

Prepared Statement for the Joint Committees on Energy and Technology and Government Operations

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I wanted to share with you today some of the early successes because of Executive Order 06-17. Beginning the week after the Executive Order was issued, Information Technology Leaders from across state government started meeting. The expectation was, and still is, that this group is responsible for ensuring a smooth, organized and thoughtful transition of IT staff to the Agency of Digital Services; provided the Vermont Legislature approves the Executive Order.

The IT Leaders are meeting for one afternoon every week to work on this task and the channels of communications this has created is already proving beneficial. Yes, it is true that nothing prevented IT Leaders from working together in the past under the current model but the fact remains it has not happened until now.

These open channels of communications are yielding benefits for a number of projects that are underway. VTrans selected a grants management solution (Intelligrants from Agate software) based on both its capabilities and use at the Agency of Commerce and Community Development. We chose to implement it hosted by the vendor where ACCD as an early adopter have it implemented on premise. Through cooperation between the two agencies, we have been able to implement a single instance hosted by the vendor. Agency of Education and Department of Public Safety have both expressed interest in this solution and should serve as a true enterprise solution.

VTrans has also been an early adopter of a new Microsoft technology called Power BI. The application allows for the analysis and presentation of data in an easier to use comprehensive application. Since we have been early adopters, we have held a couple of demo sessions for both the Agency of Human Services and Agency of Natural Resources. Nothing prevented this from occurring before but now with the routine communications among IT Leaders it has elevated cross agency collaboration like this to a new level.

VTrans has started down a multiyear path to replace our Construction Management System. At the suggestion of Chief Innovation Officer Quinn we have reached out to BGS for inclusion in this project.

These and many other benefits of coordination like this will bring value to all Vermonters.