Mr. Rolfes informed the Commissioners that the Education Council plans to provide a report of COVID-19 response activities by K-12 and higher education entities in time for their November 2020 meeting, as requested by Commissioner Weir during the March 12, 2020 NITC meeting,

Mr. Rolfes entertained questions from the Commissioners and from Technical Panel Chair, Kirk Langer.

GIS COUNCIL REPORT
John Watermolen

A written report was included in the meeting materials and highlighted a few items. The May 6 GIS meeting was conducted via WebEx. Twenty-two of the 27 council members were present. The GIS team has been working on the State of Nebraska's COVID dashboard. This is a coordinated effort between Department of Health and Human Services and Office of the CIO. The Dashboard is averaging 44,000 views a day. NebraskaMap site has been averaging 1,500 views a day. Mr. Watermolen proceeded with a demonstration of the COVID dashboard and the Network Nebraska Fiber Connection web mapping application.

Mr. Watermolen entertained questions from the Commissioners.

COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT
Anne Byers

Approval of Membership Nomination. The Community Council recommends approval of the nomination of Nichole Reiner to represent the Nebraska Department of Economic Development. Ms. Reiner is the Chief Strategist for the Department of Economic Development and has been heading up broadband efforts.

Commissioner Greckel moved approval of the Community Council membership recommendation. Commissioner Spray seconded. Roll call vote: Greckel-Yes, Toner-Yes, Weir-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Spray-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Broadband Update. On June 20, 2020, Governor Ricketts launched four Get Nebraska Growing grant programs funded by the CARES Act. Up to $40 million will be available for grants to provide broadband to unserved communities and areas to enable residents to work from home, participate in online learning, and access health care via telehealth. Applications are due July 2. Projects must be completed by December 30, 2020. Information on the program is available at https://getnebraskagrowing.nebraska.gov.

The Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC) approved an E-Rate Special Construction Matching Program for schools and libraries which do not have fiber. In addition, the PSC approved a $1 million broadband adoption program to reimburse telecommunications carriers for providing service to low-income families as a part of the response to the COVID-19 emergency.

Eight case studies showing strategies and models that communities can use to improve broadband availability are being developed. The case studies include Gothenburg, Seward County, Ravenna, Lincoln, Norfolk, Imperial, Paige Wireless, and Lancaster County. Additional case studies may be added later.

Ms. Byers entertained questions from the Commissioners.

EHEALTH COUNCIL REPORT
Anne Byers

A written report was included in the meeting materials which included highlights and information regarding: NeHII and the FCC's COVID-19 Telehealth Program. Ms. Byers entertained questions from the Commissioners.

STATE GOVERNMENT COUNCIL REPORT
Ed Toner

Mr. Toner described the activities of the Office of the CIO in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Toner entertained questions from the Commissioners.

APPROVAL OF THE REVISED STATEWIDE TECHNOLOGY PLAN
Ed Toner

Commissioners received the statewide technology plan in their meeting materials. Commissioners had positive comments about the plan and had no recommended changes.

Commissioner Spray moved to approve the revised Statewide Technology Plan. Commissioner Weir seconded. Roll call vote: Warren-Yes, Weir-Yes, Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, and Spray-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

BRIEFING ON SECURITY AND PROTECTION MEASURES UTILIZED BY THE NEBRASKA OFFICE OF THE CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER.

Mr. Toner introduced Jon Frank who will provide the Commission with a briefing on the state's information technology security and protection measures.

Commissioner Weir moved that the Commission go into a closed session for the purpose of receiving a briefing on the security and protection measures utilized by the Nebraska Office of the Chief Information Officer. The briefing—if conducted in an open public session—could threaten the information technology security of the systems discussed. Commissioner Greckel seconded. Roll call vote: Toner-Yes, Greckel-Yes, Spray-Yes, Warren-Yes, and Weir-Yes. Results: Yes-5, No-0, Abstained-0. Motion carried.

Mr. Toner restated that the Commission is going into closed session for the purpose of receiving a briefing on the security and protection measures utilized by the Nebraska Office of the CIO.

The Commission went into closed session at 11:36 a.m.

Commissioner Spray left the meeting at 12:05 p.m.

The closed session ended at 12:30 p.m.

Mr. Toner stated that the only matters discussed in the close session were those set forth in the motion to go into closed session. No decisions were made nor any formal actions taken.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Greckel moved to adjourn. Commissioner Weir seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Meeting minutes were taken by Lori Lopez Urdiales and reviewed by the NITC Managers.

Attachment 4-a

TO: NITC Commissioners
FROM: Tom Rolfes, Education I.T. Manager
DATE: 11/6/2020
RE: Network Nebraska and Digital Education Initiative Reports

Education Council update: The Education Council met on August 26, but opted to cancel their October 21 meeting for inability to achieve a quorum in Lincoln, since the use of videoconferencing is limited. Progress is still being made on the NITC Action Items, even as schools and colleges grapple with the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Network Nebraska Update:

1. **Prepare for the future of Network Nebraska as a statewide, multipurpose, high capacity, scalable telecommunications network**
   a. The 250 RFP 6206 circuits are 99% installed, tested and accepted.
   b. The next RFP that includes potential new members for Network Nebraska, and the Special Construction Matching fund sites, is under development
   c. Only about a dozen school districts took advantage of the FCC's special E-rate window to increase their fiber Ethernet circuit capacity for 2020-21 to provide for more virtual and distance education
   d. Network Nebraska internet and backbone have been "holding steady" with no significant increase in demands for bandwidth capacity

2. **Effectively communicate to current and potential Network Nebraska Participants**
   a. The Network Nebraska Annual Fee Memo went out to 300 recipients in early August, highlighting that Network Nebraska internet unit costs decreased by 30% for 2020-21
   b. Network Nebraska staff and leadership are working with ESU 11 to co-develop a marketing pamphlet to emphasize the benefits and services of Network Nebraska

3. **Identify needs and deliver advanced services to meet the growing needs of its membership**
   a. At the request of Ed Toner, State Security Officer, Patrick Wright, and University of Nebraska Security Officer, Rick Haugeruud, conducted a cybersecurity listening session with stakeholders on 10/14/2020, which was followed by a launch of a statewide survey of cybersecurity devices and training efforts.
   b. Zoom licensing demand from Network Nebraska entities increased from 19,000 licenses in 2019-20 to 35,000 licenses in 2020-21, an 84% increase

Digital Education Update:

1. **Disseminate informational reports to insure the success of Nebraska digital education**
   a. Worked with the Nebraska Department of Education on the Digital Learning Guidance document, September's Digital Equity Month, and the Request For Information (RFI) to document providers' best residential education internet service

2. **Expand awareness and address the need for equity of access**
   a. Working with the Nebraska Rural Community Schools Association to co-develop a "playbook" for superintendents to collect and map student address data, and then increase the level of student home internet to help mitigate the Homework Gap
   b. Working with the Rural Broadband Task Force Homework Gap subcommittee to identify promising wireless technologies and public-private partnerships to improve rural connectivity to student homes

Attachment 4-b

November 12, 2020

To: NITC Commissioners

From: John Watermolen, State GIS Coordinator
        Michael Schonlau, Chair, GIS Council
        Casey DunnGosslin, Vice Chair, GIS Council

Subject: GIS Council Report

GIS Council Updates

The GIS Council met on August 5th and November 4th since the last NITC meeting – Both meetings were held, but due to the pandemic, we were not able to reach quorum.

Will be hosting a virtual GIS day on November 18th in the morning. Agencies will be providing presentations of GIS activities that they are working on.

Council member reports are in the update section.
Here are some highlights from those meeting.

Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure (NESDI) Updates

Below are the updates for the Strategic Initiatives, which are also at the end of this document in table form.

Nebraska Geodetic and Survey Control

State surveyor continues to prepare for the implementation of the 2022 datum.

Nebraska Street Centerline and Address Program

Public Service Commission and their vendor are continuing to make progress on the NG911 data sets. The OCIO GIO staff and PSC are working to make the data available in the Enterprise Geodatabase to share with other agencies and publish on NebraskaMap. PSC has about 2/3rd of the state done with address points and the PSAP boundaries are 85% complete

NebraskaMap

We have added several more applications and data sets for the public, such as municipal boundaries and points. We are trying to get the NebraskaMap working group together, to see if we want to add local data to NebraskaMap and make it a true one stop location for GIS data in Nebraska.

Nebraska Statewide Elevation Program

Natural Resource Conservation Service, FEMA and U.S. Geological Survey are planning for a 2020 LiDAR Collection. The focus of this collection will be Northeast Nebraska. FEMA recently added to recollect data in the panhandle to bring most of the state up to Quality level 2.

State Agency and Partners GIS Updates:

OCIO
- ESRI still commends the GIO team on how well we have implemented our Enterprise Platform and are pushing the limits of the software with the bugs that we find and workflows we question. We have a meeting with the city of Seattle, because they are interested on how we have our environment and they are trying to do the same.
- Department of Agriculture - piloting a mobile collection form on software that may be more efficient than current solution. Testing is going well and it is opening the doors for more projects with the Department of Agriculture.
- Worked on Census school districts for their yearly review. Have completed the tasks and submitted the data back to Census.
- Continue to Retiring old servers and working on infrastructure improvements and efficiencies
- Working with PSC NG911 to migrate the 911 data repository to NebraskaMap
- Creating a web application for OCIO site support to help their staff
- Consolidated Department of Health and Human Services GIS licenses and helping them to manage them. Implemented a solution to be able other to help other agencies manage their GIS licenses, if they do not want to. It themselves.
- Working with Procurement and ESRI on an Enterprise License Agreement. Hope to have it implemented by the end of the year.
- Working on a state GIS assessment and hope to have it finalized for the next NITC meeting
- Continue to support the state COVID19 dashboard

Game and Parks Commission
- Updated open lands applications
- Documenting process for offline mobile data for hunters
- Wildlife staff using GIS Survey123 for data collection
- Update boundaries layer next spring

Department of Natural Resources
- Migrated all data and applications to new NEGIS platform
- Creating an Ice Jam Reporting tool
- Creating a water sustainability story map for the next legislative session
- Updating older applications to the new GIS environment an example would be a Groundwater Well application
- Creating a Dashboard for Decision support regarding water allocations along the Platte River

Hall County
- Continue to support the Local Health District COVID dashboard
- New Property Information Application

Sarpy County
- Participated in a GeoElection Webinar
- With their online data- a golf course designer was able to do a preliminary design for a golf course near Gretna

Department of Health and Human Services
- Preparing maps and data for COVID requests
- Looking at GIS options to help with vaccine distribution
- Getting their DHHS data into the NEGIS Enterprise system

Nebraska Emergency Management Agency
- Cleaning up projects
- Working on incident status report and damage assessment forms using GIS Survey 123

Department of Transportation
- Continue to work on a migration/consolidation of GIS software and projects.
- In their innovation challenges, submitted 8 GIS projects and 2 of them placed 3rd and 4th.
- Migrated older applications to the new GIS environment
- Decision Support dashboard for airports

USGS-Federal Government
- Status of 2019 Lidar collection and shared proposed 2020 LiDAR collection areas
- Discussed timelines for approval of some of the collections

NE GIS Educations
- Geofest in November to help teachers understand and use GIS
- Promoting state story map contest and trying to get schools interested in competing for 2021
- Working on identifying Geomentors to help with teachers

Douglas County
- Updated COVID site, which has report creation capability
- Rolling out a ArcGIS Hub site to help citizens report track their reports
- 2020 imagery that is 1" resolution
- Drone program that is getting busy and busy

Public Service Commission
- Continuing to work on street centerlines and address points for NG911
- PSAP boundaries are about 85% complete
- Address Points should be completed next year and then a locator will be created and available to the public

Lincoln-Lancaster
- Using an ESRI jumpstart to help with High Availability and to help with large data (snow plow tracking)
- Created a COVID dashboard
- Created a GIS help desk to help city and county users
- 20 year sub basin plan and working with a contractor to standardize the formats

Nebraska State Patrol
- Working with OCIO team with data issues
- Reorganizing and moving to a new building

Industry Surveying
- Many clients of engineering firms want apps for facility maintenance and asset management- goal of the Professional Survey Association Nebraska is to help promote surveying in GIS
- Discussed the Datum change in 2022 and a way to get the high quality survey points and as built into a GIS format
- Would like to start discussions with sharing data
- County low distortion projections versus regional low distortion projections- how to use and how it affects deliverables

Legislative Research
- Requests for maps from Senators for the current session and starting to focus on redistricting

Attachment 4-c

November 4, 2020

To: NITC Commissioners

From: Anne Byers

Subject: Community Council Report

Community Council. The Community Council will meet on Nov. 12 at 1:30 p.m.

Remote Access Rural Broadband Grants. On October 8, Governor Pete Ricketts announced the award of more than $29.5 million in funding under the Remote Access Rural Broadband Grant program, administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED). The grants will connect 17,600 households by Dec. 30, 2020. The grant program was funded through the CARES Act. The press release with a listing of recipients is included in the meeting materials.

Precision Ag Demo. Members of the Rural Broadband Task Force and other interested stakeholders were invited to a precision ag demo in Arnold and Sutherland hosted by Paige Wireless, Great Plains Communications, and Custer Public Power District. Different methods of connectivity will likely be required for precision agriculture, including:

- High bandwidth connectivity which may require fiber to or near the farm
- Low-cost, low bandwidth connectivity for connecting sensors and devices
- Cellular or Wi-Fi connectivity for devices requiring greater bandwidth.

LoRaWAN (Long Range Wide Area Network) is a low power networking protocol designed to connect battery-operated sensors and other devices to the internet. Paige Wireless has deployed LoRaWAN across 70% of Nebraska. It will be deployed to the entire state by the end of this year. The cost to connect a device is approximately $2 per device per month. It may be best suited for single sensor devices. LoRaWAN is not line of sight and can work like a mesh network.

Key takeaways from the demo are included in the meeting materials.

FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund (RDOF). The RDOF reverse auction kicked off on Thursday, Oct. 29. Up to $51,795,934 in support over 10 years to connect 43,445 locations in Nebraska is available to providers through the reverse auction.

Nebraska Universal Service Fund. In 2021, $40 million will be available to price cap (large, multi-state carriers) and rate of return (small, rural) carriers for capital broadband projects through the Nebraska Universal Service Fund. This includes $24 million allocated annually for broadband capital projects and $16 million carried over from 2020.

Carrier Type	2021 Allocation	2020 Carry over	Total Available in 2021
Price Cap Carriers	$16 million	$6 million	$32 million
Rate of Return Carriers	$8 million		$8 million

On Nov. 3, the Public Service Commission approved NUSF-99 Progression Order 2 which reforms support for price cap carriers.

- Each exchange is assigned a maximum amount of buildout support that would be reimbursed to carriers once the buildout is completed to all eligible locations within that exchange.

- The minimum buildout is 25 Mbps down/3 Mbps up. However, the support mechanism is based on a fiber-to-the-home model. The Commission has expressed a preference for "future proof" networks and expects that carriers will utilize NUSF support to deploy fiber-based networks.

- Eligible areas are those that are rural, are not eligible for RDOF support, are not already built to 25/3 Mbps or greater, and do not already have competitive service at 25/3 Mbps with voice offered, and are not receiving support from the CAFII Reverse Auction. Areas which for which NUSF-99 support has been approved but not built out and areas where the Nebraska Department of Economic Development broadband support was awarded are also excluded. .

- The Public Service Commission released an initial list of exchanges served by price cap carriers, where each exchange includes the maximum reimbursable amount, based on the remaining eligible blocks and locations in each respective exchange.

- Challenges must be filed by Dec. 1, 2020. The final list will be released on January 13, 2021.

- Carriers will have 6 months to provide notice of projects that use 95% of their available buildout support for that year. If that threshold is not met, any remaining support would be forfeited to fund a reverse auction to bring 25/3 broadband to exchanges within that carrier's territory that do have projects planned.

- Projects must be built out within 18 months.

Gov. Ricketts Announces Recipients of Rural Broadband Grants

October 8, 2020

Today, Governor Pete Ricketts announced the award of more than $29.5 million in funding under the Remote Access Rural Broadband Grant program, administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED).

"These grants will lead to better broadband service in many areas of the state that are currently underserved," said Gov. Ricketts. "The enhanced service will equip more of our rural communities with the technology needed to conduct business online, make virtual health visits, and engage in distance learning opportunities."

The Broadband program was one of four grants designed and administered by DED this year to support the state's economic recovery in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic.

"COVID-19 has underscored the need for a more concentrated, collaborative effort to improve our state's broadband infrastructure," said DED Director Anthony L. Goins. "This grant is an important first step toward ensuring all citizens of Nebraska have the opportunity to participate in the digital economy."

The Broadband grant opportunity—made possible by federal CARES Act funding, including $1.08 billion of Coronavirus Relief funds allocated to the State of Nebraska—was announced by DED last spring. The grants target areas of the state where high speed internet service is nonexistent or subpar based on the FCC standard of 25/3 Mbps download/upload speeds.

When all projects are completed, a minimum of 17,600 housing units will gain the ability to subscribe to broadband internet service. Most of the projects being awarded are scheduled for completion by the end of the year, with controls in place to ensure agreements are executed as planned in a timely manner.

The recipients of the Rural Broadband Remote Access Grants are listed below:

2020 Remote Access Rural Broadband Recipients

RDOF = Rural Digital Opportunity Fund

Units Approved = Minimum housing units newly capable of subscribing to broadband following project completion.

Awardee	Project Area	Grant Amount	Units Approved
ATC Communications	Arapahoe	$512,000	169
Bluestem Network LLC	Pleasant Dale (Rural RDOF Area)	$658,965	223
Charter Communications, Inc.	Brule	$141,400	186
Consolidated Telephone Company, Inc.	Dunning (Rural)	$39,694	12
Consolidated Telephone Company, Inc.	Hyannis (Rural)	$151,734	25
Consolidated Telephone Company, Inc.	Seneca (Rural)	$151,145	19
Country Mile Wireless, Inc	Cedar Creek	$89,439	100
Country Mile Wireless, Inc	Cedar Creek (Rural RDOF Area)	$138,605	100

Diode Communications	Beatrice (Pioneer Acres)	$117,000	26
Diode Communications	Beatrice (Rural Southwest RDOF Area)	$756,000	90
Diode Communications	Holmesville	$130,786	31
USA Communications, LLC	Atkinson	$580,798	638
USA Communications, LLC	Buffalo County (Block Group 1 – RDOF Area)	$1,441,000	400
USA Communications, LLC	Buffalo County (Block Group 4 – RDOF Area)	$400,720	116
USA Communications, LLC	Elwood	$281,206	361
USA Communications, LLC	Kearney (Antelope Ridge Development)	$173,410	89
Glenwood Telecommunications, Inc.	Franklin	$724,500	483
Glenwood Telecommunications, Inc.	Franklin (RDOF Area)	$554,657	128
Glenwood Telecommunications, Inc.	Guide Rock	$403,443	28
Great Plains Communications	Callaway	$650,753	384

Great Plains Communications	Creighton	$1,707,081	748
Great Plains Communications	Deshler	$744,641	475
Great Plains Communications	Gordon	$1,507,733	1,009
Great Plains Communications	North Bend	$1,142,709	768
Great Plains Communications	Red Cloud	$2,018,372	796
Great Plains Communications	Sutherland	$1,134,424	608
Hamilton Telecommunications	Merrick County	$687,500	250
Infinity 8 Broadband	Rural Hickman	$147,279	68
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Banner County	$183,248	125
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Chase County	$207,885	225
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Cheyenne County	$228,044	140
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Deuel County	$131,178	200

Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Garden County	$195,613	200
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Kimball County	$168,316	180
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Morrill County	$147,245	125
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Perkins County	$198,229	225
Inventive Wireless of Nebraska, LLC dba Vistabeam	Scotts Bluff County	$396,563	450
Media King Communications	Macy	$115,954	230
Mobius Communications Company	Alliance (Westside Event Center)	$52,800	4
Mobius Communications Company	Alliance Airport	$122,720	26
Mobius Communications Company	Box Butte (RDOF Area)	$308,000	22
Mobius Communications Company	Box Butte County	$272,000	23
Mobius Communications Company	Dawes County (RDOF Area)	$320,000	26

NE Colorado Cellular, Inc.	Champion	$639,794	50
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Alma	$672,760	700
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Alma (Rural RDOF Area)	$216,592	143
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Beaver City	$395,758	435
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Beaver City (Rural RDOF Area)	$355,008	132
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Orleans (Rural RDOF Area)	$238,896	159
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Republican City	$271,520	227
Pinpoint Communications Inc.	Republican City (Rural RDOF Area)	$261,664	256
Skywave Wireless, Inc.	Tri-County (Cuming, Dodge, Burt)	$531,397	543
Spiral Communications	Union (Lake Waconda)	$34,536	220
Three River Telco	Ainsworth	$408,500	1,120
Three River Telco	O'Neill	$350,000	2,073
Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Rural Ashland	$1,275,499	345

Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Rural Garrison	$802,295	38
Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Rural Geneva	$880,752	244
Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Rural Hebron	$650,957	145
Windstream Nebraska, Inc.	Rural Louisville	$1,307,901	239
	Total	**$29,528,620**	**17,600**

Visit opportunity.nebraska.gov and getnebraskagrowing.nebraska.gov/broadband-grant for more info. To learn more about how Nebraska's federal Coronavirus Relief funds are being used, visit coronavirus.nebraska.gov/relief-fund.

The use of monitors/sensors in agriculture is still in the early adoption phase with only about 10-15% of agricultural producers widely using these technologies. Roric Paulman is one of the early adopters and uses about 100 apps on 80 fields. "A Day at Roric's: Connecting the Acre" is at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7Dmth6QkpdI

Real-time data is needed for decision-making. Data on precipitation received can result in significant savings by reducing irrigation. Producers also need real-time data on wind speed and direction and documentation in order to spray dicambra.

Connectivity and precision farming is driven by ROI. Roric Paulman estimates his ROI is $35 per acre with much of the ROI coming from marketing.

Precision Farming generates huge amounts of data.

25/3 broadband is not adequate for precision agriculture. Upload speeds of 30 Mbps or greater are needed.

Different methods of connectivity will likely be required.

- **Fiber to or near farm operations will likely be needed.** The Paulman Farm paid to have fiber installed to the farm and subscribes to 30 Mbps symmetrical service. They also can increase their bandwidth to 100/100 for events. The Smith Farm uses a point to point connection from a wireless provider using a Custer Public Power tower. Great Plains has fiber to the tower.
- **Low-cost, low bandwidth connectivity is needed for connecting sensors and devices.** LoRaWAN (Long Range Wide Area Network) is a low power networking protocol designed to connect battery-operated sensors and other devices to the internet. The cost to connect a device is approximately $2 per device per month. It may be best suited for single sensor devices. LoRaWAN is not line of sight and can work like a mesh network.
- **Cellular or Wi-Fi connectivity may be needed for devices requiring greater bandwidth.** One of the weather stations at the Smith Farm used LTE. The Paulman Farm has vehicles with cellular connectivity.

Nebraska will be the first state to have a statewide LoRaWAN network. Paige Wireless has deployed LoRaWAN across 70% of Nebraska. It will be deployed to the entire state by the end of this year.

Partnerships with public power and telecommunications providers have enabled Paige Wireless to deploy its network.

- Paige Wireless's deployment has utilized some of Custer Public Power's towers. Custer Public Power has partnered with Nebraska Central Telephone, Consolidated and Great Plains to connect substations and towers. Working with telecommunications providers has helped foster a public-private partnership mindset.
- Big Red Communications is leading an effort to form a cooperative of local wireless internet service providers (WISPs). The cooperative is supporting Paige Wireless's deployment. Twelve

providers have submitted letters of intent to participate in the Nebraska Cooperative of Internet Service Providers (NCISP). Participating providers will leverage shared resources. The cooperative will also utilize service level standards and provide accountability.

- For the Arnold deployment, the NCISP and Paige Wireless utilized Great Plains Communications' existing fiber to extend additional wireless offerings and high-speed internet service to surrounding agricultural operations.

Twin Platte Natural Resource District is using the LoRaWAN network and sensors to enable ground water management.

Young adults are demanding connectivity.

Precision farming requires the ability to analyze data and technology integration. Schools may need to adapt to develop a workforce with these skills.

Attachment 4-d

November 5, 2020

To: NITC Commissioners

From: Anne Byers

Subject: eHealth Council Report

New Member Nomination. Bridget Young from the Visiting Nurse Association of the Midlands is retiring. She has nominated Francie McNeal to represent the Visiting Nurse Association on the eHealth Council. Members approved her nomination via e-mail. I will be asking you to approve her nomination. Her bio is included in the meeting materials.

Francie McNeil

EXPERIENCE

2014-Present Visiting Nurse Association of the Midlands   **Omaha, NE**

Vice President of Program Development 2020-present
Director of Care Transitions and Business Development 2017-2020
Clinical Support Manager 2014-2017

- Lead the Clinical Support and Customer Service Team, with clinical liaison nurses and support staff, build long-term relationships with referral partners for homecare, hospice, infusion pharmacy and public health in Nebraska and Iowa
- Lead the Business Development Team in attracting strong, capacity-building referral relationships to meet agency mission and financial goals
- Lead the Care Transitions Teams by collaborating with hospital system partners to decrease avoidable hospital readmissions and patient education, engagement and empowerment
- Gallup Employee Engagement Champion
- Identifies need for process development, improvement, implementation and revision
- Contributes to the development, modification and maintenance of policies and procedures, best practices and quality outcomes for Joint Commission accreditation
- Administrator for software programs including electronic health records (Cerner, Epic) and referral software programs (Ensocare, Allscripts) and NEHII
- Serve on Ethics, Infection Control, Employee Engagement and Safety Committees

2013 Nebraska Methodist Hospital   **Omaha, NE**

Inpatient Nurse Care Coordinator
- Provide coordination and implementation of treatment plan, education and follow-up
- Collaborate with private physicians, hospitalists, specialists, staff nurses, social work, utilization management and ancillary staff to ensure appropriate discharges and post-hospital care
- Case manage for inpatients for effective transitions of care, supporting reimbursement and minimizing re-admissions

2004-2013 UNMC Physician's Pediatric Clinic   **Omaha, NE**

Nurse Case Manager and Care Coordinator
- Responsible for patient coordination and implementation of treatment plan, education and follow-up for complex and high risk social situations
- Staff development and issue resolver as a management intern
- Assist with research projects for physicians, performance improvement projects for clinical practice and patient education
- Super User for physicians and nurses, and Subject Matter Expert for EPIC implementation

2004 Bayada Home Health Nursing   **Bryn Mawr, PA**

Home Health Nurse
- Provide in-home professional nursing care to adults pursuant to their needs
- Deliver patient advocacy and navigation through a complex health system in greater Philadelphia area

2002-2004 University of Penn OB/GYN Practice
Philadelphia, PA
Nurse Coordinator: Urogynecology & Continence Center
- Assume responsibility for nursing operations of Continence Center
- Provide direct patient care including clinical procedures, patient education, counseling, and triage
- Manage physician's clinic and surgical schedules
- Support physicians in planning and coordination of urogynecology CME and urogynecology fellowship application process

1999-2002 Nebraska Health System OB/GYN Clinic   **Omaha, NE**
Urogynecology & Continence Center Coordinator and Case Manager
- Responsible for on-going operations of the Continence Center
- Accountable for patient care coordination and implementation of treatment plan, education and follow-up and triage
- Assist with clinic procedures, including: cystoscopies, voiding trials, and peri-urethral injections and urodynamics
- Responsible for clinic scheduling and coordination of surgeries
- Update and revise nursing policies & procedures specific to Continence Center
- Elected to Ambulatory Nursing Council co-chair and delegate to Nebraska Health System, Nursing Operations Committee

1998-1999 University of Nebraska Medical Center   **Omaha, NE**
Staff Nurse: Medical-Surgical/Telemetry Unit
- Provide inpatient nursing care for complex patients
- Assist with Cardioversion—with ACLS certification
- Responsible for patient/family education and discharge planning
- Prepare for and participated in Joint Commission Survey

EDUCATION, CERTIFICATION & LICENSURE
2018 Nebraska Wesleyan University
  Master of Business Administration
2013 University of Nebraska Medical Center, Graduate Studies
  Master of Science, Nursing— Executive Leadership and Administration
1997 University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Nursing
  Bachelor of Science, Nursing

Nebraska Registered Nurse License #54633, thru 10/31/2020
Basic Life Support-CPR for Healthcare Providers, thru 3/28/2021
Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative for Human Research Curriculum, 2012-2016

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Nurses Association	2012—
Nebraska Nurses Association	2012—
Committee: Commission on Nursing Practice & Professional Development	2013-2015
Sigma Theta Tau-National Honor Society for Nursing	1997—
Member--Nebraska State Board of Nursing	2010-2013
National Council of State Boards of Nursing	2010-2013
National Association for Continence	2002-2004
American Urogynecology Society	2001-2003
Society of Urologic Nurses and Associates	1999-2004
Iowa Western Community College Healthcare Sector Board	2017-2019

VOLUNTEER

St. Jude Children's Research Hospital/ALSAC presenter	2009—
YMCA Youth Sports Coach, Volleyball and Soccer	2012-2015
UNMC Graduate School student appeals representative (by appointment)	2013
Stephen's Center Homeless Shelter	2015—

AWARDS

UNMC Physician's Leaders in Medicine, Spirit of Service Award	2012
UMA Exceptional Service & Performance Award	2005
UMA Physician's Outstanding Staff Nurse Award	2001

Attachment 4-e-i

Recommendation:

To close formal reporting on the DHHS Eligibility and Enrollment Systems (EES) project, and to begin reporting on a new DHHS program called iServe Nebraska, which includes and expands on the scope of the EES project.

Background:

In 2013, the DHHS EES Project was planned to build out new decision support capabilities to benefit citizens, health care providers and DHHS staff through an integrated system to provide health care eligibility screening, application, determination, and enrollment to DHHS benefit programs.

The EES system was intended to allow DHHS to:

- Incrementally retire its aging Nebraska Family On-Line Client User System (N-FOCUS), currently in use for eligibility determination.
- Meet the requirements of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) for real time eligibility determination.
- Align with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) seven standards and conditions for development of new technology systems.

In 2014, a contract was awarded to Systems Integrator (SI) Wipro, using the IBM Curam product. Work began in the summer of 2014 and persisted to January, 2019 – when the project was stopped due to a lack of progress against stated objectives. Reporting against this project has continued to date, but with no substantive updates as no work continued beyond early 2019.

DHHS, hired a 3rd party consultant, Gartner, Inc., to review the EES project and to provide recommendations and a road map on the path forward. From those recommendations, many changes and investments have been, and continue to be made to improve DHHS project delivery capabilities.

Today:

At the same time DHHS leadership considered the Gartner findings, Governor Ricketts also charged DHHS to integrate its *division wide* policies, procedures and technology to enable better access, outcomes, cost, quality and accountability to those it serves.

In response, DHHS has begun a business transformation initiative that it calls iServe, which includes the original Medicaid modernization envisioned under the EES program as well as other business process optimizations and technology enablement.

In Summary:

DHHS has thus determined it wishes to close out the original EES Project and begin reporting under its new business transformation program under the iServe program umbrella. Replacement of the ACCESSNebraska Portal and an incremental replacement of the N-FOCUS system form the basis of Phase 1 of the iServe Program.

Projects Status Dashboard
November 2020

Enterprise Projects - Current

Agency/Entity	Project	NITC Designated
Department of Health and Human Services	New Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS)	07/08/2009
Nebraska Council of Regions	Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network	03/15/2010
Department of Health and Human Services	Medicaid Eligibility & Enrollment System	10/28/2014
Office of the CIO	Centrex Replacement	07/12/2018

Note: Status is self-reported by the agency

Project Storyboard: Centrex Conversion

Project Manager	Kortus, Julie	Status Report Date	10/28/20	
Project Type	Major Project	Status	Approved	
Stage	Build	Progress	Started	
Total Estimated Cost	$2,800,000.00	Estimate to Complete		
Actual Cost To Date				

Project Dates

	Start	Finish
Plan	10/10/17	12/31/22
Baseline	10/10/17	12/31/22
Days Late	0	0

Status Report Indicators

Overall	⚠	➡
Schedule	⚠	➡
Scope	◆	➡
Cost and Effort	⚠	➡

Project Description

To secure the most cost efficient Hosted Voice Over Internet Protocol Telephony (VOIP) Services. This solution will replace the State's Centrex service throughout the State of Nebraska. The purpose of the project is to provide phone service that includes the most up-to-date VOIP features and functionality as a hosted service with equipment ownership, maintenance and service remaining with the Contractor.

Key Accomplishments

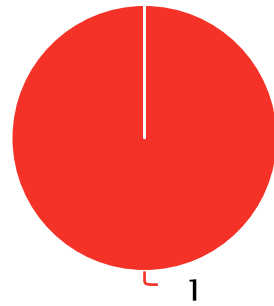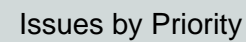We were able to convert Nebraska Department of Transportation telephones located at the 1500 Hwy 2 location.

We were able to convert Nebraska State Patrol telephones located at the 1600 Hwy 2 location.

Status Report Update

As of 10/28/2020:
4973 lines have been converted from Windstream to Allo.
10,000 lines is the projected total to convert from Windstream and CenturyLink.
Project is 49.7% complete.

Upcoming Activities

We are focusing on the Department of Health and Human Services. This agency holds the majority of the remaining Windstream lines.

Issues by Priority   Risks by Priority

Current Risks   More Risks...

Risk	Probability	Impact	Priority	Status	Target Resolution	Owner
Bandwidth at Sites	⚠	⚠	❌	Work in Progress	6/30/20	Kortus, Julie

Project Storyboard: Medicaid Eligibility & Enrollment System

Project Manager	Gartin, Dan	Status Report Date	11/6/19
Project Type		Status	Approved
Stage	Build	Progress	Started
Total Estimated Cost	$81,200,000.00	Estimate to Complete	77.98%
Actual Cost To Date	$63,318,485.00		

Project Dates

	Start	Finish
Plan	6/1/18	4/30/22
Baseline	6/1/18	4/30/22
Days Late	0	0

Status Report Indicators

Overall	◆	➡
Schedule	◆	➡
Scope	◆	➡
Cost and Effort	◆	➡

Project Description

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) included numerous provisions with significant information systems impacts. One of the requirements was to change how Medicaid Eligibility was determined and implement the changes effective 10/1/2014. As a result of the lack of time available to implement a long-term solution, the Department of Health and Human Services implemented a short-term solution in the current environment to meet initial due dates and requirements. This solution did not meet all Federal technical requirements for enhanced Federal funding but was approved on the assumption that a long-term solution would be procured. An RFP was developed and procurement has been completed with Wipro selected as the Systems Integrator for the IBM/Curam software.

Key Accomplishments

Gartner completed these deliverables:

A set of Imperatives and Drivers that established the purposes and intent for EES.
An Assessment of the EES Project governance, execution and outcomes.
An Alternatives Analysis of options to move forward.
A recommendation on how to move forward, with a roadmap of actionable steps.

Executive review of these outputs with DHHS, OCIO and IS&T leaders occurred in September, 2019.

Status Report Update

In 2014, the contract for an Eligibility and Enrollment System (EES) was awarded to the SI, Wipro Inc., using the IBM Cúram software product. The EES project's budget was approximately $80 million leveraging enhanced FFP of 90% Federal and 10% State dollars. The SI began in the summer of 2014.

The anticipated Return on Investment was not achieved, including:
 More complete and timely analytics
 Client benefits, such as real time eligibility determinations
 Bringing MLTC into Federal compliance with updated technologies

Throughout the SI development efforts, concerns were raised about the quality of deliverables, significant lack documentation, slippage in schedule and major concerns of budget expended without tangible results.

Following a review of the EES project conducted between October and December 2018, State executive leadership agreed to terminate the SI contract and seek a new partner.

Before procuring a new partner, however, the State asked Gartner, Inc. to review the then current state of EES, conduct an alternatives analysis, and identify strategies for moving forward with the DHHS integrated eligibility initiative.

Gartner spent four months analyzing the project, reviewing processes, governance, software, and documentation while conducting interviews with more than 100 DHHS staff and contractors, including leaders in DHHS, the OCIO and IS&T.

Gartner's recommendation was to go to market with a new procurement for an Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment Benefits Management (IE&E BM) system built from a framework of shared components that include:

Modern development tools and frameworks, business rules and process management systems, integration middleware, user experience/engagement and data mgmt. software.

Upcoming Activities

The newly branded Integrated Eligibility and Enrollment / Benefits Management project (IE&E / BM) is anticipated to begin procurement in Q3 of SFY20.

Significant investment in DHHS Enterprise Project Management Office (EPMO) processes, Architectural standards and procedures, data governance and management and Organizational Change Management processes will happen in parallel to this activity, setting foundations that will improve the potential for success in a new project.

Project Manager	Gartin, Dan	Status Report Date	7/30/20	
Project Type	Major Project	Status	Approved	
Stage	Test	Progress	Started	
Total Estimated Cost	$113,600,000.00	Estimate to Complete	15.29%	
Actual Cost To Date	$17,363,786.07			

Project Dates

	Start	Finish
Plan	7/1/14	11/16/20
Baseline	7/1/14	11/16/20
Days Late	0	0

Status Report Indicators

Overall	◆	➡
Schedule	◆	➡
Scope	◆	➡
Cost and Effort	◆	➡

Project Description

Medicaid and Long-Term Care (MLTC) has undertaken a strategic transformation toward a vision for a Medicaid enterprise that is fundamentally data-driven. This project supports the programmatic shift by giving the stakeholders access to claims and clinical data and appropriate analytic tools. This project of building a comprehensive data management and analytics (DMA) platform is aligned with the CMS modular approach to building system and operational capabilities. The current system consisting of legacy MMIS and Truven DW/DSS has several limitations that warrant the need to re-engineer the data management and analytical operations. The DMA system is envisioned to be the core repository for the State to address all its information and data needs.

Key Accomplishments

The program took 85% of functionality into production in a soft-launch, as planned, on 06/01/20. This allows for a five month parallel processing window with existing systems to ensure a smooth full go-live on 11/02/20.

The program placed code into production, as planned on 07/15/20, necessary to support Medicaid expansion efforts of the Heritage Health Adult program.

The program has completed certification evidence documents necessary to demonstrate achievement of program objectives so that the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) can certify the system for operation.

The program has completed development of the final code releases, due 09/01/20, for user elected system enhancements and final reporting. Testing is on-going for these upcoming releases.

Status Report Update

The project to develop and implement a Data Management and Analytics (DMA) system application, called Health Inter Active (HIA), is on schedule with no significant risks unmitigated. It is on time and on budget. The goals and objectives of the new system are to develop or modernize the following functionality for the Division of Medicaid and Long-Term Care (MLTC):

1.   Establish a Medicaid enterprise data warehouse that includes:
     a. Management and Reporting Subsystem (MARS) <Management Administrative Reporting, such as payments made and source of funds>
     b. Decision support system (DSS)
     c. Ad-hoc queries and reporting
     d. Federal reporting (CMS 64, 37, etc.) <e.g. CMS 64 is a quarterly   statement of expenditures, CMS 37 establishes necessary funding in upcoming quarters>
     e. Managed Care Organization (MCO) quality (including performance measures) reporting, which is a predicate to how these organizations are paid / reimbursed.
     f. MCO encounter data processing including various MCO data (e.g. claims, authorizations, etc.)

2.   Establish or modernize these functions in MLTC Program integrity
     a. SURS <A Surveillance and Utilization Review Subsystem, to analyze post-payment data for multiple claims at a time to identify suspicious provider billing patterns>
     b. A Fraud and Abuse Detection System (FADS)
     c. A Case management system <investigative case management or ICM>

3.   Reporting and analytics <such as, for example, patient focused episodes of care that defines gaps in care or care not in accordance to standards of care>

Upcoming Activities

On 09/01/20, the program will complete its last code releases for go-live.
On 09/14/20, the program will have it's last scheduled defect release.
On 09/23/20, the program will have the second of three planned CMS inspections or certification, called an "R2", or review two, event
On 11/02/20, the program will have it's formal go-live. The system will then have six months of post production stabilization and operations before CMS will conduct the final certification event, "R3", or review 3.

Project Storyboard: Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN)

Project Manager	Krogman, Sue	Status Report Date	10/27/20
Project Type	Major Project	Status	Approved
Stage	Build	Progress	Started
Total Estimated Cost	$12,500,000.00	Estimate to Complete	83.24%
Actual Cost To Date	$10,405,204.00		

Project Dates

	Start	Finish
Plan	10/1/10	8/31/21
Baseline	10/1/10	8/31/21
Days Late	0	0

Status Report Indicators

Overall	◆	➡
Schedule	◆	➡
Scope	◆	➡
Cost and Effort	◆	➡

Project Description

The Nebraska Regional Interoperability Network (NRIN) is a project that will connect a majority of the Public Safety Access Points (PSAP) across the State by means of a point to point microwave system. The network will be a true, secure means of transferring data, video and voice. Speed and stability are major expectations; therefore there is a required redundant technology base of no less than 100 mbps with 99.999% availability for each site. It is hoped that the network will be used as the main transfer mechanism for currently in-place items, thus imposing a cost-saving to local government. All equipment purchased for this project is compatible with the networking equipment of the OCIO.

Key Accomplishments

Prep work on most of the sites between Norfolk to South Sioux City Dispatch – Hartington NPPD – West Point have been completed.

Status Report Update

UPDATE FOR OCTOBER 2020 – Prep work on most of the sites between Norfolk to South Sioux City Dispatch – Hartington NPPD – West Point have been completed. This is a total of 23 sites. The contractor is going to focus on only the NE Region of the state to get as much installed as possible before bad weather hits.

Upcoming Activities

Issues by Priority   Risks by Priority

Current Issues

No matching records were found

Attachment 4-e-ii

Nebraska Information Technology Commission

2021-2023 Biennial Budget
Information Technology Project Proposals

November 12, 2020

Contents:

1. Project review policy, NITC § 1-202.
2. Draft report based on the Technical Panel's recommended project prioritization. [Full text of each project proposal posted at: http://nitc.nebraska.gov/commission/project_proposals/2021-2023.html.]

1-202. Project reviews; information technology projects submitted as part of the state biennial budget process.

Neb. Rev. Stat. § 86-516 provides, in pertinent part:

"The commission shall: …. (5) Adopt guidelines regarding project planning and management and administrative and technical review procedures involving state-owned or state-supported technology and infrastructure. Governmental entities, state agencies, and noneducation political subdivisions shall submit all projects which use any combination of general funds, federal funds, or cash funds for information technology purposes to the process established by sections 86-512 to 86-524. The commission may adopt policies that establish the format and minimum requirements for project submissions. The commission may monitor the progress of any such project and may require progress reports; …. (8) By November 15 of each even-numbered year, make recommendations on technology investments to the Governor and the Legislature, including a prioritized list of projects, reviewed by the technical panel pursuant to section 86-521. The recommendations submitted to the Legislature shall be submitted electronically; …."

This policy provides the format, minimum requirements, and review procedures for information technology projects submitted as part of the state biennial budget process. The requirements are as follows:

(1) Format. Budget requests for information technology projects that meet the minimum requirements set forth in subsection (2) must include a completed information technology project proposal form. The form provided in the Nebraska Budget Request and Reporting System is the approved format for information technology project proposals.

(2) Minimum Requirements for Project Submissions.

(a) Information technology projects that meet the following criteria are subject to the project review requirements of this section: (i) the estimated total project costs are more than $500,000, or (ii) the estimated total project costs are more than $50,000, and the project will have a significant effect on a core business function or multiple agencies.

(b) Exceptions. The following information technology projects are not subject to the project review requirements of this section and do not require the submission of a project proposal: (i) multi-year projects that have been reviewed as part of a previous budget submission; or (ii) projects utilizing the enterprise content management system identified in section 5-101.

(3) Technical Review Procedures. The technical review of information technology projects submitted pursuant to this section will consist of the following steps:

(a) Individual Technical Reviewers. Each project will be reviewed and scored by three individual technical reviewers using review and scoring criteria approved by the Technical Panel. Qualified reviewers include: members of the Technical Panel, members and alternates of the advisory councils chartered by the commission, and such other individuals as approved by the Technical Panel.

Assignment of Reviewers. Individual technical reviewers will be assigned to projects as follows: (1) staff will assign three reviewers for each project based on the subject matter of the project; (2) staff will notify Technical Panel members by email of the initial assignment of reviewers; (3) members will have 24 hours to object to any of the reviewer assignments, objections to be made by email to the other members noting the specific assignment for which there is an objection and the reason(s) for the objection; (4) if there are objections, reassignments will be made and communicated in the same manner as the initial assignment, or the Technical Panel chairperson may call a special meeting of the Technical Panel to assign reviewers; (5) staff will provide the assigned reviewers with the project review documents; (6) in the event a reviewer is unable to complete an assigned review, a new reviewer will be assigned using the same process as the initial assignment; and (7) if for any reason less than three individual reviews are completed prior to the Technical Panel's review referenced in subsection (3)(d), the Technical Panel may complete the project review without regard to the requirements of this subsection.

(b) Agency Response. The requesting agency will be provided with the reviewer scores and comments. The agency may submit a written response to the reviewer scores and comments. The deadline for submitting a response will be one week prior to the Technical Panel review referenced in subsection (3)(d).

(c) Advisory Council Review. Depending on the subject matter of a project, one or more of the commission's advisory councils may review the project and provide recommendations to the Technical Panel and commission.

(d) Technical Panel Review. The Technical Panel will review each project including the reviewer scores and comments, any agency response, and any recommendations by the advisory councils. The Technical Panel will provide its analysis to the commission.

(e) Commission Review and Recommendations. The commission will review each project including any recommendations from the Technical Panel and advisory councils. The commission will make recommendations on each project for inclusion in its report to the Governor and the Legislature.

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DRAFT

November 15, 2020

Report to the Governor & Legislature

Recommendations on Technology
Investments for the 2021-2023 Biennium

NITC | Nebraska Information
Technology Commission

State of Nebraska

Nebraska Information Technology Commission

nitc.nebraska.gov

501 S. 14th Street

P.O. Box 95045

Lincoln, NE   68509-5045

(402) 471-3560

Contents

Introduction

This report contains the Nebraska Information Technology Commission's recommendations on technology investments for the 2021-2023 biennium. It is submitted pursuant to the commission's statutory responsibility to "make recommendations on technology investments to the Governor and the Legislature, including a prioritized list of projects, reviewed by the technical panel …" NEB. REV. STAT. § 86-516(8).

This report contains the following sections:

- **Section 1** is a prioritized list of projects.
- **Section 2** includes the summary sheets for each of the projects.

A copy of this report and the full text of all of the project proposals are posted at: https://nitc.nebraska.gov/commission/reports/reports.html. The project review process is described in detail in NITC § 1-202.

SECTION 1: NITC Recommendations - Project Prioritization

Category	Description
Mandate	Required by law, regulation, or other authority.
Tier 1	Highly Recommended. Mission critical project for the agency or the state.
Tier 2	Recommended. Project with high strategic importance for the agency or the state.
Tier 3	Other. Project with strategic importance for the agency or the state; but, in general, has an overall lower priority than the Tier 1 and Tier 2 projects.
Insufficient Information	Insufficient information to make a recommendation.

Project #	Agency	Project Title	FY2022	FY2023	Total Project Cost*
Mandate					
None					
Tier 1					
09-01	SECRETARY OF STATE	Rules & Regulations Electronic Solution	$920,000	$184,500	$1,844,500
09-03	SECRETARY OF STATE	Election Night Reporting / Candidate Module System	$356,000	$19,500	$455,500
35-01	LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION	Centralized Alcohol Management Project	$3,957,577	$324,980	$4,607,537
47-01	EDUCATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMM	Radio Transmission Project	$385,000	$240,000	$625,000
47-03	EDUCATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMM	Facility Routing		$500,000	$500,000
54-01	STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY	Improve Digital Access	$304,000	$83,000	$387,000
Tier 2					
09-02	SECRETARY OF STATE	Notary Public Filing System	$706,000	$109,500	$1,255,500
Tier 3					

Project #	Agency	Project Title	FY2022	FY2023	Total Project Cost*
None					
Insufficient Information					
46-01	DEPT OF CORRECTIONAL SERVICES	Electronic Health Records		$744,736	$842,161

*Total project cost may include prior year or future planned costs in addition to biennial budget request amounts.

SECTION 2: Project Summary Sheets

Summary Sheet Contents:
- Summary of Request
- Financial Summary
- Proposal Score
- Reviewer Comments
- Technical Panel Comments
- Advisory Council Comments
- NITC Comments
- Agency Response to Reviewer Comments (if any)

09 - Secretary of State

Proposal Name: Rules & Regulations Electronic Solution
NITC ID: 09-01

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: David Wilson
Agency: 09 - Secretary of State
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 1

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The proposed project is to adopt an electronic solution for the drafting, promulgation, review, approval, filing, and publishing of the Nebraska Administrative Code. We are looking for an out-of-the box solution that provides a rule drafting platform, electronic submission of the necessary documents for promulgating a rule to the necessary reviewers, electronic filing with the Secretary of State, and automatic publication to the Secretary of State's website. Additionally, the system will maintain archived versions of the rules and provide enhanced search capabilities for current and superseded rules. It will also provide online notification and tracking of all proposed rules that are pending.

The proposed project is to adopt an electronic solution for the drafting, promulgation, review, approval, filing, and publishing of the Nebraska Administrative Code.

When an agency amends a rule, adopts a new rule, or repeals a current rule, they must first publish a draft of the proposed rule and hold a hearing for public comment. Then, the rule is submitted for review and approval by the Attorney General and the Governor. If approved, it is filed with the Secretary of State and becomes effective five days after filing giving it the force and effect of law. The Secretary of State must publish the rule on his or her website for the public. The proposed solution for the project would begin at the drafting stage of the rule process and continue through to the publication, distribution, and, ultimately, archiving of the rule (should it be superseded).

We are looking for an out-of-the box solution that provides a rule drafting platform, electronic submission of the necessary documents for promulgating a rule to the necessary reviewers, electronic filing with the Secretary of State, and automatic publication to the Secretary of State's website. Additionally, the system will maintain archived versions of the rules and provide enhanced search capabilities for current and superseded rules. It will also provide online notification and tracking of all proposed rules that are pending.

It is the duty of the Secretary of State to compile, index, and publish the Nebraska Administrative Code, to computerize the Code to ease revision and research of the Code, to post a current copy of the existing rules on his or her website, and to distribute copies of the Code to all interested parties. These solutions will better help the Secretary of State meet these statutory duties by providing a way to maintain consistent formatting, reduce filing errors, and maintain a comprehensive digital library of all rule-making documents and records. The solutions will make the rule adoption process easier and more efficient for all parties and give the public a more thorough, easy-to-use online library of the Nebraska Administrative Code.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Proposal Name: Rules & Regulations Electronic Solution
NITC ID: 09-01

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Project Costs:	$15,000.00	$0.00	$15,000.00
Capital Expenditures:	$905,000.00	$184,500.00	$1,089,500.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$920,000.00	$184,500.00	**$1,104,500.00**

Comments: 740,000 is requested in future years

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Cash Fund:	$920,000.00	$184,500.00	$1,104,500.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$920,000.00	$184,500.00	**$1,104,500.00**

Comments: This project will be funded through Cash Funds.

PROPOSAL SCORE

	reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	13	15	14	14
Project Justification / Business Case (25)	22	25	23	23
Technical Impact (20)	17	20	16	18
Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	9	10	8	9
Risk Assessment (10)	9	7	10	9
Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	18	20	18	19
Total Score	88	97	89	91

(Average)

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths: Consistent process, eliminate manual work, eliminate paperwork
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths: eliminate technical debt, errors, manual process
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths: Proven technology
Weaknessess: Stakeholder buyin

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess: Workflow documentation and agreement

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Proposal Name: Rules & Regulations Electronic Solution
NITC ID: 09-01

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes
Review Score = 13/15
Strengths: Clearly stated, clearly defined.
Weaknessess: "out of the box" solutions require customization to meet specific State needs

Project Justification / Business Case
Review Score = 22/25
Strengths: Clearly stated, clearly identified value and tangible benefits from seeking a new system.
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact
Review Score = 17/20
Strengths: Well thought out, and technically sound.
Weaknessess: Again, out of the box will require possibly extensive customization so that should be kept in mind....cost estimates could be impacted negatively based upon ease of "adjustments" and customization.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Review Score = 9/10
Strengths: Clearly stated plan.
Weaknessess: Aggressive timeline, but hopefully reasonable.

Risk Assessment
Review Score = 9/10
Strengths: Good Risk Assessment overall.
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget
Review Score = 18/20
Strengths: Clear and concise information provided. Easy to understand, and well planned out across years.
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes
Review Score = 14/15
Strengths: The goals for the project are clear and the need is considerable to both achieve operational efficiency and agency effectiveness. The goals as laid out represent a win for all stakeholders.
Weaknessess: There is no specific mention of an evaluation plan or nod to change management. The value of moving forward is clear, however, buy-in is not automatic.

Project Justification / Business Case
Review Score = 23/25
Strengths: Needs are clearly articulated, benefits and beneficiaries are evident, and efforts to build a solution have been exhausted. Moving forward with a vetted selection/procurement process should result in achieving the stated golas.
Weaknessess: The rationale provides very scant information about the technology under consideration. The needs are not in dispute, however, those needs existed 8 years ago and the selected technology failed to meet them. It seems appropriate to provide a little more information about the technology under consideration.

Technical Impact
Review Score = 16/20
Strengths: The technical impact, if the selected solution matches needs, is clearly advantageous and appropriate. Replacing the current homegrown environment with a COTS (Commercial Off The Shelf) purpose built solution will reap operational benefits and be much easier to secure. The information security concerns of the current environment alone make the successful completion of this project imperative.
Weaknessess: COTS solutions rarely meet all process needs precisely leaving the implementers to change processes or make some form of modifications to the solution. In the case of the former, change management is critical and in the case of the latter, the flexibility of the solution is paramount. There is not enough information provided to know where the "out of the box" solutions under consideration have any type of configurable process automation capabilities. In my experience, no matter how "cut and dry" the process, conforming an IT solution to meet the process demands means either process changes or the software accommodates and usually it means both.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: The selection process is clear and there is recognition of the many stakeholders involved. The timeline appears realistic with the caveats of training and migration/preparation of data.
Weaknessess: Preparation/training of users and ongoing support of those users and the system itself is not fleshed out to any level of specificity. The plan, as articulated, is long on the what (solution) and short on the how (implementation). The reviewer is exercising a bit of faith that the selection process and involvement of OCIO resources will result in a more fleshed out implementation plan.

Risk Assessment
Review Score = 10/10
Strengths: The risks are realistically documented and the past experience of trying to build a system should yield considerable benefits both in the selection and implementation process.

Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 18/20
Strengths: The procurement, implementation and maintenance costs have been considered and are, ostensibly, realistic for the solutions under consideration.
Weaknessess: Without more information about the solutions under consideration it is impossible to determine whether the budget figures represent a value.

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Yes
Tier Recommendation: Tier 1

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

See attachment [09-01_agencyresponse.pdf] for agency response

Goals, Objectives, and Projected Outcomes

Weaknesses:
1. "out of the box" solutions require customization to meet specific State needs
2. There is no specific mention of an evaluation plan or nod to change management. The value of moving forward is clear, however, buy-in is not automatic.

Response:

We understand that any out-of-the-box solution will require customization on our end but having a solution that is already built and just requires adjustment to fit our needs will be a more efficient and effective approach than building our own custom solution again.

We have seen demonstrations of two solutions and those solutions already meet most of our needs for this project. Additionally, the solutions as demonstrated were configurable and customizable so they should be able to meet our needs fully.

We currently have a team consisting of the Division Manager, Chief Information Office, Controller, and Chief Deputy/General Counsel evaluating potential solutions for feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and whether they sufficiently meet our needs. Both solutions previewed were determined by this team to be worth further examination as viable options.

This team will also be able to evaluate each solution and determine the changes it will need to be implemented in this state compared to its off-the-shelf version.

Buy-in from other agencies and necessary parties has been achieved before on an electronic solution. All parties involved in the rule making process see a need for this upgrade.

Project Justification/Business Case

Weaknesses:
1. The rationale provides very scant information about the technology under consideration. The needs are not in dispute, however, those needs existed 8 years ago and the selected technology failed to meet them. It seems appropriate to provide a little more information about the technology under consideration.

Response:

Both solutions are web-based systems. We are planning to have the systems and data hosted by the OCIO using existing State infrastructure.

Technical Impact

Weaknesses:
1. Again, out of the box will require possibly extensive customization so that should be kept in mind....cost estimates could be impacted negatively based upon ease of "adjustments" and customization.
2. Stakeholder buy-in

3. COTS solutions rarely meet all process needs precisely leaving the implementers to change processes or make some form of modifications to the solution. In the case of the former, change management is critical and in the case of the latter, the flexibility of the solution is paramount. There is not enough information provided to know where the "out of the box" solutions under consideration have any type of configurable process automation capabilities. In my experience, no matter how "cut and dry" the process, conforming an IT solution to meet the process demands means either process changes or the software accommodates and usually it means both.

Response:

Generally, see response to Goals, Objectives, and Projected Outcomes.

Being aware of our limited budget and cost overruns if changes are needed and having learned from past mistakes, we will plan to have a clear and concise summary of our regulation process needs for the developers on day one. Additionally, we will have as much done in-house prior to the development as possible.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation – 9/10

Weaknesses:
1. Aggressive timeline, but hopefully reasonable.
2. Preparation/training of users and ongoing support of those users and the system itself is not fleshed out to any level of specificity. The plan, as articulated, is long on the what (solution) and short on the how (implementation). The reviewer is exercising a bit of faith that the selection process and involvement of OCIO resources will result in a more fleshed out implementation plan.

Response:

The timeline may be aggressive but we have wanted to transition to a fully electronic solution for almost ten years. We have experience with our prior attempt so we should be able to plan for the transition better than if this was our first attempt.

At this time, without knowing which solution provider we are going to utilize, the implementation plan will necessarily be more abstract than if we have chosen a solution provider. However, both solutions under consideration will require our current files to be converted to usable, searchable text files and we can begin that process. Additionally, we can have the regulation workflow, statutory requirements, and general policies/procedures of the regulation process set forth for whomever is developing the solution. After a solution is chosen, we can begin training our staff and the involved parties.

Risk Assessment – 9/10

<u>Weaknesses:</u>
1. Workflow documentation and agreement

<u>Response:</u>

We can have the regulation workflow fully mapped out before a solution provider is even chosen. Much of that work was done previously in our first attempt at an electronic solution.

Financial Analysis and Budget

<u>Weaknesses:</u>
1. Without more information about the solutions under consideration it is impossible to determine whether the budget figures represent a value.

<u>Response:</u>

We obtained budget estimates from the two solution providers that have given us demonstrations. Our estimates were based upon the provided information.

09 - Secretary of State

Proposal Name: Notary Public Filing System
NITC ID: 09-02

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Jodie Williams
Agency: 09 - Secretary of State
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 2

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The purpose of this project is to replace our existing custom notary software utilized by the Business Services Division of the Secretary of State's Office with an out-of-the box notary application/solution that can be minimally modified to meet operational needs. The current notary public system is over 10 years old and extensive enhancements are needed to meet the operation needs of the office.

The purpose of this project is to replace our existing custom notary software utilized by the Business Services Division of the Secretary of State's Office with an out-of-the box notary application/solution that can be minimally modified to meet operational needs.

The existing notary public system is used to file and generate notary documents within the Secretary of State's Office, track payments, and reporting. These documents include Apostilles, Authentications, Certificates of Authority and Certificates and Tests for Notaries Public, Electronic Notaries Public and Online Notaries Public pursuant to Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 64-101 through 64-418.

The existing notary public system is over 10 years old and extensive enhancements are needed to meet the operation needs of the office to capture payments linked to the payer for numerous different notary related documents, maintain images of documents, allow for ad hoc reports, allow applicants access to online applications and testing as well as an educational course. The system also needs to contain editable templates for correspondence and certificates and maintain the produced documents. Finally, the system needs to allow for an import of historical data and images from the current systems.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Project Costs:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Capital Expenditures:	$706,000.00	$109,500.00	$815,500.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$706,000.00	$109,500.00	**$815,500.00**

Comments: $440,000 will be requested in future years.

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Cash Fund:	$706,000.00	$109,500.00	$815,500.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$706,000.00	$109,500.00	**$815,500.00**

Comments: This project will be funded through Cash Funds.

PROPOSAL SCORE

09 - Secretary of State

Proposal Name: Notary Public Filing System
NITC ID: 09-02

NITC | Nebraska Information Technology Commission

		reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average	**Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)**	13	13	14	13
	Project Justification / Business Case (25)	20	21	20	20
	Technical Impact (20)	15	17	15	16
	Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	7	7	6	7
	Risk Assessment (10)	7	5	7	6
	Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	13	14	16	14
	Total Score	75	77	78	77

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 13/15
Strengths: The proposal lists requirements that the product must meet, goals for the project, and outcomes.
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 20/25
Strengths: The proposal comprehensively explains the justification for the project and provides listed measurable benefits to the State and external customers. While the primary explanation seems to be that the application is ten years old, I see the benefits of upgrading the system. Older legacy applications such as this tend to use unsecured protocols and introduce unnecessary cyber risk. Leveraging technology to provide enhanced services should be encouraged.
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 15/20
Strengths: The proposal addresses technical elements, possible security concerns while providing measurable goals from a technical aspect.
Weaknessess: While the proposal addresses technical and security concerns, it does not address the sustainability of the project technology as it applies to upgrade servers as OS software goes end of life and maintaining vendor support

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths: Written clearly
Weaknessess: No specific milestones have been determined other than the RFP timeline and goal contract date.

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess: I don't see how the public having to use the existing system for a little while longer if project deadlines aren't met is a risk. It's the existing system that SOS has been using for 10 years.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 13/20
Strengths: A budget analysis was provided in the documentation.
Weaknessess: The budget analysis did not account for Personnel costs from the SOS or OCIO aspect. The budget also did not cover training and data conversion.

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 13/15
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 21/25
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 17/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 5/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 14/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 14/15
Strengths: The goals and objectives are well documented in general terms.

Weaknessess: There is no implementation evaluation spelled out.

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 20/25
Strengths: The benefits and beneficiaries of those that will use the solution are plain. Further, the value of moving off the current environment from a sustainability and information security perspective is manifest.
Weaknessess: This project appears to be rather early on and that may account for the brevity of the available information. That said, it is hard to know whether the costs are appropriate or whether the staff are in place to successfully implement the solution.

Technical Impact   Review Score = 15/20
Strengths: It is evident that the current system is insufficient to meet needs, presents its own information security challenges and lacks an environment to move from "loosely-coupled/file-based" integrations to programmatic/system interfaces. Role-based access for authorization is critical.
Weaknessess: The need for API interfaces without any clarity as to who will create those is a substantial concern to the extent that such interfaces are critical to achieving the desired outcomes. Additionally, role-based access is important, however, unless it is achieved via the identity management/SSO environment, it means managing it on the adopted system. There is insufficient information to understand how the role-based access will be achieved and whether it is part of the overall identity infrastructure.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 6/10
Strengths: The stakeholder list is manifest and there appears to be sufficient leadership and expertise to implement the desirable solution.
Weaknessess: The deliverables, training, evaluation and ongoing support are entirely general. The project appears to be in the early stages, however, without more information even a preliminary plan is difficult to evaluate.

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths: An RFP process to both discover and describe is critical to the solution selection process and appears to be in place. Further, there is recognition of current shortcomings that must be addressed.
Weaknessess: It is difficult with the information available to currently evaluate the degree to which risks have been assessed. It is clear that existing risks must be overcome and that is an important start, however, the lack of articulated change management strategies that will be put in place belies a comprehensive understanding of project risk.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 16/20
Strengths: Procurement, implementation and maintenance costs are enumerated and these are based on a review of current solutions in use by other states.
Weaknessess: There is not sufficient information to know whether the documented costs represent a reasonable value. Further, the degree to which API integration appears to be needed is concerning given there is no mention of who and how those will be built. In other words, the cost of building needed interfaces is unknown.

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Unknown
Tier Recommendation: Tier 2

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

See attachment [09-02_agencyresponse.pdf] for agency response

**Goals, Objectives and Projected
Outcomes**

Strengths:

The proposal lists requirements that the product must meet, goals for the project, and outcomes.
The goals and objectives are well documented in general terms.

Weaknessess:

There is no implementation evaluation spelled out.

SOS Response:

Additional implementation detail has been added to Preliminary Plan for
Implementation section below.

Project Justification / Business Case

Strengths:

The proposal comprehensively explains the justification for the project and
provides listed measurable benefits to the State and external customers. While the
primary explanation seems to be that the application is ten years old, I see the
benefits of upgrading the system. Older legacy applications such as this tend to use
unsecured protocols and introduce unnecessary cyber risk. Leveraging technology
to provide enhanced services should be encouraged.
The benefits and beneficiaries of those that will use the solution are plain. Further,
the value of moving off the current environment from a sustainability and
information security perspective is manifest.

Weaknessess:
This project appears to be rather early on and that may account for the brevity of
the available information. That said, it is hard to know whether the costs are
appropriate or whether the staff are in place to successfully implement the
solution.

SOS Response:
The cost provided in the proposal was based on receiving estimates from known
vendors. The Notary Public Program has approximately 28,000 notaries public,
handles documents for a high volume of individuals who have their application
denied or fail tests (these individuals are not included in the 28,000; data is not

available for this information as the current system does not hold that information and the time to manually check years of documents to retrieve the data is not cost-effective), and generates approximately $260,000 a year in revenue. The volume of applications and tests received is enormous and delays the timeliness of processing all of the information currently done by hand and manually entered in the current system. Documents for the work are scanned and stored outside of the current system.

The SOS office is well equipped to carry out the project successfully with a CIO who has worked with SOS IT RFPs, a Deputy Director who has worked with IT RFPs at DHHS and with IT system enhancements with the SOS office, as well as staff with the program expertise (2 staff have over 35 years of experience with the SOS office and 2 other staff with over 14 years). The Deputy Director is committed to seeing this project through and will reallocate resources as needed within the office as there are 16 staff in the office that can share in the office workload to free up the staff with notary public and IT experience to work on the project through fruition. Many of the same staff participated in a large IT project to implement a new business services filing system in 2017 and the expertise gained from that project will be useful with this project.

Technical Impact

Strengths:
The proposal addresses technical elements, possible security concerns while providing measurable goals from a technical aspect.
It is evident that the current system is insufficient to meet needs, presents its own information security challenges and lacks an environment to move from "loosely-coupled/file-based" integrations to programmatic/system interfaces. Role-based access for authorization is critical.

Weaknessess:
While the proposal addresses technical and security concerns, it does not address the sustainability of the project technology as it applies to upgrade servers as OS software goes end of life and maintaining vendor support.

The need for API interfaces without any clarity as to who will create those is a substantial concern to the extent that such interfaces are critical to achieving the desired outcomes. Additionally, role-based access is important, however, unless it is achieved via the identity management/SSO environment, it means managing it

on the adopted system. There is insufficient information to understand how the role-based access will be achieved and whether it is part of the overall identity infrastructure.

SOS Response:
It is planned to have the OCIO provide servers that will host the new application and data using the existing State infrastructure. Those servers will need to be kept updated and servers upgraded when OS software goes end of live. The vendor hosting the new application will be responsible for API interfaces. The RFP will be written with the intent of the vendor taking the responsibility to create and test the APIs but until the RFP cycle is complete it is unknown if the selected vendor will have the online platform for the testing and applications or if Nebraska Interactive (NI) will (if the proposals received do not have the piece of the project we have already been in discussion with NI about creating an online application and test with our current system).

Preliminary Plan for Implementation

Strengths:
Written clearly
The stakeholder list is manifest and there appears to be sufficient leadership and expertise to implement the desirable solution.

Weaknessess:
No specific milestones have been determined other than the RFP timeline and goal contract date.
The deliverables, training, evaluation and ongoing support are entirely general. The project appears to be in the early stages, however, without more information even a preliminary plan is difficult to evaluate.

SOS Response:
The system concept has already been determined. The remaining milestones will include the following: development of business requirements, RFP development, vendor selection, contract established; requirements review with vendor/functional specifications documents completion, preliminary design review, system testing, operational product deployed, data migration and ongoing maintenance. The final implementation schedule will be agreed upon by the vendor and SOS.

Risk Assessment
Strengths:
An RFP process to both discover and describe is critical to the solution selection process and

appears to be in place. Further, there is recognition of current shortcomings that must be addressed.

Weaknessess: I don't see how the public having to use the existing system for a little while longer if project deadlines aren't met is a risk. It's the existing system that SOS has been using for 10 years.
It is difficult with the information available to currently evaluate the degree to which risks have been assessed. It is clear that existing risks must be overcome and that is an important start, however, the lack of articulated change management strategies that will be put in place belies a comprehensive understanding of project risk.

SOS Response:

The existing system is not accessible to the public so the public is limited to mailing in documentation and payments, subject to the delays in mail and manually processing the applications. The lack of data available from the system limits the ability of the SOS office to look at trends and identify issues to improve the accuracy and efficiency of the program.

Risks related to the project have been broken down in to 3 categories; risks continuing on the current system, risks in implementing a new system and risks in maintaining the new system. The risks in using the system were articulated in the proposal while the risks related to the implementation and maintenance were not addressed in the proposal. The risks related to implementing the system are the lack of success by the vendor in implementing the new system in its entirety, potential problems once the system goes live and the successful migration of existing data. The risk associated with the ongoing maintenance would involve difficulties implementing fixes or enhancements to the system as well as ongoing viability of the vendor. The plan is to address most if not all of the risk concerns through the RFP and contract process, including a retainage as well as involving staff with the expertise needed to develop the business requirements, work with the vendor to incorporate the business requirements and test the system during development.

Financial Analysis and Budget

Strengths:

A budget analysis was provided in the documentation.

Procurement, implementation and maintenance costs are enumerated and these are based on a review of current solutions in use by other states.

Weaknessess:

The budget analysis did not account for Personnel costs from the SOS or OCIO aspect. The budget also did not cover training and data conversion.

There is not sufficient information to know whether the documented costs represent a reasonable value. Further, the degree to which API integration appears to be needed is concerning given there is no mention of who and how those will be built. In other words, the cost of building needed interfaces is unknown.

SOS response:

Personnel costs for the SOS were not accounted for as not additional costs will be involved. All staff involved will do the work of the project through their current roles with the SOS. The OCIO costs, for migration of data and hosting fees were included. Additional information on the API was added in the Technical impact section. An estimate for the API cost was not separated out as it is anticipated it will be part of the costs for purchasing the software from a vendor.

09 - Secretary of State

Proposal Name: Election Night Reporting / Candidate Module System
NITC ID: 09-03

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Wayne Bena
Agency: 09 - Secretary of State
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 3

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The proposed project is to replace our existing Election Night Reporting (ENR) and Candidate filing system (Candidate Module) utilized by the Elections Division. The replacement of this system will be done with federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds and is part of our ongoing plan to utilize these federal funds to modernize election IT infrastructure in Nebraska. Our contract for the existing ENR/Candidate Module system expires during the next biennium. Due to the need for increased system security and functionality, we are seeking to implement a new or significantly upgraded solution.

The proposed project is to replace our existing Election Night Reporting (ENR) and Candidate filing system (Candidate Module) utilized by the Elections Division of the Secretary of State's Office (SOS). The replacement of this system will be done with federal Help America Vote Act (HAVA) funds and is part of our ongoing plan to utilize these federal funds to modernize election IT infrastructure in Nebraska. Our contract for the existing ENR/Candidate Module system expires during the next biennium. Due to the need for increased system security and functionality, we are seeking to implement a new or upgraded solution.

The ENR system is used to enter and post election night results for races that file with the Secretary of State by all 93 Nebraska counties on our website. The Candidate Module allows input of candidate information for these same races. Both pieces of functionality are currently provided by one vendor. Once the data is entered for a given election, the data is electronically transferred to a subsequent vendor for ballot layout, printing and programming for specific voting equipment. This system also produces the official report of the Nebraska Board of State Canvassers.

The new/upgraded solution needs to automate tasks to improve staff efficiency, improve audit logs for security, utilize two-factor authentication (2FA) for secure user access, provide the option for local-level results and update the look and feel of the public-facing results website to a modern and easy-to-navigate website. The new system will be more efficient for users at the state and county levels. It will also make it easier for the public to view results for statewide elections.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Project Costs:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Capital Expenditures:	$356,000.00	$19,500.00	$375,500.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$356,000.00	$19,500.00	**$375,500.00**

Comments: $80,000 will be requested in additional years.

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$0.00	$19,500.00	$19,500.00
Cash Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Federal Fund:	$356,000.00	$0.00	$356,000.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$356,000.00	$19,500.00	**$375,500.00**

Comments: The initial project costs will be funded through Federal Funds.

PROPOSAL SCORE

	reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	10	14	14	13
Project Justification / Business Case (25)	16	20	23	20
Technical Impact (20)	13	19	18	17
Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	7	8	9	8
Risk Assessment (10)	7	7	9	8
Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	18	19	19	19
Total Score	71	87	92	83

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 10/15
Strengths: Brief concise description of what is needed.

Weaknessess: Some of the requirements are not application related, such as 2FA this is an authentication requirement. This deals with how you access the application, not how the application functions. The program could be functioning correctly, the 2FA concern would relate to how the application is hosted.

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 16/25
Strengths: ?, nothing new in this section.
Weaknessess: Emphasis on the age of the application, 10 years, seems to be the overriding concern. Improvements in hosting requirements could provide the security and controls (2FA) being requested. It seems that the age of the application is the single concern and age and security are directly related. Many "old" applications are still secure.

Technical Impact   Review Score = 13/20
Strengths:

Weaknessess: With the enhanced features, such as storing past election data, candidate information, subdivision contact information and email addresses the administration of this program data will require frequent updates to stay current. The more data you collect increases the time that SOS will need to spend in the system making updates.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess: vague descriptions on how implementation goals will be achieved.

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths: SOS can descript at a high level what they want.
Weaknessess: Without clear documented expectations and dedicated staff to support the vendor during implementation that risk of having incomplete requirements or limited functionality.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 18/20
Strengths: I assume costs are based in a working example of this solution or quotes from vendors.
Weaknessess: If cost exceed estimates how will that be addressed. A partial implementation could introduce unknown risk to the application.

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 14/15
Strengths: project goals, objectives, and expected outcome are clear. system testing is addressed and it is part of agency IT plan.
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 20/25
Strengths: Justification is clear, addressed both tangible and intangible benefits. Targeting existing solutions already worked in other states will increase project success rate.
Weaknessess: looks like the project is still in its early planning stage. aware of existing solutions but have not complete evaluation of the existing solutions.

Technical Impact   Review Score = 19/20
Strengths: desired requirements, functionalities and conformity to standards are all clearly defined.
Weaknessess:

09 - Secretary of State

Proposal Name: Election Night Reporting / Candidate Module System
NITC ID: 09-03

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: agency has a clear direction on the solution for implementation.
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths: many risks are well thought out.
Weaknessess: manage evaluation of existing solutions and vendor selection within defined timeline should be taken into consideration accordingly.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 19/20
Strengths: supported by federal funding.
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 14/15
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 23/25
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 18/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 9/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 9/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 19/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Yes
Tier Recommendation: Tier 1

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

See attachment [09-03_agencyresponse.pdf] for agency response

Reviewer 1

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes Review Score = 10/15

Weaknesses: Some of the requirements are not application related, such as 2FA this is an authentication requirement. This deals with how you access the application, not how the application functions. The program could be functioning correctly, the 2FAconcern would relate to how the application is hosted.

Response
The listing of 2FA was to stay consistent with current security measures implemented in other elections systems. We want to ensure that any new system can accommodate 2FA.

Project Justification / Business Case Review Score = 16/25

Weaknesses: Emphasis on the age of the application, 10 years, seems to be the overriding concern. Improvements in hosting requirements could provide the security and controls (2FA) being requested. It seems that the age of the application is the single concern and age and security are directly related. Many "old" applications are still secure.

Response
We agree that older applications can be secure. In this case, the system is 10 years old and the contract for the system cannot be further extended or renewed. Due to our funding source (federal funds) and the cost of the system, we believe that it is prudent and necessary to obtain a new contract for this system through a competitive bidding process or other approved procurement process.

Technical Impact Review Score = 13/20

Weaknesses: With the enhanced features, such as storing past election data, candidate information, subdivision contact information and email addresses the administration of this program data will require frequent updates to stay current. The more data you collect increases the time that SOS will need to spend in the system making updates.

Response
Our office has already been collecting this data and we have had to spend a significant amount of time doing data entry. Having the old data stored makes it easier so we don't have to enter all of the same data again, only updated information. The less data entry we have to recreate, the less room for error and the less time it takes.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation Review Score = 7/10

Strengths:
Weaknesses: vague descriptions on how implementation goals will be achieved.

Response
Implementation of goals will be achieved by defining the goal as much as possible, knowing who is involved, setting due dates of what we want to accomplish and identifying if any constraints exist. Being able to monitor and know when a goal is complete will be tracked by the vendor and SOS staff.

Risk Assessment Review Score = 7/10

Weaknesses: Without clear documented expectations and dedicated staff to support the vendor during implementation that risk of having incomplete requirements or limited functionality.

Response
The goal is to have this project competed in time for the start of the filing period of the 2024 election cycle. The same dedicated SOS staff that completed the 93 county replacement of existing ballot counting and ADA ballot marking equipment this past year will be used for this project.

Financial Analysis and Budget Review Score = 18/20

Weaknesses: If cost exceed estimates how will that be addressed. A partial implementation could introduce unknown risk to the application.

Response
When planning for this project we received estimates from several vendors and the cost included for the project is based upon the estimates plus a small margin for overages. If costs exceed estimates, we have additional funds within our grant that we can shift from other projects.

<u>Reviewer 2</u>

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes Review Score = 14/15

Strengths: project goals, objectives, and expected outcome are clear. system testing is addressed, and it is part of agency IT plan.
Weaknesses:

No response needed

Project Justification / Business Case Review Score = 20/25

Weaknesses: looks like the project is still in its early planning stage. aware of existing solutions but have not complete evaluation of the existing solutions

Response
The Secretary of State's office has done research on multiple vendors and will continue to do so throughout this process. A complete evaluation will be done when we know funds have been secured.

Technical Impact Review Score = 19/20

Weaknesses:

No Response needed

Preliminary Plan for Implementation Review Score = 8/10

Weaknesses:

No response needed

Risk Assessment Review Score = 7/10

Weaknesses: manage evaluation of existing solutions and vendor selection within defined timeline should be taken into consideration accordingly.

Response
We agree. The timeline for this project includes time for vendor selection and has been projected out so there is enough time to procure and implement a solution prior to the 2024 election.

Financial Analysis and Budget Review Score = 19/20

Strengths: supported by federal funding.
Weaknesses:

No response needed

Reviewer 3 did not provide written comments but gave us 92/100

35 - Liquor Control Commission

Proposal Name: Centralized Alcohol Management Project
NITC ID: 35-01

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: LeAnna Prange
Agency: 35 - Liquor Control Commission
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 1

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The Nebraska Liquor Control Commission (NLCC) is seeking to receive funding for a Centralized Alcohol Management Project (C.A.M.P.). The CAMP project would replace all tax processing systems with a single solution that provides centralized revenue management and processes, licensing management and processes, and a robust web interface for its taxpayers, stakeholders and staff. Attached is a Needs Analysis prepared by the State of Nebraska OCIO.

An excerpt of the Needs Analysis is as follows: "the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) have reviewed all of the information regarding their current processes, workflows, applications, and data. We are amazed at what the LCC has done over the past 30+ years to keep up with the changing statutes and regulations, and a steadily increasing volume. LCC has hit their peak, and they are starting on the downhill slide -- the paper processes, multiple systems and a 30+ year old computer system will no longer support the needs of the agency and their customers." "The more realistic path for the LCC is to review and purchase one of the existing COTS systems available." "The OCIO believes the purchase of a system that would encompass all operations needed by the LCC would be in excess of $1 million."

In 2019, the NLCC issued a total of 11,343 licenses yielding $33 million dollars in revenue. To accomplish this, NLCC's 17 FTE use outdated technology (mainframe application, Microsoft suite applications, copiers, printers, etc.) to perform daily business operations, resulting in significant inefficiencies and an estimated 69 individual steps and 3.5 hours to process, approve and issue a single liquor license. The CAMP aims to replace this aging system through the selection of a software system unique to the alcohol beverage licensing industry that provides one modern solution to streamline business operations, reduce timelines and enhance customer service.

NLCC has contracted with Gartner Inc to provide procurement assistance. With NLCC, Gartner Inc has defined the high-level scope for this system modernization effort which will be further refined as requirements are fully elaborated over the coming months. Gartner Inc has used this information, coupled with NLCC's current software costs (to include expenditures on support personnel) and number of system users to develop cost estimates for the proposed system implementation.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$1,597,960.00	$0.00	$1,597,960.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$105,000.00	$0.00	$105,000.00
Project Costs:	$846,273.00	$324,980.00	$1,171,253.00
Capital Expenditures:	$1,408,344.00	$0.00	$1,408,344.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$3,957,577.00	$324,980.00	**$4,282,557.00**

Comments: $324,980 requested in additional years.

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$3,957,577.00	$324,980.00	$4,282,557.00
Cash Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$3,957,577.00	$324,980.00	**$4,282,557.00**

Comments: $324,980 requested in additional years.

PROPOSAL SCORE

35 - Liquor Control Commission

Proposal Name: Centralized Alcohol Management Project
NITC ID: 35-01

		reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average	Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	14	13	14	14
	Project Justification / Business Case (25)	24	20	20	21
	Technical Impact (20)	18	18	19	18
	Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	9	8	8	8
	Risk Assessment (10)	8	9	8	8
	Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	19	18	18	18
	Total Score	92	86	87	88

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 14/15

Strengths: Project Scope is well defined and well documented on this need. The use of Gardner to help with making good decisions is a plus in order to help with success of the project. OCIO inclusion is also a strength.
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 24/25

Strengths: NLCC knows that the current system is old and unable to be updated. NLCC is leaning towards a COTS platform and has talked with neighboring states that have done a similar process
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 18/20

Strengths: NLCC does a good job describing the need to integrate with other systems, such as payment processing, GIS and E1
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 9/10

Strengths: That NLCC has utilized Gardner and OCIO to help scope the project and do a needs analysis, is a strength. Kudos to them for taking the time to involve these entities
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 8/10

Strengths: NLCC, along with Gardner has done a good job identifying risks and a way to address the risks and develop solutions to address them. I understand that a modernization process like this can be risky and fall behind and go over costs, yet I feel that the potential issues have been made aware is a good thing.
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 19/20

Strengths: NLCC has done a good job of breaking down the costs and also projecting out costs several years. They also highlight the potential savings by increasing efficiencies.
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 13/15

Strengths: Good description of project and expected goals

Weaknessess: Size of the project will make implementation challenging.

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 20/25

Strengths: Documents work-arounds and multiple solutions being used today.

Weaknessess: Conversion of existing data sources to fit into a COTS solution will impact implementation.

Technical Impact   Review Score = 18/20

Strengths: COTS solution will replace multi-tool approach currently being used.
Weaknessess: Finding a COTS vendor who can meet all of the requirements will be critical to projects success.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 8/10

Strengths: Recognition of methods to implement new system and impact to staff.
Weaknessess: Implementation vendor will be key factor to projects success.

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 9/10

Proposal Name: Centralized Alcohol Management Project
NITC ID: 35-01

Strengths: Risk is being evaluated across all of the key areas that will impact the project.
Weaknessess: Small staff at NLCC, working to maintain day-to-day business and also supporting the vendor during conversion and implementation will be challenging.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 18/20
Strengths: Realistic budget numbers based on projects in other states.
Weaknessess: Project cost could expand if implementation time frames are not met.

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 14/15
Strengths: goals, objectives and expected outcomes are well defined and supported by attached assessments.
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 20/25
Strengths: tangible and intangible benefits are clear.
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 19/20
Strengths: technical improvement to the system will be dramatic based on attached assessments.
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: various factors are being taken into implementation considerations.
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: Possible risks are well addressed in attached Garner assessment. agency contracted Gartner for procurement assistance will further reduce the risks level.
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 18/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Yes
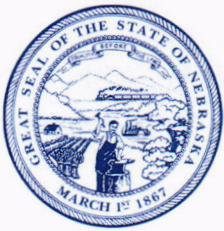Tier Recommendation: Tier 1

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

See attachment [35-01_agencyresponse.pdf] for agency response

Pete Ricketts
Governor

NEBRASKA LIQUOR CONTROL COMMISSION
Hobert B. Rupe
Executive Director
301 Centennial Mall South, 1st Floor
P.O. Box 95046
Lincoln, Nebraska, 68509-5046
Phone (402) 471-2571
Fax (402) 471-2814 or (402) 471-2374
TSR USER 800-833-7252 (TTY)
Web Address http://www.lcc.nebraska.gov/

October 23, 2020

NITC
I.T. Proposal: Agency 35 – Liquor Control Commission – Centralized Alcohol Management Project
NITC ID: 35-01

RE: Agency Response to Reviewer Comments regarding weaknesses:

The Nebraska Liquor Control Commission would like to address all "weaknesses" comments of the reviewers.

1. "Size of Project will make implementation challenging"
   a. Planning to implement the new system in phases will allow NLCC to minimize the risk associated with replacing the system all at once. Further, the readiness and preparation work that is currently being executed will help ensure success, particularly as it relates to project governance, requirements traceability, data quality and organizational change management.
2. "Conversion of existing data sources to fit into a COTS solution will impact implementation"
   a. NLCC is committed to working with OCIO in advance of selecting a vendor to assess current data quality, define what data records need to be converted into the new system, and cleanse data for conversion. Doing the bulk of data work proactively will allow NLCC to avoid/decrease data conversion driven delays during the implementation.
3. "Finding a COTS vendor who can meet all requirements will be critical to the project's success"
   a. In developing NLCC's technical and functional requirements for the new system, Gartner was able to flag requirements that are unique to NLCC and may be difficult to be meet with a COTS solution. This will ensure NLCC is able to properly evaluate a vendor's ability to meet unique requirements and be prepared to change business process where appropriate to fit a COTS solution's functionality and minimize the need for customizations.
4. "Implementation vendor will be key factor to projects success."
   a. Agreed. NLCC will work with Gartner to develop an RFP that requires vendors to describe their proposed approach to implementation. NLCC will leverage Gartner's deep experience with implementation vendors to evaluate proposals and structure a contract/Statement of Work that ensures NLCC is positioned for a successful implementation.
5. "Small staff at NLCC, working to maintain day-to-day business and also supporting the vendor during conversion and implementation will be challenging."
   a. NLCC acknowledges this resource risk and it was also identified by Gartner. NLCC is working to define a resourcing plan to ensure current staff resources are able to fully participate in the implementation and NLCC day-to-day business functions continue to be met. In addition, third-party support and expertise will be provided by Gartner, who has worked in this capacity with many jurisdictions over the last decade.
6. "Project cost could expand if implementation time frames are not met."
   a. Agreed. Gartner has identified areas of weakness within NLCC that may put the organization at risk of a delayed implementation (i.e. data conversion, resourcing, governance, etc.). NLCC is committed to addressing these prior to implementation initiation to minimize risk of delays and cost overruns. While there are no guarantees that the project timeline and cost will not increase, NLCC feels confident that we are addressing the riskiest project elements that most commonly lead to delays and extra cost.

Janice M. Wiebusch
Commissioner
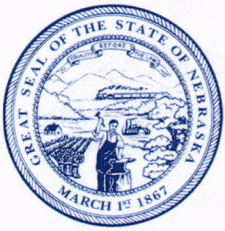
Bruce Bailey
Chairman

Harry Hoch
Commissioner 30

Pete Ricketts
Governor

October 23, 2020
NITC ID: 35-01
Page 2

The Liquor Control Commission appreciates the ability to respond to the weaknesses of the reviewers.

Respectfully,

Hobert B. Rupe
Executive Director

LeAnna Prange
Compliance Manager/I.T. Project Manager

Janice M. Wiebusch
Commissioner

Bruce Bailey
Chairman

Harry Hoch
Commissioner

31

An Equal Opportunity Employer

46 - Department of Correctional Services

Proposal Name: Electronic Health Records
NITC ID: 46-01

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Ron TeBrink
Agency: 46 - Department of Correctional Services
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 1

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

A fully integrated Electronic Health Records (EHR) system is a strategic priority of the Nebraska Department of Corrections (NDCS) in order to provide the highest quality health care to the inmates in our custody in an efficient manner at a reasonable cost to the Nebraska taxpayer. It will provide a secure and complete Health Services Case File, which allows for improved tracking and continuity of care in the areas of Medical Services, Behavioral Health Services, Substance Use and Sex Offender Services and Programming, and Social Work Services from intake through reentry back into the community.

The Nebraska Department of Corrections, working with OCIO staff, plans to build a tailored and efficient EHR in-house that will expand on functionality currently in the existing Nebraska Inmate Case Management System (NICaMS) to include Health Services appointment/resource scheduling and electronic charting for key clinical data and medical history. The system will be utilized by NDCS staff, telemedicine staff, and external providers who have contracted services with the department. Security protocols will be put in place to ensure confidentiality to an inmate's private health data.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$744,736.00	$0.00	$744,736.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Project Costs:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Capital Expenditures:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$744,736.00	$0.00	**$744,736.00**

Comments: $97,425 from FY20/FY21

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$744,736.00	$0.00	$744,736.00
Cash Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$744,736.00	$0.00	**$744,736.00**

Comments: $97,425 from FY20/FY21

PROPOSAL SCORE

		reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average	Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	12	12	9	11
	Project Justification / Business Case (25)	18	17	23	19
	Technical Impact (20)	14	13	18	15
	Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	6	6	7	6
	Risk Assessment (10)	7	6	8	7
	Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	15	13	20	16
	Total Score	72	67	85	75

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 12/15
Strengths: Goals are appropriate.

Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 18/25
Strengths: A VERY GOOD EHR implementation can reduce paperwork and improve workflow. However, many health care practices have found that using an EHR can take more time. It also takes a concerted effort to look at workflow redesign to see workflow benefits. Done well this is a strength. Done not so well, this is a weakness.

Reducing the cost by building a system in house is cited as a benefit as well as leveraging the existing system.
Weaknessess: A VERY GOOD EHR implementation can reduce paperwork and improve workflow. However, many health care practices have found that using an EHR can take more time. It also takes a concerted effort to look at workflow redesign to see workflow benefits. Done well this is a strength. Done not so well, this is a weakness.

It is hard to build a good EHR system which is easy for providers to use. Big EHR companies struggle with this. It is probably going to be challenging to build a good EHR system inhouse which is easy to use.

Technical Impact   Review Score = 14/20
Strengths: The strategy of expanding on the existing suite of application and current technical architecture minimizes the need to invest in additional hardware, software.
Weaknessess: Will this system utilize health IT interoperability standards?

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 6/10
Strengths: Includes Subject Matter Experts as part of team. Process includes opportunities for feedback from staff.
Weaknessess: May underestimate the importance of Subject Matter Experts and usability. Training and workflow analysis and redesign isn't included in the implementation plan. The implementation plan also doesn't include information about how information in the EHR will be populated. Some information should be populated from the existing system. Some information will likely have to be entered or imported. This will take time.

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 7/10
Strengths: Many risks were analyzed.
Weaknessess: Implementing an EHR is disruptive. Training and workflow analysis can help mitigate this risk.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 15/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess: No budget for training and workflow analysis and redesign included.

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 12/15
Strengths: Well written outcomes of the project.

Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 17/25
Strengths: I understand and know the benefits that an EHR can provide both from patient care and efficiency standpoint.
Weaknessess: EHR can get very complex and convoluted with workflows and making features user friendly.

Technical Impact   Review Score = 13/20
Strengths: The ability to integrate existing data and systems.
Weaknessess: This section lacks detailed information regarding the technical elements of the build, implementation, and security of the project. There is going to be complicated workflows that will need to be addressed. There is no mention of health technology interoperability.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 6/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess: I think the iteration cadence may be a little aggressive to effectively design, develop, and implement complex workflows risking running over budget and affecting implementation timeframes.

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 6/10
Strengths: On the right track with analysis, I would like to see more detailed information regarding risk mitigations
Weaknessess: I think that workflow analysis is going to be important and has the potential to be a significant risk.

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 13/20

Proposal Name: Electronic Health Records
NITC ID: 46-01

Strengths: The contract with the OCIO is good.
Weaknessess: There are no cost estimates for training and the data conversion estimate seems a little low given the amount of data to be converted and the potential for complex workflows.

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes
Review Score = 9/15

Strengths: Solid goal for improvement of services and portability/privacy of information and sensible outcome goals

Weaknessess: No real description of how goal achievement will be measured nor of its relationship to the broader IT plan.

Project Justification / Business Case
Review Score = 23/25

Strengths: Targets expert areas toward expertise and reduces administrative burden. Substantial cost reduction relative to external solutions.
Weaknessess: No discussion of relevant state or federal mandates.

Technical Impact
Review Score = 18/20

Strengths: Leverages existing architecture and expertise in a manner that should improve fit.
Weaknessess: It is strongly implied that existing infrastructure is sufficient to meet project needs - it would have been better to explicitly address this.

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Review Score = 7/10

Strengths: I think for this project, like many others, an agile model is a strong fit to incorporate SME insight and feedback rapidly.
Weaknessess: The iteration cycle is well over twice as long as recommended for any agile approach. I notice that the timelines are generally in even increments and halving them would bring it much closer to industry recommendations. The implementation plan does not address training and support factors and requirements.

Risk Assessment
Review Score = 8/10

Strengths: Realistic assessment of goals and some mitigation
Weaknessess: Complication of interoperability with external systems seems like it might be somewhat underestimated in terms of impact.

Financial Analysis and Budget
Review Score = 20/20

Strengths:
Weaknessess:

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Unknown
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Unknown
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Unknown
Tier Recommendation: Insufficient Information

Comments: Insufficient information for tier recommendation

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Proposal Name: Radio Transmission project
NITC ID: 47-01

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Ling Ling Sun   **Agency Priority:** 1
Agency: 47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission
NITC Tier Alignment:

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The replacement of aging FM antenna systems and associated feed line has been ongoing and will conclude in FY 22-23. To reduce rising maintenance costs and to eliminate downtime, NET has received fund for KTNE FM antenna and transmission lines in FY2020 and for replacing KRNE FM antenna in FY 2021. The NET FM radio network shoulders the responsibility of being the State's primary relay for the state and federal Emergency Alert System. In order to ensure reliable and consistent state coverage, funds will be requested for transmission line replacement for KRNE and KMNE in FY2022 and transmission line and antenna for KXNE FM in FY2023.

Delaying the completion of this final phase any further would continue to increase off-air downtime at these sites and increase annual operating expenses for repairs, maintenance and supplies especially during harsh winter months. The project would begin the summer of 2021 and proceed through the fall (weather and tower crews permitting) at KRNE and KMNE. Work on the KXNE site would begin summer of 2022 and run through spring of 2023. Total costs for this project are estimated at $625,000, split $385,000 in FY2022 for KRNE/KMNE with the remaining $240,000 in FY2023 for KXNE.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Project Costs:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Capital Expenditures:	$385,000.00	$240,000.00	$625,000.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$385,000.00	$240,000.00	**$625,000.00**

Comments: Total Cost is estimated at $625,000. $385,000 in FY2022 and $240,000 in FY2023.
Also under Capital Construction Projects of this Budget System.

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$385,000.00	$240,000.00	$625,000.00
Cash Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$385,000.00	$240,000.00	**$625,000.00**

Comments:

PROPOSAL SCORE

		reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average	Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	15	15	15	15
	Project Justification / Business Case (25)	25	25	25	25
	Technical Impact (20)	20	20	20	20
	Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	10	10	10	10
	Risk Assessment (10)	10	10	10	10
	Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	20	20	20	20
	Total Score	100	100	100	100

47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Proposal Name: Radio Transmission project
NITC ID: 47-01

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths: increase reliability and reduce operating costs
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths: funds are available
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths: the most recent industry standard technology and hardware. It should take these systems beyond the next decade.
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths: Very little risk
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths: Clearly identified goals and objectives.
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Proposal Name: Radio Transmission project
NITC ID: 47-01

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Review Score = 10/10

Risk Assessment
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Review Score = 10/10

Financial Analysis and Budget
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Review Score = 20/20

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Yes
Tier Recommendation: Tier 1

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Proposal Name: Facility Routing
NITC ID: 47-03

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Ling Ling Sun
Agency: 47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 3

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

The NET Legacy Routing System was purchased and put in service in 2001. The system is well beyond support and there are no spares available. The current system cannot be upgraded and if it fails it will jeopardize all services for NET including radio, television and internet stream as the central point for all signal distribution. Moving to Media Over Managed Internet Protocol (IP) provides for a high speed IP network to support all media for today and the future replacing traditional legacy routing and distribution systems including the Venus Routing System. An all IP based facility can support all types of media transport including SD, HD, UHD, transport stream, RTMP, HLS, DASH, AES 67 Audio and any other future formats (such as ATSC 3.0 DASH/IF).

IP based architecture provides many benefits and is signal and data agnostic, redundant, resilient, infinitely scalable, reduced cabling and uses generic IT Hardware. NET requests funds to replace the Legacy Routing System to ensure serving Nebraskan with uninterrupted services. The project would begin the summer of 2021 with a proof of concept and would be funded 2022. The project would be completed by summer of 2023. Total costs for this project are estimated at $500,000 including all hardware, software and professional services.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Project Costs:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Capital Expenditures:	$0.00	$500,000.00	$500,000.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$0.00	$500,000.00	**$500,000.00**

Comments: Total Cost is estimated at $500,000 in FY2023. Also under Capital Construction Projects of this Budget System.

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$0.00	$500,000.00	$500,000.00
Cash Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$0.00	$0.00	**$0.00**

Comments:

PROPOSAL SCORE

		reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average	**Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)**	15	15	15	15
	Project Justification / Business Case (25)	25	25	25	25
	Technical Impact (20)	20	20	20	20
	Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	10	10	10	10
	Risk Assessment (10)	10	10	10	10
	Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	20	20	20	20
	Total Score	100	100	100	100

47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Proposal Name: Facility Routing
NITC ID: 47-03

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths: common off the shelf IT hardware in order to keep up with technology shifts
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths: Part of NET long term infrastructure refresh plan.
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths: The replacement equipment is considered Industry Replacement Standard for this type of system.
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths: best of breed
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Preliminary Plan for Implementation   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment   Review Score = 10/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Financial Analysis and Budget   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 15/15
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 25/25
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Technical Impact   Review Score = 20/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

47 - Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Proposal Name: Facility Routing
NITC ID: 47-03

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Review Score = 10/10

Risk Assessment
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Review Score = 10/10

Financial Analysis and Budget
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Review Score = 20/20

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Yes
Tier Recommendation: Tier 1

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

54 - State Historical Society

Proposal Name: Improve Digital Access
NITC ID: 54-01

NITC | Nebraska Information Technology Commission

PROJECT DETAILS

Project Contact: Jay Shaeffer
Agency: 54 - State Historical Society
NITC Tier Alignment:

Agency Priority: 1

SUMMARY OF REQUEST

History Nebraska's ongoing statutory responsibilities to collect, preserve, and make accessible historical resources (including digital born government records, GIS data, digitized photographs, manuscripts, artifacts). COVID-19 has dramatically increased demand for the agency's online materials. The agency has the ambitious goal of making additional one million digital objects available annually to meet both customer demand and comply with statutory requirements to preserve and provide access to these materials. The agency's request covers the additional investment in infrastructure, maintenance and support costs needed to accomplish these goals.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Expenditures

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
Contractual Services:	$78,000.00	$78,000.00	$156,000.00
Telecommunications:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Training:	$11,000.00	$0.00	$11,000.00
Project Costs:	$215,000.00	$5,000.00	$220,000.00
Capital Expenditures:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Estimated Costs:	$304,000.00	$83,000.00	**$387,000.00**

Comments: Costs for CRM-Salesforce, Preservica and Archives Space include cost of acquisition, cost of data migration, cost of licensing (two year), cost of training staff.

Funding

	Fiscal Year 2022	Fiscal Year 2023	Total
General Fund:	$304,000.00	$83,000.00	$387,000.00
Cash Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Federal Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Revolving Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Other Fund:	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00
Total Requested Funding:	$304,000.00	$83,000.00	**$387,000.00**

Comments:

PROPOSAL SCORE

		reviewer1	reviewer2	reviewer3	Average
Average	Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes (15)	12	11	14	12
	Project Justification / Business Case (25)	20	22	20	21
	Technical Impact (20)	16	15	17	16
	Preliminary Plan for Implementation (10)	8	8	3	6
	Risk Assessment (10)	8	8	5	7
	Financial Analysis and Budget (20)	15	17	1	11
	Total Score	79	81	60	73

REVIEWER COMMENTS

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes   Review Score = 12/15
Strengths: Easy access and maintenance via cloud-based digital services

Weaknessess:

Project Justification / Business Case   Review Score = 20/25
Strengths: Digital access

Weaknessess: Support and GIS cost not completely vetted

Technical Impact
Review Score = 16/20
Strengths: single source, online. Instead of having to visit multiple databases
Weaknessess: Bandwidth requirements

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Review Score = 8/10
Strengths:
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment
Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: compatible with our existing Preservica system
Weaknessess: UNL and the consortium may not support or maintain the system

Financial Analysis and Budget
Review Score = 15/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess: Financial analysis not complete

Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes
Review Score = 11/15
Strengths: History Nebraska does a good job identifying maintenance costs and upgrade costs for the SAAS component. It is clear that History Nebraska has identified outcomes and the audience on who this project will benefit. The supporting documentation describes the CRM, that is helping guide the plan.
Weaknessess: The IT-GIS part is very vague on what is to be developed. In the he supporting documents mention upgrading desktop software and possible mobile collection needs, but doesn't describe any type of visualization that might be helpful with this project.

Project Justification / Business Case
Review Score = 22/25
Strengths: The need to preserve documents and artifacts is critical, especially since it is covered by statute
Weaknessess: None noticed upon reading

Technical Impact
Review Score = 15/20
Strengths: A cloud based solution to help the public with research is a good thing.
Weaknessess: I am confused with several comments in this section and there is no clear understanding. It involves where Archived space is managed by a consortium and then later says if the consortium decides to discontinue use that History Nebraska will have to go it alone. How much of a risk or possibility is this?

Preliminary Plan for Implementation
Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: I don't see an issue with these being implements
Weaknessess:

Risk Assessment
Review Score = 8/10
Strengths: That the discussion about the need for metadata be consistent. I did like that they mention needing to coordinate with the Secretary of State's office for metadata standardization. It is good that a potential work force was identified to help.
Weaknessess: Did History Nebraska consult with the appropriate resources or research to determine if there was a standardized GIS metadata standard? As mentioned above - what is the potential of the consortium and UNL withdrawing support

Financial Analysis and Budget
Review Score = 17/20
Strengths: A type of budget was submitted.
Weaknessess: Not clear on what the difference is between FY 22 and FY 23 and the changes. No breakdown between the 2 different tasks with in the project - the User interface portion or the GIS portion

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Goals, Objectives and Projected Outcomes
Review Score = 14/15
Strengths: On-mission and clearly timely.

Weaknessess: Specifics of outcome measurement are thin.

An observation of the project as a whole but not incorporated into this score is that for a publicly available deliverable of this importance, there is little to no mention of enabling or maintaining accessibility for persons with disabilities in the final product, though many of the kinds of information being archived (photographs, maps, models) as well as the necessary interfaces are in most instances non-trivial to make accessible. It is a deep concern that the absence of this in the project description and budget could be reflective of absence in the product.

Proposal Name: Improve Digital Access
NITC ID: 54-01

Project Justification / Business Case Review Score = 20/25
Strengths: Clearly this project is necessary to meet mandates and provides strong benefit.
Weaknessess: Serious concerns are raised by the prospect of archive destruction if a licensing is not maintained, but I don't see anything in this project attempting to address the redundancy or data portability needs necessary to prevent this from being a permanent issue.

Technical Impact Review Score = 17/20
Strengths: Use of an established system with consortium availability.
Weaknessess: How long is the current agreement with the consortium/UNL to provide access to the tool?
Have the digital platforms available been tested to meet and support applicable NITC standards and guidelines?
Is the metadata a standardized format applicable to other systems or specific to this specific product?

Preliminary Plan for Implementation Review Score = 3/10
Strengths: No Comments
Weaknessess: Thin description of project team, no reference to process, acceptance, milestones or support requirements.

Risk Assessment Review Score = 5/10
Strengths: Listed risks seem to be addressed reasonably
Weaknessess: The previously stated risk of archive destruction is not addressed here.
The access and liability risk of the previously commented accessibility questions might be relevant here if not otherwise addressed.

Financial Analysis and Budget Review Score = 1/20
Strengths:
Weaknessess: Lump sum budget gives no information to evaluate adequacy or reasonableness.

TECHNICAL PANEL COMMENTS

Does the project: (a) create efficiencies and/or (b) reduce or eliminate risks? Yes
Is the proposed technology appropriate for the project? Yes
Can the technical elements be accomplished within the proposed timeframe and budget? Yes
Tier Recommendation: Tier 1

Comments:

NITC COMMENTS

AGENCY RESPONSE (OPTIONAL)

Attachment 5

November 15, 2020

Progress Report to the Governor and Legislature

NITC | Nebraska Information Technology Commission

State of Nebraska

Nebraska Information Technology Commission

nitc.nebraska.gov

501 S. 14th Street

P.O. Box 95045

Lincoln, NE   68509-5045

(402) 471-3560

Contents

NITC Commissioners

Ed Toner, Chair	Chief Information Officer, State of Nebraska
Senator Bruce Bostelman	Nebraska Legislature (ex-officio)
LaShonna Dorsey	Senior IT Consultant, Mutual of Omaha Insurance
Shane Greckel	Owner/Operator, Greckel Farms, LLC
Dr. Terry Haack	Superintendent, Bennington Public Schools
Dorest Harvey	US Strategic Command / J84
Thomas Nutt	County Commissioner, Phelps County
Daniel Spray	President, Precision Technology
Gary Warren	President of Services Corporation, Hamilton Telecommunications
Walter Weir	Senior Advisor to the President, University of Nebraska

Staff

Ed Toner	Chief Information Officer
Rick Becker	Government Information Technology Manager
Anne Byers	eHealth and Community Information Technology Manager
Tom Rolfes	Education Information Technology Manager
Jayne Scofield	IT Administrator, Network Services
John Watermolen	GIS Technology Manager
Lori Lopez Urdiales	Office Services Manager

Executive Summary

The Legislature established the Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) in 1998 to provide advice, strategic direction, and accountability on information technology investments in the state. This progress report highlights many of the significant accomplishments of the Commission and fulfills the requirement of Section 86-518 to submit a progress report to the Governor and Legislature by November 15 of each even-numbered year.

In particular, significant progress has been made on the following priority areas designated as strategic initiatives by the NITC.

State Government IT Strategy. The objective of this initiative is to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy for the use of information technology by Nebraska state government. The strategy has utilized a hybrid centralization model combining elements of both the centralized and decentralized IT management models. Enterprise technologies are centralized with agency-specific activities remaining with the agencies.

Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure. This initiative promotes coordination of geospatial data and GIS programs, guides policy, provides guidance on data accuracy requirements, coordinates dissemination of data through NebraskaMAP, and strengthens data sharing through partnerships to ensure access to quality geospatial datasets for governmental business needs and the public. The state of Nebraska has complete LiDAR coverage and several Federal agencies are funding a refresh of some of the early LIDAR collections (2009-2011) in the state, to upgrade the data to match the recent LIDAR Collections. The GIS Council is continues to review the GIS standards because of changes in technologies and applications. The OCIO GIO team has rolled out the Statewide GIS Enterprise Platform for agencies to use. The OCIO GIO team and agencies have been working on developing and updating internal and public facing web mapping applications and dashboard applications. The OCIO GIO team worked with Department of Health and Human Services to develop and support the Nebraska COVID 19 dashboard.

Digital Education. The primary objective of the Digital Education Initiative is to promote the effective and efficient integration of technology into the instructional, learning, and administrative processes and to utilize technology to deliver enhanced digital educational opportunities to students at all levels throughout Nebraska on an equitable and affordable basis. NITC staff assisted the Nebraska Department of Education as it developed the Hierarchy of Digital Learning Needs and CARES Act guidance for Nebraska school districts and private schools in an attempt to address the Homework Gap. NITC staff partnered with the Nebraska Library Commission and Public Service Commission as the NUSF-117 Nebraska Special Construction Matching Fund program was created to incentivize new fiber construction for public libraries in rural areas.

Network Nebraska. Participants in Network Nebraska are reducing costs and stimulating investment in Nebraska's telecommunications infrastructure. During the 2018-2020 time period, the K-20 demand for Internet has increased by 27% as the unit cost has decreased by 68% over this same period. The Office of the CIO worked with the State Purchasing Bureau and education entities across the State to competitively procure 260 fiber Ethernet circuits with the largest RFP in the 14-year history of Network Nebraska. The Education Council is in the process of preparing a report to the NITC called "Nebraska K-20 Educational Activities and Response to the COVID-19 Pandemic".

Rural Broadband and Community IT Development. The NITC Community Council and staff have supported rural broadband and community IT development in several ways. NITC staff has provided staff support to the state's Rural Broadband Task Force. NITC staff also provided assistance to staff of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to review applications for the Rural Broadband Remote Access Grant program which was funded through the CARES Act. The NITC Community Council and its partners developed a number of resources and educational materials to help Nebraska communities and regions improve their broadband service, including county fact sheets, Rural Digital Opportunity Fund webinars and materials, and broadband cases studies.

eHealth. Nebraska continues to be a leader in health information exchange. NeHII has over 6,000 registered users and includes health information on over 4 million patients. Data sharing participants.include 20 general acute hospitals, 41 critical access hospitals, 2 children's hospitals, and 186 clinic/ambulatory facilities. In addition, 212 long-term post-acute care facilities are NeHII users. Nebraska's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP) was the first PDMP to include all medications. The PDMP has over 7,000 registered users and has been queried over 612,000 times. The eHealth Council has identified data governance as an area in which to further study and address.

Other Progress and Priorities

- Over the past two years, the NITC has also realized significant achievements in each of the seven criteria set forth in Section 86-524(2).

- The NITC's vision is being realized and short-term and long-term strategies have been articulated and employed. The NITC has developed a vision statement, goals, and strategic initiatives to articulate its vision and to highlight technology projects which have strategic importance to the State of Nebraska.

- The statewide technology plan prepared annually by the NITC has been an effective vehicle for identifying key projects, building stakeholder support, coordinating efforts, and communicating with policy makers.

- The NITC website serves as an information technology clearinghouse. In addition, the Community Council produces a blog to inform stakeholders of new research and

developments. The Community Council is also using social media to share information about broadband development in Nebraska.

- In order to encourage interoperability and standardization, the NITC has adopted over 90 technical standards and guidelines.

- Recommendations made by the commission to the Governor and Legislature have assisted policy and funding decisions. The review process and prioritization of new IT projects provides policy makers with information about the objectives, justification, technical impact, costs, and risks of proposed systems. Additionally, the NITC has provided staff assistance to the Rural Broadband Task Force. Several of the task force's recommendations were included in LB 992 which was passed by the Legislature and signed by Governor Ricketts on August 15, 2020.

- The NITC encourages and facilitates input and involvement of all interested parties by engaging in collaborative processes, involving five advisory councils, the Technical Panel, and numerous workgroups and subcommittees. Information is publicly distributed and public input is encouraged.

  The Rural Broadband Task Force has encouraged input and involvement from interested parties by inviting over 50 stakeholders and subject matter experts to share their knowledge and expertise as speakers, panelists, or participants in task force or subcommittee meetings. The task force also provided opportunities for public comments.

- The NITC is addressing long-term infrastructure innovation, improvement, and coordination through Network Nebraska and by supporting the Rural Broadband Task Force.

- NebaskaMap was redesigned and upgraded for more user functionality. In 2019 ESRI did an article highlighting the NebraskaMap redesign.

NITC Staff from Left to Right: Lori Lopez Urdiales, Tom Rolfes, Rick Becker, John Watermolen, and Anne Byers.

Introduction

The Nebraska Information Technology Commission (NITC) was established by the Legislature in 1998 to provide advice, strategic direction, and accountability on information technology investments in the state. Chief Information Officer Ed Toner currently serves as the governor-designated chair of the NITC. Commissioners are appointed by the Governor, approved by the Legislature, and represent elementary and secondary education, postsecondary education, communities, the Governor, and the general public.

The NITC conducts most of its work through six advisory groups: the Community Council, Education Council, eHealth Council, Geographic Information Systems Council, State Government Council, and Technical Panel. Each council establishes ad hoc work groups to prepare recommendations on specific topics. The Office of the Chief Information Officer provides support for the NITC, its councils, the Technical Panel, and ad hoc groups.

NITC Commissioners gather at the Jul. 12, 2018 NITC meeting at the AIM Institute in Omaha. From Left to Right: Senator Bruce Bostelman, Ed Toner, Dr. Terry Haack, Walter Weir, Dorest Harvey, Tom Nutt, Shonna Dorsey, Shane Greckel, and Dan Spray.

Section 86-518 directs the NITC to submit a progress report to the Governor and Legislature by November 15 of each even-numbered year. This report fulfills this requirement. Over the past two years, the NITC has realized many significant achievements in each of the seven criteria established by the Legislature in Section 86-524(2). This report details those achievements.

Realization of Vision and Employment of Strategies

The vision has been realized and short-term and long-term strategies have been articulated and employed.

The NITC has developed a vision statement, goals, and strategic initiatives to articulate its vision and to highlight technology projects which have strategic importance to the State of Nebraska. The NITC continues to make progress toward the realization of its vision. However, because technology constantly presents new challenges and opportunities, the NITC's vision will continually evolve.

Vision.   The NITC vision statement is to "promote the use of information technology in education, health care, economic development, and all levels of government services to improve the quality of life of all Nebraskans."

Goals.   The NITC has established four goals:

1. Support the development of a robust statewide telecommunications infrastructure that is scalable, reliable, and efficient;

2. Support the use of information technology to enhance community and economic development;

3. Promote the use of information technology to improve the efficiency and delivery of governmental and educational services, including homeland security;

4. Promote effective planning, management and accountability regarding the state's investments in information technology.

Strategic Initiatives.   In 2004 the NITC began identifying priority areas as strategic initiatives. Each strategic initiative includes measureable action items. The development of the action items has been a collaborative effort involving many individuals and entities. These efforts have been successful in gaining cooperation of many stakeholders. The strategic initiatives form the core of the NITC's annual Statewide Technology Plan (https://nitc.nebraska.gov/documents/statewide_technology_plan.pdf).

The current list of strategic initiatives includes:

- State Government IT Strategy
- Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Network Nebraska

- Digital Education
- Rural Broadband and Community IT Development
- eHealth

The past two years have brought significant progress in each of the strategic initiatives. A summary of each strategic initiative follows.

State Government IT Strategy

This initiative focuses on the development and implementation of a comprehensive strategy for the use of information technology by Nebraska state government. The strategy has utilized a hybrid centralization model combining elements of both the centralized and decentralized IT management models. Enterprise technologies are centralized with agency-specific activities remaining with the agencies.

Top priorities include:
- Security
- Consolidation
- Availability

The following graphic illustrates the priorities of the OCIO:

Action items supporting this initiative include:

- Implement same sign-on for certain enterprise applications;

- IT cost efficiencies;

- Operationalize IT and project governance;

- Consolidate on STN domain;

- Data center consolidation;

- Network migration (new world);

- Application process maturation (DevOps);

- Staff onboarding, offboarding, and transitioning;

- Application portfolio management; and

- Enterprise content management.

Recent accomplishments include:

- Creating a single help desk solution for multiple agencies;

- Migrating enterprise email to the cloud;

- Establishing a Risk Mitigation and Compliance team within the OCIO;

- Upgrading CCTV from analog to digital;

- Providing enhanced services to agencies in response to COVID-19 including additional VPN, MFA, soft phones, laptops, and auto attendants;

- Implementing a phased migration to a consolidated domain;

- Implementing a phased migration to a consolidated data center; and

- Implementing a phased network migration to "new world."

Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure

Mapping and geospatial data support the economy, safety, environment and overall quality of life for Nebraskans. More than $35 million has been invested to date in core framework data throughout local, state and federal stakeholders. Coordination and management of these activities are essential to reduce duplication of efforts and provide cost savings to our taxpayers.

The GIS Council develops strategies, standards and policies related to the creation and use of geospatial data and geographic information system technologies for Nebraska. The council's interagency and intergovernmental coordination efforts focus on facilitating data sharing, coordinating joint database development, developing GIS enterprise services, data and system standards, and education. The council represents

GIS Council Mission

To encourage the appropriate utilization of GIS technology and to assist organizations to make public investments in GIS technology and geospatial data in an effective, efficient, and coordinated manner. *Nebraska Revised Statute - §86-569 through §86-573*

"Geospatial technologies incorporate GIS, global positioning systems (GPS), remote sensing such as imagery and Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR), and other geographic data and information systems. GIS is a tool to capture, store, manipulate, analyze, manage, and visualize all types of geographic data."

state, local and federal government agencies and other stakeholders needing access to data. The council is affiliated with nationally coordinated efforts through the Federal Geographic Data Committee and the National States Geographic Information Council.

This initiative promotes coordination, guides policy, provides guidance on Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure (NESDI) data accuracy requirements, and strengthens data sharing through partnerships to ensure access to quality geospatial datasets for governmental business needs and the public.

The major components of this initiative include:

1. Facilitating the creation, maintenance, analysis and publishing of quality NESDI data and information systems.

2. Encouraging data sharing and provide widespread access to data and services through NebraskaMAP.gov.

3. Developing and implementing NESDI layer standards and guidelines.

4. Facilitating technical assistance and education outreach opportunities for furthering the adoption of the NESDI and geospatial applications.

5. Achieving sustainable and efficient allocation of resources to support the implementation and wise governance of GIS services and geospatial data.
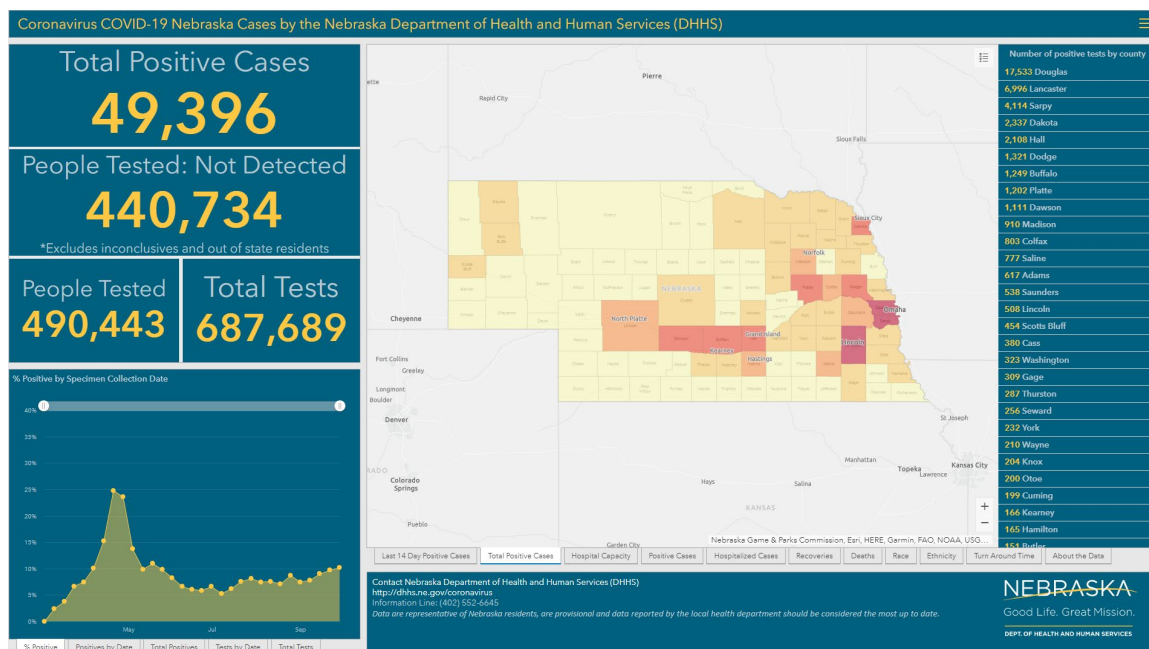
The Geographic Information Office continued leading public outreach efforts using the enterprise mapping platform, which led to the statewide, Covid-19 Nebraska Cases Dashboard in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services, in Spring 2020.

The objective of the NESDI is:

"To develop and foster an environment and infrastructure that optimizes the efficient use of geospatial technology, data, and services to address a wide variety of business and governmental challenges within the state. Geospatial technologies and data will be delivered in a way that supports policy and decision making at all levels of government to enhance the economy, safety, environment and quality of life for Nebraskans."

NESDI Framework Layer Assessment. The NESDI comprises of geospatial data layers that have multiple applications and are used by a vast majority of stakeholders. They are consistent with the Federal National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI) "7 framework layers" and provide additional layers of particular importance to Nebraska stakeholders. The current priority layers for the state include imagery, elevation, street centerlines, address points, and land records.

NESDI Data Layers
- Survey and Geodetic control
- Transportation (roads, rail, air, etc.)
- Cadastre/parcels
- Elevation
- Aerial imagery
- Hydrography
- Political and administrative boundaries
- Addresses
- Soils
- Groundwater

Metadata standards (NITC 3-201 Geospatial Metadata) have been developed specific to the needs of Nebraska stakeholders while maintaining compliance with the metadata standards from the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC).

The following are other accomplishments for the priority data layers.

Survey and Geodetic Control. Survey and geodetic control need to be taken into consideration for good quality data to exist in the future for several of the NESDI framework layers—particularly if multiple data sets are used in combinations for analysis and decision making. Some of the State's current data sets were created for specific purposes with given budgets. As the use of geospatial data has grown, there are now other needs for the data. Some of these additional uses require a greater level of spatial accuracy.

Recommendations are being implemented including the need for control in standards and data acquisition plans. Survey and geodetic control recommendations have been identified and are included into recent NITC standards for elevation, imagery, street centerline, and address points.

A low-distortion projection (LDP) project is in progress under the direction of the State Surveyor's office with assistance with other registered land surveyors of Nebraska. The LDP will create the best ground to grid solution with control established using recognized local control. This will lead to a better source data for all GIS horizontal calculations that improves all of our spatial data sets. Survey and geodetic control recommendations have been identified and included into ongoing data collection projects. There is a federal goal for implementation of this project in 2022 to coincide with the 2022 Federal Datum change.

The state has been working with BLM and have a signed MOU to share data with control points for Federal and non-federal lands. The state surveyor's office is the steward of this data.

Elevation (LiDAR). This action item establishes the Nebraska Statewide Elevation Program. It is led by the Elevation Working Group which facilitates the acquisition, maintenance, and sharing of a statewide elevation dataset by developing standards and specifications for LiDAR point clouds and derivative products. It further develops alternatives for systematic and cost-effective acquisition of these products and defines a program of stewardship for managing and publishing the data.

The Elevation Business Plan was approved by the GIS Council on March 26, 2015. The plan outlines the business case for LiDAR statewide. The plan takes a comprehensive approach and details the organizational needs, technology and human resource requirements, required product deliverables, funding requirements, legislative support, implementation plans, and a marketing and outreach strategy. The Elevation standard has reached its defined milestone with complete coverage for Nebraska and will be reconvening in the future to address plans for Nebraska based on the upcoming 3D Nation report compiled by the plan being USGS and NOAA

> ### Light Detection and Ranging
>
> LiDAR is a technology that is used in conjunction with GPS technology, an aerial collection platform, and a processing computer to collect data points that can be used to define the location of objects that reflect near infrared light, including the land surface, structures and vegetation.

LiDAR data and its derived products are expected to have a benefit to cost ratio of five to one, with a project value of $23 million to taxpayers in Nebraska.

Imagery. This action item establishes the Nebraska Statewide Imagery Program which sets out to coordinate the acquisition, delivery, and data sharing of imagery products and services. All government entities can participate with the program.

The core product is a statewide aerial ortho-image that meets the minimum horizontal accuracy requirements and a spatial resolution of 12 inch or better, preferably flown during the "leaf-off" period for trees. Obliques and other value-added products and services will also be included in the program. The requirements from federal standards (i.e., National Emergency Number Association) are also driving the need for greater spatial accuracy of imagery in order to meet needs to develop and create street centerline and address points for Enhanced/Next Generation 9-1-1.

The business plan was approved in 2017 and was updated in 2019 to address changes in technologies and policies with regards to federal partners and funding. The Imagery Working Group has identified a need for preserving historical aerial photographs and the OCIO-GIO continues to collaborate with the Natural Resource Conservation Service

(NRCS) who is digitizing and georeferencing historic imagery in cooperation with the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Land Records. This action item enables the integration of different local government land records information into a statewide dataset.

A Nebraska Statewide Parcel Geodatabase Development and Implementation Plan was finalized in 2015 with input from several county assessors. The plan outlines expectations of the State's public records request and a timeline going forward to obtain core parcel data and GIS files on an annual basis. The state has developed statewide data aggregation workflows, a data schema/model, and appropriate map services to extend data for business operations. All counties have digitized parcel data have been collected and aggregated into the statewide database since 2015. This effort has also leveraged a data sharing partnership effort by working together and identifying state level data that can also go back to counties to support their needs. This is an ongoing endeavor in cooperation with the Nebraska Department of Revenue- Property Assessment Division and County Assessors.

Currently all parcels in Nebraska are digitized in some form. The Nebraska State Records Board has provided more than $924,485 in grant assistance to digitize and create geodatabases utilizing the data. In 2013, five counties were awarded State Records Board grants totaling $117,065 for digitizing land parcel information.

Street Centerline Address Database. Nebraska Public Service Commission (PSC) is working on compiling and quality checking various spatial (GIS) data sets such as street centerlines and address points that will be used for various transportation, emergency management, public safety (i.e., NG9-1-1), economic development and other related applications.

Efforts started in 2015 to communicate the recent street centerline and address standards to those involved with public safety and emergency management. The standards were presented to the State Enhanced 9-1-1 Advisory Board to address questions and to begin to develop partnerships to further build recommendations to transition to Next Generation 9-1-1. A Statewide Street Centerline and Address Data model with data definitions have been developed. This will be used to further communicate to participants who use state funds for projects developing street centerline and address data for the state in order to begin standardizing efforts going forward.

A business planning effort started in 2016 to begin defining data stewardship roles and responsibilities, data processing and workflows, costs, and plans with current E-911 and future NG9-1-1 coordination efforts. A review of federal requirements and national efforts has been completed and will be included in the business plan.

The **S**tatewide Nebraska Street Centerline Database (NSCD) and Nebraska Address Database (NAD) have been developed with coordination between the Nebraska Department of Transportation and the Office of the CIO. Both databases have relationships in attribution and geometric placement. The Department of Transportation

finished a federal street centerline project with US Federal Highway Administration and is beginning to incorporate the geometric framework to improve the existing street centerline data for the state. The NSCD and NAD is currently being stored at the Office of the CIO in the State's GIS Enterprise Platform.

Until seamless address data becomes available to the state, several state agencies have partnered towards a shared service for a statewide enterprise license agreement to acquire statewide address and demographic data for the state. It is available to any state agency, city/local government, other state eligible political subdivision, college, or university (except University of Nebraska Medical Center). The state has leveraged the data to be made available in several formats and map services. This data will also assist the development of addressing points to be used in combination with the street centerline database.

NebraskaMAP. NebraskaMAP (http://www.NebraskaMAP.gov) is the online gateway to get access to Nebraska's authoritative geospatial data. The NebraskaMAP clearinghouse was replaced in 2018 with a new and improved platform to deliver data and information on various platforms. The system integrates with the State's GIS Enterprise platform and has more than 150 data sets and over 35 web mapping applications. The site averages over 1800 views per day.

All state agencies that use geospatial data are working together to reduce duplicated datasets and streamline the data sharing process. This has been done by consolidation and the creation of Nebraska Enterprise GIS platform (NEGIS). This allows users in state agencies to accessing data in a sole location for the most current information. The new system formalizes communication with all statewide data stewards to keep data current while exercising the importance of authoritative and quality data for public consumption.

The next phase of the project is to partner with other data stewards who share public data through local and county governments and other political subdivisions. The website may eventually include a component to provide an easier way to view and access available imagery, LiDAR and other raster and large file size datasets for Nebraska.

Network Nebraska

Participants in Network Nebraska are reducing costs and stimulating investment in Nebraska's telecommunications infrastructure. Network Nebraska is represented as a compilation of three major sub-networks: The University of Nebraska network, State and County Government network, and the K-20 Education network. Each network has its own management staff, but takes advantage of co-location facilities, Internet and telecommunications contracts, and shared infrastructure wherever possible.

In order to develop a broadband, scalable telecommunications infrastructure that optimizes quality of service to public entities, the State of Nebraska and the University of Nebraska began aggregating their backbone network services into a core network backbone in 2003. In 2006, the Nebraska Legislature passed LB 1208 which named the statewide network as Network Nebraska, and tasked the Chief Information Officer (assisted by the University of Nebraska) with "providing access to all education entities as soon as feasible, but no later than July 1, 2012." Network Nebraska is also expected to "meet the demand of state agencies and local governments…Such network shall provide access to a reliable and affordable infrastructure capable of carrying a spectrum of services and applications, including distance education, across the state."

Network Nebraska has succeeded in lowering the unit cost of Internet service to participating entities through aggregated purchasing power. By combining Network Nebraska's K-20 Internet purchases and peering into five state contracts of over 100Gbps, the K-12 E-rate-eligible price has gone from $.53/Mbps/month on July 1, 2018 down to $.18/Mbps/month on July 1, 2020, a 66% decrease in unit cost. This will benefit all current and future Network Nebraska schools, ESUs and colleges that purchase their Internet service from the statewide master contract.

Benefits of Network Nebraska also include flexible bandwidth utilization, Intranet routing, lower network costs, greater efficiency, interoperability of systems providing video courses and conferencing, increased collaboration among educational entities, new student learning opportunities, enterprise network management software, and better use of public investments.

Network Nebraska has also stimulated investments and competition in telecommunications infrastructure. As the State bid connectivity to large regional areas of schools and colleges, the telecommunications companies responded with fiber Ethernet service pricing that greatly reduced the costs to educational entities.

The development of the K-20 education network has increased the number of distance education courses available to Nebraska students. Through Zoom interactive videoconferencing, Nebraska high schools and community colleges exchange over 306 courses per year (2020-21). World languages, mathematics, language arts, and performing arts courses continue to be popular offerings leveraged by rural students.

Due to advances in WAN Ethernet technology, Network Nebraska-Education is now able to reach every education entity in the State through six core aggregation points: Grand Island, Kearney, Lincoln, Scottsbluff, and two locations in Omaha.

The development of the K-20 Education network has increased the number of customers served by Network Nebraska. Data and Internet customers currently include the three state colleges, all six community colleges, two tribal colleges, the University of Nebraska system, over half of the private colleges, and 243 school districts under 17 different educational service units. The Nebraska K-20 Education network is completely funded by Participation and Interregional Transport Fees from its 293 members.

Cybersecurity has been a priority area of the Education Council since the most recent update to the Statewide Technology Plan. The Education Council and Network Nebraska Advisory Group continue to promote and provide cybersecurity training experiences for Network Nebraska members.

Members of the Education Council meet with Governor Ricketts, to discuss Network Nebraska's progress toward affordable and reliable infrastructure.

Network Nebraska has been made possible through a cooperative effort of the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP). CAP is composed of several operational entities: Office of the CIO, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska Educational Telecommunications with policy assistance from the Nebraska Department of Education, Public Service Commission, and the NITC.

In 2009, the NITC Education Council chartered the Network Nebraska Advisory Group (NNAG). These 16 members, representing all of the major K-12 and higher education communities, have been instrumental in helping guide Office of the CIO decisions concerning network infrastructure, services, and fees.

Network Nebraska is not a state-owned network. Facilities and circuits are leased from private telecommunications providers in the state, allowing the State of Nebraska and members of Network Nebraska to act as anchor tenants.

Digital Education

The primary objective of the Digital Education Initiative is to promote the effective and efficient integration of technology into the instructional, learning, and administrative processes and to utilize technology to deliver enhanced digital educational opportunities to students at all levels throughout Nebraska on an equitable and affordable basis.

The initiative is dependent upon adequate Internet connectivity and transport bandwidth for learners, instructors, administrators, and for educational attendance sites. A minimum acceptable level of classroom technology will have to be established for the initiative to be successful.

The primary components of the Digital Education Initiative include:

- A statewide telecommunications network with ample bandwidth capable of transporting voice, video, and data between and among all education entities (See Network Nebraska.);

- Distance insensitive Internet pricing for all Nebraska education entities;

- Development of a statewide eLearning environment so that every teacher and every learner has access to a web-based, digital curriculum;

- Development of a statewide digital resource library so that any teacher or learner will be able to retrieve digital media for use in instructional and student projects;

- Synchronous videoconferencing interconnections between all schools and colleges;

- The means to coordinate and facilitate essential education opportunities for all students through a statewide student information system; and

- Regional Pre-K-20 education cooperatives that vertically articulate educational programs and opportunities.

Etablishing a robust Digital Education environment is critical to Nebraska's future. So much of what teachers, students, and administrators do today is dependent upon Internet-based information and communication. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the sudden shift to home-based remote learning, the Nebraska Department of Education, in cooperation with the Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council, and Network Nebraska, developed the Hierarchy of Digital Learning Needs. The five layers are based on an adequate infrastructure (student internet access). Affordable, reliable broadband access for students became a critical component for remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.
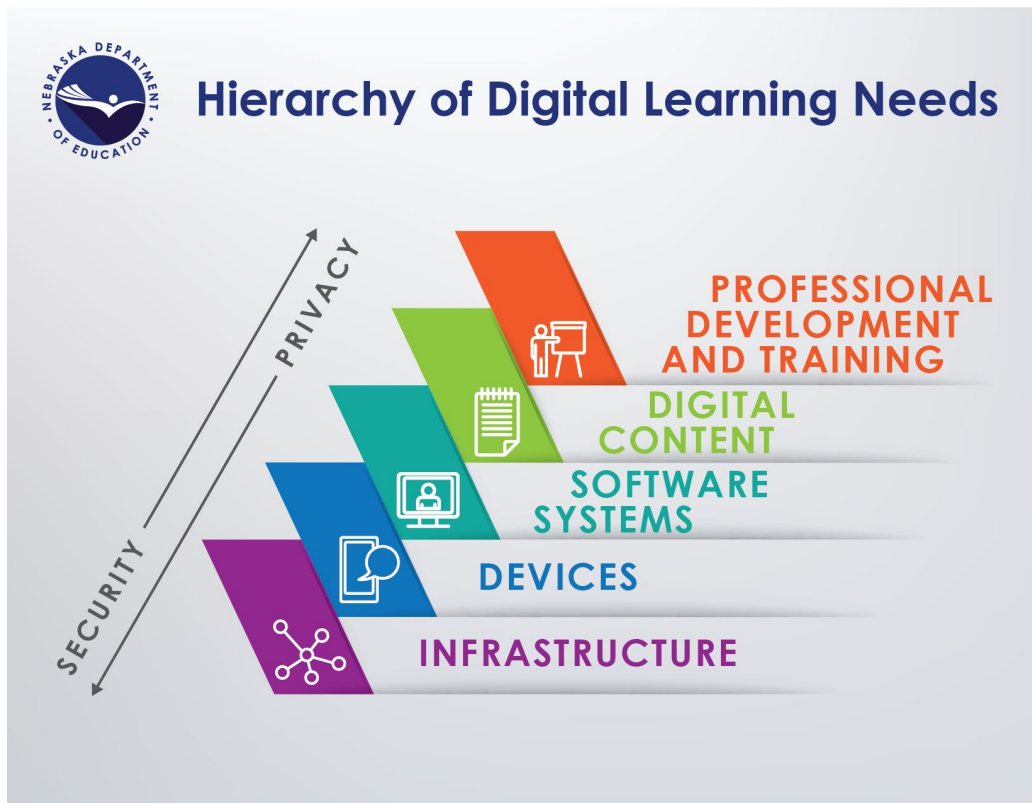
Nebraska has continued to make progress in the ratio of students per computing device in the classroom. Educators and administrators are urged to achieve the goal of 1:1 computer (or Internet-connected device) availability.

The benefits of the Digital Education Initiative would include:

- Greater technical capacity for schools and colleges to meet the increasing demands of a more diverse customer base;

- More equitable and affordable Internet access for Nebraska schools and colleges;

- A comprehensive web-based approach to curriculum mapping and the organization and automation of student assessment data gathering and depiction;

- The availability of rich, digital media to the desktop that is indexed to Nebraska standards, catalogued, and searchable by the educator or student;

- A more systematic approach to synchronous video distance learning that enables Nebraska schools and colleges to exchange more courses, staff development and training, and ad hoc learning opportunities.

Student equity of access to the internet has become a high priority action item of the Education Council since the most recent update to the NITC Statewide Technology Plan. So, the Office of the CIO partnered with the Nebraska Library Commission and Public Service Commission to develop the Nebraska Special Construction Matching E-rate fund

for schools and libraries. The matching funds from the FCC's E-rate program and the Nebraska Universal Service Fund will increase the discount for special construction of fiber by as much as 20%, which could dramatically reduce costs and increase transport speeds for the participants.

The furthering of the Digital Education initiative and completion of the Digital Education action items requires the participation of many education-related entities. The Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council (ESUCC) and the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) are cooperating on aggregated purchases of computing devices and a statewide learning management system as part of the COVID-19 response.

Rural Broadband and Community IT Development

The NITC Community Council and staff have addressed rural broadband and community IT development in several ways:

Rural Broadband Task Force. NITC staff has provided staff support to the state's Rural Broadband Task Force. The Rural Broadband Task Force was created by LB 994 in 2018 to "review issues relating to availability, adoption, and affordability of broadband services in rural areas of Nebraska." The task force's first report was submitted to the Legislature on Oct. 31, 2019. The report is available at: https://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov

Rural Broadband Remote Access Grants. NITC staff provided assistance to staff of the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to review applications for the Rural Broadband Remote Access Grant program which was funded through the CARES Act. Governor Ricketts allocated $40 million for broadband grants. Over 100 applications were submitted. Sixty-one grants totaling approximately $29.5 million were approved.

Broadband Resources. The NITC Community Council and its partners developed a number of resources and educational materials to help Nebraska communities and regions improve their broadband service, including:

- Broadband case studies

- County broadband fact sheets (developed by the Nebraska Library Commission and the NITC Community Council)

- Six Steps to Better Broadband

Staff of the NITC and Public Service Commission also worked with the Nebraska Department of Economic Development to develop materials and host a series of

webinars for Nebraska communities and telecommunications providers on the FCC's Rural Digital Opportunity Fund.

eHealth

Nebraska continues to be a leader in health information exchange. NeHII has over 6,000 registered users and includes health information on over 4 million patients. Data sharing participants include 20 general acute hospitals, 41 critical access hospitals, 2 children's hospitals, and 186 clinic/ambulatory facilities. In addition, 212 long-term post-acute care facilities are NeHII users. NeHII in partnership with the Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services serves as Nebraska's Prescription Drug Monitoring Program (PDMP). Nebraska's PDMP was the first PDMP to include all medications. The PDMP has over 7,000 registered users and has been queried over 612,000 times. As NeHII has matured, it is providing services to help practices reduce the burdens of clinical quality reporting in addition to providing health information at the point of care.

The eHealth Council has identified data governance as an area to further study and address.

Improved Coordination and Assistance to Policymakers

The statewide technology plan and other activities of the commission have improved coordination and assisted policymakers.

Statewide Technology Plan. The statewide technology plan annually prepared by the NITC has been an effective vehicle for identifying key projects, building stakeholder support, coordinating efforts, and communicating with policy makers.

The current plan was approved in 2018. The plan focuses on seven strategic initiatives:

- State Government IT Strategy
- IT Security
- Nebraska Spatial Data Infrastructure
- Network Nebraska
- Digital Education
- Rural Broadband and Community IT Development
- eHealth

These initiatives were identified by the NITC and its advisory groups. These groups include representatives of a wide array of entities, including health care providers,

education, local government, the private sector, and state agencies. This process has proven to be effective in building stakeholder support. These initiatives are collaborative projects involving many entities both inside and outside of state government. The statewide technology plan provides a method of communicating the importance of these initiatives, progress made, and plans for further implementation. The plan is submitted to the Legislature and the Governor. The primary role of the NITC in these initiatives has been facilitation and coordination. The success of these initiatives testifies to the NITC's effectiveness at facilitation, coordination, and communication with policymakers.

The Chief Information Officer and the advisory groups of the NITC are occasionally called upon to provide analysis or review of technology initiatives, explanation of state-specific information technology data, and other requests as needed by the Governor and Legislature.

Rural Broadband Task Force. By providing staff support for Nebraska's Rural Broadband Task Force, the NITC has assisted policymakers by studying issues related to rural broadband availability and by making recommendations. The Rural Broadband Task Force was created by LB 994 in 2018 to "review issues relating to availability, adoption, and affordability of broadband services in rural areas of Nebraska." LB 994 l was introduced by Senator Curt Friesen, Chair of the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee.

The 14-member task force is chaired by Ed Toner, CIO for the State of Nebraska and Chair of the Nebraska Information Technology Commission. The task force's first report was submitted to the Legislature on Oct. 31, 2019. The report included findings and recommendations on:

- Broadband availability;
- Broadband data and mapping;
- Alternative technologies and providers;
- Nebraska Universal Service Fund and reverse auction;
- Public-private partnerships and broadband planning;
- Digital inclusion, homework gap and leveraging E-Rate funding; and
- Broadband infrastructure funds.

The report and supporting appendices is available at:
https://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov.

Ed Toner provided testimony highlighting the task force's recommendations to the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee's Interim Hearing on LR 166 on December 4, 2019. The task force and its subcommittees have continued to meet. The

task force will submit another report to the Legislature and Governor Ricketts by Nov. 2, 2021.

Members of the task force include:

Ed Toner, Task Force Chair, Chief Information Officer, State of Nebraska and Chair, Nebraska Information Technology Commission

Senator Curt Friesen, Chair, Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, Nebraska Legislature

Senator Bruce Bostelman, Nebraska Legislature (selected by the Executive Board)

Mary Ridder, Commissioner, Nebraska Public Service Commission

Tony Goins, Director, Nebraska Department of Economic Development

Steve Wellman, Director, Nebraska Department of Agriculture

Zachary Hunnicutt, Farmer, Hunnicutt Farms, Representing Agribusiness Community

Isaiah Graham, Vice-President, Homestead Bank, Representing Nebraska Business Community

Tom Shoemaker, President, Pinpoint Communications, Representing Regulated Wireline Telecommunications Industry

Daniel Spray, Owner, Precision Technology, Inc., Representing Wireless Telecommunications Industry

Timothy Lindahl, CEO/General Manager, Wheat Belt Public Power District, Representing Public Power Industry

Anna Turman, Division CIO, Catholic Health Initiative, Representing Health Care Providers

Andrew Buker, Executive Director of Infrastructure Services, University of Nebraska, Representing Nebraska postsecondary educational institutions

Ron Cone, Director of Network Information Services, ESU 10, Representing Rural Schools Offering Kindergarten through Grade Twelve

Policy and Funding Recommendations

Recommendations made by the commission to the Governor and Legislature have assisted policy and funding decisions.

Section 86-516 (8) directs the NITC to "make recommendations on technology investments to the Governor and the Legislature, including a prioritized list of projects, reviewed by the technical panel," as part of the biennial budget process. Technical reviews of information technology projects are conducted by a team of reviewers. Projects are then reviewed by one or more of the NITC's advisory councils and the Technical Panel. Using information from the review process, the NITC makes recommendations to the Governor and the Legislature by November 15 of each even-numbered year. The review process and prioritization of new IT projects provides policy makers with information about the objectives, justification, technical impact, costs, and risks of proposed systems.

In 2020, eight projects were reviewed as part of the biennial budget process. Recommendations on these requests were submitted to the Governor and the Legislature.

Policies, Standards, Guidelines, and Architectures

Policies, standards, guidelines, and architectures have been developed and observed.

In order to encourage interoperability and standardization, over 90 standards and guidelines have been adopted. The development of standards and guidelines has helped the State of Nebraska achieve greater interoperability and efficiency. The process encourages public input from all involved constituents. Most standards are developed by a work group consisting of stakeholders from state government agencies and other interested entities. The Technical Panel recommends standards and guidelines to be considered for adoption by the NITC.

A full listing of the NITC Standards and Guidelines are listed at this website: https://nitc.nebraska.gov/standards/index.html

Information Technology Clearinghouse

An information technology clearinghouse has been established, maintained, and utilized of Nebraska's information technology infrastructure and of activities taking place in the state involving information technology, and the information flow between and among individuals and organizations has been facilitated as a result of the information technology clearinghouse.

The NITC's website (www.nitc.nebraska.gov) serves as an information technology clearinghouse, providing access to information including resources for communities, health care providers, and educational entities, the GIS community, and state government. The NITC website is the official repository for agenda, minutes, and documents for the NITC, its councils and their workgroups. The section on "Standards and Guidelines" provides access to all technical standards and guidelines adopted by the NITC or under development. The Community Council and its partners have developed resources to help Nebraska communities and regions improve their broadband service. Links to these resources are available from the websites of the NITC and the Rural Broadband Task Force (ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov). Network Nebraska has its own project website, with information designed for current and prospective participants (http://www.networknebraska.net). The NITC website also includes a link to NebraskaMAP (http://www.NebraskaMAP.gov) which provides public access to geospatial data in Nebraska. Additionally, NITC staff members handle requests for information on technology projects and development and facilitate the exchange of information.

NITC Commissioners hear reports from its advisory councils.

Input and Involvement of Interested Parties

Input and involvement of all interested parties has been encouraged and facilitated.

The NITC engages in collaborative processes, involving five advisory councils, the Technical Panel, and numerous workgroups and subcommittees. Additionally information is publicly distributed and public input is encouraged through the NITC's website and through e-mail distribution. NITC staff also present information on NITC initiatives at conferences, workshops, and meetings across the state. The list of NITC Commissioners, council members, and Technical Panel members is included in this document.

Active work groups and subcommittees over the past two years include:

- State Government Council—Security Architecture Work Group
- Technical Panel—Accessibility of Information Technology Work Group
- Technical Panel—Intergovernmental Data Communications Work Group
- GIS Council—Street Centerline-Address Database Work Group
- GIS Council—Imagery Work Group
- GIS Council—Elevation Work Group
- Education Council—Network Nebraska Work Group
- Education Council—Digital Education Work Group
- Education Council—Network Nebraska Advisory Group

Additionally, the Rural Broadband Task Force has encouraged the input and involvement of interested parties in several ways. Between September 2018 and October 2019, the member task force and its subcommittees met 40 times to examine issues related to rural broadband and to develop recommendations. Over 50 stakeholders and subject matter experts were invited to share their knowledge and expertise as speakers,

panelists, or participants in task force or subcommittee meetings. The task force also provided opportunities for public comments during two meetings and received 23 written comments on drafts of the recommendations and the report. A list of speakers and invited stakeholders as well as comments received are available at: https://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov

Infrastructure Innovation, Improvement and Coordination

Long-term infrastructure innovation, improvement, and coordination has been planned for, facilitated, and achieved with minimal barriers and impediments.

The NITC is addressing long-term infrastructure innovation, improvement, and coordination through Network Nebraska and by supporting the Rural Broadband Task Force.

Network Nebraska. Network Nebraska has aggregated statewide telecommunications to a common infrastructure, generated considerable cost savings to public entities, and decreased the unit cost of Internet service by leveraging the consolidated demand of all participating entities. Since September 2003, Network Nebraska has grown to serve the data and Internet service needs of all state agencies with outstate circuits, the University of Nebraska's four campuses, all six of the state's community colleges, all three state colleges, and all but one of the 244 school districts under 17 different educational service units.   The number of customers is expected to continue growing due to the favorable Internet rates and the high quality of service offered by Network Nebraska. The Network Nebraska K-20 network is one possible alternative for them to interconnect with each other and purchase less expensive Internet.

Network Nebraska has been made possible through a cooperative effort of the State of Nebraska Office of the CIO, University of Nebraska, and Nebraska Educational Telecommunications, with policy assistance from the Nebraska Department of Education, Public Service Commission, and the NITC. This partnership is known as the Collaborative Aggregation Partnership (CAP).

The first phase of the State multipurpose backbone became operational in September 2003, serving Omaha, Lincoln, and Grand Island with the second phase following in February 2004, extending service to Norfolk, Kearney, North Platte, and the Panhandle. In July 2008, the Network Nebraska K-20 backbone interconnected Grand Island, Lincoln, and Omaha, and Scottsbluff was added in 2012. The University of Nebraska has multiple statewide Internet contracts for Network Nebraska that have dramatically reduced the unit cost of Internet access to Network Nebraska participants. By leveraging Internet2 and InterExchange Carrier peering relationships, an additional 40 Gbps of

Internet egress has been made available at substantially lower costs than commodity Internet.

Network Nebraska is not a state-owned network. Facilities are leased from private telecommunications providers in the state. In this way, the state hopes to stimulate private investment into Nebraska's telecommunications infrastructure.

Rural Broadband Task Force. LB 994, which was introduced by Senator Curt Friesen, passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Ricketts on April 17, 2018, created the Rural Broadband Task Force. LB 994 charges the task force with reviewing "issues relating to availability, adoption, and affordability of broadband services in rural areas of Nebraska." Ed Toner, Chair of the NITC, serves as the chair of the Rural Broadband Task Force. The NITC is providing support to the Rural Broadband Task Force.

Cullen Robbins gives an overview of broadband terms to members of the Rural Broadband Task Force, Sept. 24, 2018.

In particular, LB 994 specifies that the task force shall:

   a.   Determine how Nebraska rural areas compare to neighboring states and the rest of the nation in average download and upload speeds and in subscription rates to higher speed tiers, when available;

   b.   Examine the role of the Nebraska Telecommunications Universal Service Fund in bringing comparable and affordable broadband services to rural residents and any effect of the fund in deterring or delaying capital formation, broadband competition, and broadband deployment;

   c.   Review the feasibility of alternative technologies and providers in accelerating access to faster and more reliable broadband service for rural residents;

   d.   Examine alternatives for deployment of broadband services to areas that remain unserved or underserved, such as reverse auction programs described in section

4 of this act, public-private partnerships, funding for competitive deployment, and other measures, and make recommendations to the Public Service Commission to encourage deployment in such areas;

e.   Recommend state policies to effectively utilize state universal service fund dollars to leverage federal universal service fund support and other federal funding;

f.   Make recommendations to the Governor and Legislature as to the most effective and efficient ways that federal broadband rural infrastructure funds received after the operative date of this section should be expended if such funds become available; and

g.   Determine other issues that may be pertinent to the purpose of the task force.

The task force shall present its findings in a report by Nov. 1, 2019 and by November 1 every odd-numbered year thereafter.

The task force held its first meeting on Sept. 24, 2018. More information on the task force is available at:

https://ruralbroadband.nebraska.gov.

Awards and Recognition

In 2019 ESRI did a case study on NebraskaMap, "Nebraska's ArcGIS Hub Site Bridges Gap between Citizens, Government". [1]

Nebraska received a grade of "B" in the Center for Digital Government's Digital States Survey in 2020.

Nebraska received a grade of "B" from the National States Geographic Information Council's Geospatial Maturity Assessment in 2019.

1 https://www.esri.com/en-us/landing-page/product/2019/nebraska-office-cio-case-study

The State of IT: Nebraska 2020

6 advisory groups assist the NITC:

- Community Council
- Education Council
- eHealth Council
- GIS Council
- State Gov't Council
- Technical Panel

Over **90** standards and guidelines have been adopted by the NITC.

The Network Nebraska statewide consortium is comprised of **293** entities and serves over 425,000 students and staff with internet, distance learning, and other network management services.

Since the State and University of Nebraska began cooperatively bidding for statewide internet in 2007, the unit rate has been reduced by **99%**

Nebraska K-12 entities pay $0.11 per Mbps per month for internet access after E-rate discounts are applied.

The Rural Broadband Task Force and its subcommittees held **30** meetings and invited over **50** stakeholders and subject matter experts to prepare its report **submitted in Oct. 2019**.
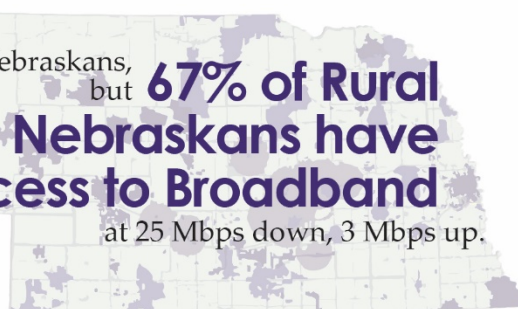
2019: Surescripts Ranks Nebraska #9 in e-prescribing controlled substances
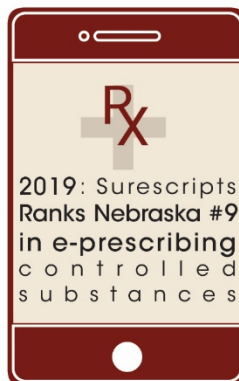
Over **4 million patients** have data in NeHII's master patient index.

6,000+ health care providers are registered users.

90% of Nebraskans, but **67% of Rural Nebraskans have Access to Broadband** at 25 Mbps down, 3 Mbps up.

June 2019 FCC Form 477 Data

NITC | Nebraska Information Technology Commission

Advisory Group Members

Technical Panel

Kirk Langer, **Chair,** Lincoln Public Schools

Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska

Jeremy Sydik, University of Nebraska

Ed Toner, Office of the CIO

Ling Ling Sun, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications

Community Council

Rod Armstrong, Co-Chair, AIM, Lincoln

Pam Adams, American Broadband

Chris Anderson, City of Central City

Jay Anderson, NebraskaLink

Randy Bretz, TEDxLincoln Curator

Jessica Chamberlain, Norfolk Public Library

Shonna Dorsey, Mutual of Omaha

Steve Fosselman, Grand Island Public Library

Connie Hancock, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension

Johnathan Hladik, Center for Rural Affairs

Timothy Lindahl, Wheatbelt Public Power District

David Lofdahl, IT Consultant

Megan McGown, Great Plains Health

Judy Petersen, Central Nebraska Economic Development District

Nichole Reiner, Department of Economic Development

Mary Ridder, Nebraska Public Service Commission

Danny Rockhill, BankFirst

Mehmet Can Vuran, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Holly Woldt, Nebraska Library Commission

David Young, City of Lincoln

Education Council

Bret Blackman, University of Nebraska-Omaha

Dr. Mike Baumgartner, Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education

Burke Brown, District OR-1 Palmyra/Bennet

Matt Chrisman, Mitchell Public Schools

Chad Davis, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Dr. Ted DeTurk, ESU 2-Fremont

John Dunning, Wayne State College

Stephen Hamersky, Daniel J. Gross Catholic High School

Dr. Dan Hoesing, Schuyler Community Schools

Trent Kelly, Hastings Public Schools

Chuck Lenosky, Creighton University

Greg Maschman, Nebraska Wesleyan University

Alan Moore, ESU 3-LaVista

Gary Needham, ESU 9-Hastings

Mary Niemiec, University of Nebraska

Tom Peters, Central Community College

Carla Streff, Northeast Community College

Ling Ling Sun, Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Commission

Ed Toner,
Office of the CIO, Nebraska Department of Administrative Services

Dr. Paul Turman, Nebraska State College System

SuAnn Witt, Nebraska Department of Education

eHealth Council

Kathy Cook, Co-chair, Lincoln-Lancaster County Public Health Department

Marty Fattig, Co-Chair, Nemaha County Hospital

Kevin Borcher, NeHII

Gary Cochran, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Cindy Kadavy, Nebraska Health Care Association

Jan Evans, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Nebraska (nominated)

Dr. James McClay, Nebraska Medicine

Dr. Shawn Murdock, Midlands Family Medicine, North Platte

Ashley Newmyer, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health

Dave Palm, University of Nebraska Medical Center

Jina Ragland, AARP (nominated)

Todd Searls, Praesidio Healthcare Consulting

Brian Sterud, Faith Regional Health System

Anna Turman, Catholic Health Initiative

Linda Wittmuss, Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Behavioral Health

Bridget Young, Visiting Nurse Association

GIS Council

Timothy Cielocha, Chair, Nebraska Public Power District

Casey DunnGossin, Nebraska State Patrol

Steve Rathje, Department of Natural Resources

Claire Inbody, Department of Transportation

Chad Boshart, Nebraska Emergency Management Agency

Han Liu, Department of Health and Human Services

Lash Chaffin, League of Nebraska Municipalities

Trinity Chappelear, Governor's Policy Research Office

John Beran, State Surveyor

Tim Erickson, Clerk of the Legislature

Eric Herbert, Omaha Metro Area Sarpy County GIS

Doug Hallum, Conservation and Survey Division – UNL

Danny Pitman, Sarpy County Assessor's Office

Kea Morovitz, Public Service Commission

Vacant, Federal Liaison

John McKee, Jefferson and Saline County Emergency Management

Jeff McReynolds, City of Lincoln, Lancaster County

Chuck Wingert, Nemaha Natural Resources District

James W. Ohmberger, Office of the CIO

Devarsi Majumder, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Lesli Rawlins, Nebraska Geospatial Professional Association

Mike Schonlau, Member at Large-Omaha/Douglas County

Ruth Sorensen, Department of Revenue

Gary Morrison, Department of Environmental Quality

Matt Tinkham, Member at Larger – Surveyors

Baily Gibson, Member at Large- Hall County

Don Linquist, Member at Larger – Precision Agriculture

State Government Council

Ed Toner, Chair, Office of the CIO

John Albin, Department of Labor

Don Arp, Jr., Crime Commission

Chris Ayotte, Department of Revenue

Col. John Bolduc, Nebraska State Patrol

Dennis Burling, Department of Environment and Energy

Colleen Byelick, Secretary of State

Trinity Chappelear, Governor's Policy Research Office

Dean Folkers, Department of Education

Jill Gradwohl Schroeder, Workers' Compensation Court

Dorest Harvey, Private Sector

Jason Jackson, Department of Administrative Services

Rhonda Lahm, Department of Motor Vehicles

Kelly Lammers, Department of Banking and Finance

Kim Menke, Department of Natural Resources

Jim Ohmberger, Office of the CIO, Enterprise Computing Services

Jayne Scofield, Office of the CIO, Network Services

Robin Spindler, Department of Correctional Services

Corey Steel, Supreme Court

Devin Townsend, Department of Transportation

Vacant, Department of Health and Human Services

Rod Wagner, Library Commission

Lee Will, DAS—Budget Division

Appendix

Policy Objectives and Review Criteria

Section 86-518 directs the NITC to submit a progress report to the Governor and Legislature by November 15 of each even-numbered year. This report is offered in fulfillment of that requirement.

Section 86-524 further directs the Appropriations Committee and Transportation and Telecommunications Committee to conduct a joint review of the activities of the NITC by the end of the calendar year of every even-numbered year. Section 86-524 also provides three objectives and a list of criteria for evaluating progress. This report is intended to provide information to assist the Legislature in conducting its review.

Policy Objectives

Section 86-524 states: "It shall be the policy of the state to:

1. Use information technology in education, communities, including health care and economic development, and every level of government service to improve economic opportunities and quality of life for all Nebraskans regardless of location or income;

2. Stimulate the demand to encourage and enable long-term infrastructure innovation and improvement; and

3. Organize technology planning in new ways to aggregate demand, reduce costs, and create support networks; encourage collaboration between communities of interest; and encourage competition among technology and service providers."

Review Criteria

Section 86-524 states: "In the review, the committees shall determine the extent to which:

1. The vision has been realized and short-term and long-term strategies have been articulated and employed;

2. The statewide technology plan and other activities of the commission have improved coordination and assisted policymakers;

3. An information technology clearinghouse has been established, maintained, and utilized of Nebraska's information technology infrastructure and of activities taking place in the state involving information technology, and the information flow between and among individuals and organizations has been facilitated as a result of the information technology clearinghouse;

4. Policies, standards, guidelines, and architectures have been developed and observed;

5. Recommendations made by the commission to the Governor and Legislature have assisted policy and funding decisions;

6. Input and involvement of all interested parties has been encouraged and facilitated; and

7. Long-term infrastructure innovation, improvement, and coordination has been planned for, facilitated, and achieved with minimal barriers and impediments."