ARLINGTON INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMISSION

6:00 PM, Wednesday, January 27, 2021
Virtual Meeting via TEAMS
MEETING MINUTES

In attendance:

Chair:	**Mary Crannell**
Vice Chair:	**Frank Jazzo**
Members Present:	**Jonathan Adelstein, John Burke, Mike Carleton, Phil Caughran, Martha Moore, Kevin Robins, Jackie Snelling, Dr. Denise Haskins, David Husband**
County Staff:	**David Herlihy, County Staff liaison**
	Holly Hartell, County Staff liaison
	Jack Belcher, CIO
Members of the Public:	**Kevin Broadhurst, Comcast and Louise Anderson, Verizon**
Visitors:	**Takis Karantonis, County Board Liaison; Raj Adusumilli, Assistant Superintendent Information Services, Arlington County Public Schools, Holly Hartell, Arlington County Staff**

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Mary Crannell

6:00 PM

Public Comment

None

Chairman's Comments
Introduction and welcoming of **Takis Karantonis, County Board Liaison** and an introduction of the Commission members and their backgrounds to Mr. Karantonis.

Takis Karantonis, County Board Liaison Comments:
- Considers his role with the Commission among his priorities. Comes with open mind and is here with open doors. Wants to know what you think and should be addressed how the board should be reacting to the many technology related challenges.

Q&A for Takis Karantonis:
- Was there a handover from Christian to you or any discussion about the Board looking at adding digital element to the strategic planning framework:
    o Have not had conversation with Christian or colleagues yet. Very opened to evolve, develop and socialize the idea with my colleagues an work with the County staff to see how far we can or should go.
- Expressed concerns about the equity issue, not just in schools but also access to vaccines in terms of people being able to register. We know the County Board and the Technology Staff are thinking about how to do that. The commission just wanted to raise the flag on that we know are issues that will continue to exist as this rollout of the vaccinations occurs.

- o Cannot urge you enough to think on the potential solutions.
- Should we go to County Board with ideas?
  - o T**karantonis@arlingtonva.us**

Update from Raj Adusumilli.

- Second opportunity to talk about connectivity for students. The URL for the Arlington County Public Schools internet support website. https://www.apsva.us/digital-learning/internet/
- We talked about providing Comcast sponsorship for families that qualify, thanks to the County's help. Thanks for the partnership with Comcast
- We continue to support 925 students actively using that particular program on a day-to-day basis.
- We continue to provide Mi-fi because of Comcast.
- Still challenges if there are multi dwellings units or family sharing a home.
- We still have needs to support students and continue to provide Mi-fi or some kind of mobile wireless solutions for students.
- There are 1200 students taking advantage of the MiFi solutions that was rolled out as well as the hot spots that were collaborated with the County to ensure students will be able to do so.
- Using APS devices we worked out engineered solutions with the County
- Excited to get the fund to be able to do the pilot you're calling 123 CONNECT, which we are using.
- Leveraging the unlicensed shared spectrum of the 5G bandwidth called the Citizens Band Radio Services we are piloting.
- 99.3% of our students are successfully connecting to TEAMS on a regular basis but there is still that 7% where we are missing them.
- We are looking into it on a case by case basis.
- We've developed a portal for each student to actually look at the student population and actually see how much time they are actively engaged.

Jack Belcher and Laura Slavin, elaborates more on Raj's update:

- There were multiple approaches to extending broadband services to students during this pandemic in order to facilitate online learning. One of the efforts is called 123 CONNECT.
- 123 Connect is the County's fist private LTE network using the CBRS band which is meant to extend broadband services to Arlington Public School student the way were we able to do in November 2020.
- Applied for the Governor's fast track grant and received the grant and was able to set up five nodes along Columbia Pike, which is approximately 1.3 miles of coverage. It spans from South Greenbrier to S Monroe St.
- It allowed us to extend broadband services within students home in an expedited manner and the manner that allowed us to use the grant funding.
- On December 23 the grant required us to get this set up. By December 25, extensive testing with RIT team and with our partners doing IVY ENVY and the systems looks extremely promising.
- The next step is working with Arlington County Schools to get teachers and teachers aids and eventually students to do end user testing to get real knowledge of what the system looks like from their perspective to make sure they are able to do their virtual learning properly.
- This is a pilot that been set up specifically for student use but also lays the groundwork for a lot more.

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- We have an extensive dark fiber network, which is the physical instrument infrastructure and allows us to start having wireless network so there's multiple different opportunities within the network.
- Jack mentioned talking to Chief Architect of Google's, Preston Marshall and he is telling us that this is as significant to Google as the internet in the cloud world and it allows us to extend wireless connectivity. This has great impact not only for providing broadband connectivity to homes residents but also it has immense opportunity for the County in terms of saving money in terms of how it might do voice communications.
- Our neighbors at natural landing, JBG Smith invested $25,000,000 to get seven bands of this broadband access.
- The architect at Google calls it the People's Band.
- We are working closely with Raj's team and we have the equipment we can get out into the field. We just want to make sure that we can validate it does what it is expected to do.
- Jack also talked about engaging with a behavioral consultancy app company call LIFT INNOVATE out of California.
    - They work with Fortune 500 companies in terms of technology adoption and what looking at how we're extending this to put technology in the hand of some kids where you can talk to the kids.
    - How do we make sure that the parents understand hat they child needs to prepare for a learning lesson.
    - For lack of a better term, they are developing a PSA that advertise by and AVATAR of the superintendent. They advertise via the AVATAR on how long you need to study, take a break, go get something to eat, come back,etc.
    - Raj does not want students graded based on their internet connection but that they have an equal way to get access and graded on their understanding.
- There is a proposal to do the same technology at The Gates of Ballston, are proposing putting in 13 towers to cover an area of about ¼ of the size of what we're covering on the Columbia Pike, the reason for that is it was a prototype. People doubted this could be done.
- There is an alliance if you look at the CBRS Alliance, they have all kinds of videos that will show they talk at length about what the possibilities are.

Introduction of Jonathan Adelstein, new County Board Liaison: CEO of the Wireless Infrastructure Association.

- Aztech Commission actually lobbied to have a say in his portfolio.
- Live in Arlington, headquartered where National Organization in Washington and represent the companies that make and supply the kind of equipment Jack talked about
- Former Federal official for 25-years on Capitol Hill, FCC and later ran the utility Service.

Clarendon Pilot Update, Holly Hartell, Arlington County Staff:

- Board presentation: Safety and Innovation Zone.
- The purpose of the presentation was for the Board to accept the donation of goods and services that would allow us to continue on with the pilot.
- **Imagine**
    - A group celebrating a recent sport win; Is movement of group one that should cause concern.

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- o Walking down the street late and no one is around you trip fall and break your ankle but no one can see you. Who can help you?
  - o A fire alarm goes off, I there an actual fire or another type of emergency
  - o How can technology assist with the deployment of public safety resources.
- **Benefits from the Citizen's Perspective**
  - o Crowd Safety:
    - ▪ Improve pedestrian flow and safety
    - ▪ Improve awareness of erratic or unanticipated behaviors
  - o Public Health:
    - ▪ Improved detection and medical response times for resident needing assistance
    - ▪
  - o Public Safety
    - ▪ Improved detection of environmental events
    - ▪ Improved quality of fire response time
- **Use Cases Identified by Fire and Public Safety Communications & Emergency Management**
  - o Primary Public safety use case
    - ▪ People Counting: Changes in crowd size and flow with recognition of erratic or unexpected movement to improve threat-level determination
  - o Subsequent Phase can support additional use cases:
    - ▪ Fall detection: Identification of prolonged resident falls
  - o Sound detection: Identification of abnormally high noises (e.g. blast, shots) and
  - o Environmental Shifts:
    - ▪ Identification of sudden temperature shift or smoke
- **County will improve public safety while protecting individuals' privacy**
- **Clarendon Safety and Innovation Zone – Project Definition**
  - o Stand up a term-limited innovation zone for 12 months
  - o Examine the impact of emerging technologies: IoT, AI, Data, Privacy, Cloud and Cybersecurity.
- **Unique Partnership to Ensure Privacy and Security:**
  - o US Ignite
    - ▪ Innovation nonprofit entity advancing smart community initiatives
    - ▪ Responsible for project management
    - ▪ Input into data privacy and Security
  - o Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI)
    - ▪ Governor's funded University partnership of data experts
    - ▪ Responsible for validating that pilot meets County defined data security and privacy standards
  - o Comcast
    - ▪ Light fixtures and network infrastructure
    - ▪ Input into data privacy and security
  - o County
    - ▪ Fixture installation data dashboards, usage
    - ▪ Input and acceptance of data privacy and security guidance
    - ▪ Overall assessment
- **Data Privacy Do's and Don'ts**

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- o **DO:**
  - Restrict data to use cases: Collect only data required to support public safety use cases via Safety and Innovation Zone Data Privacy Oversight Panel
  - Build in Privacy by Design: Build in "privacy-by-design", Principles consistent with the County's privacy assessment framework
  - Maintain Community Engagement: ensure broad-based community engagement following County Standard process
- o **DON'T**
  - Diverge from three core DO principles
  - Record and retain any images that could be used to identify specific individuals or groups of individuals
  - Make any changes to privacy or data management guidelines before or during the pilot without securing concurrence from the Data Privacy Oversight Panel publicizing the changes and ensuring citizen support.
  - Give up management of types of data collected, analysis methods utilized, storage and retention policies or ownership of data to any third party without approval from the Data Privacy Oversight Panel.
- **Impacts and Key Messages**
  - o Financial impact
    - Minimal-donation in goods and service from US Ignite CCI and Comcast
  - o Engagement
    - Communicate to stakeholders during pilot
    - Project site to share information
    - Assessment and recommendations due to County Manager after completion of pilot
  - o Key Messages
    - Data will be restricted to defined use cases
    - Any data utilized will be completely anonymous
    - No image or method of identifying an individual will be recorded or stored by a third party
    - Pilot will follow County data privacy principles

David Herlihy updates:

- Everything looking kind of flat, given the budget difficulties of the County.
- We will see what that means and go through the process with the County Manager. The budget will be out mid-February. We will see where that goes in terms of new projects and what we're taking on.

- **Review 27 January 2021 Meeting Minutes**
  - o Motion to adopt minutes approved.

Frank Jazzo
Legislative Update
- The Covid relief legislation that was adopted at the end of the last year provided $7 billion for broadband affordability and accessibility, including:
- $98 million to create a national broadband map

- $3.2 billion for emergency broadband connectivity
- $250 million for the FCC's Covid19 Telehealth program

  The legislation also directs the FCC to implement a program on broadband affordability within 60 days and it includes:
  - $50 per month discount for each unserved person who cannot afford it. It is basically subsidized broadband for unconnected people. The FCC is taking comments on the program.
- Pursuant to the TRACED Act, the FCC is now imposing a three call per month per residential phone line ROBO call limit.
  - Callers must be able to opt out but directs the carriers to impose these limits. This would be across commercial, noncommercial and nonprofit organizations.
- A second FCC order requires terminating voice service providers such as Verizon, AT&T and Comcast to take affirmative steps to stop illegal calls whey they are notified and new blocking tools are being added, but consumers are going to need to opt-in. The tools include network based blocking, but phone companies will need to immediately notify callers when calls are blocked.
- Cisco Systems has stopped sales and support for its Smart City software services program. Google pulled back earlier on its Smart City plans in Toronto.
- Although Arlington is going forward with some Smart City elements, there is a lot of flux in the marketplace from providers.
- The National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA) has launched a digital inclusion webpage information clearinghouse for federal and state digital inclusion resources.
- As predicted in my report from last month, the FCC has a 2-2 split between Democrats and Republicans. Jessica Rosenworcel has been named the interim chair of the FCC.
- The FCC will not be at full strength until the President appoints and the Senate confirms a fifth Commissioner likely to be a Democrat. It is not clear who that will be yet.
- The FCC imposed a $9.2 million forfeiture on a ROBO caller using caller ID spoofing to send threatening and xenophobic messages attacking jurors, journalists and political candidates.

Adjournment

7:34 PM

Next Meeting

Next Virtual Meeting: February 24, 2021 at 6pm via Teams

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