

City of Alexandria, Virginia
Commission on Information Technology

March 19, 2026 IT Commission Meeting Minutes
7:00 – 9:00 PM

In attendance: Rhonda Syler, Timothy Casey, Brandon Mosoriak, Daniel Rodriguez-Ramirez, Emily Dillard, Heather Barrows, Francisco Ortiz Hernandez, Benjamin McGinnis, Steve Davidson, Nathan Zencey, Taryn Crane, Tom VanAntwerp, Kathleen Houghtalen (virtual)

City IT Staff: Ryon Saenz, Steve Chozick, Patrick Eze, Muhammad Mansour

Other City Staff: Greg Useem (Office of Analytics, Innovation and Data), Ryan Knight (Transportation and Environmental Services)

Public/Other: Rebecca Weinstein, Thomas Gordon

1. Call to Order

2. Minutes

(a) Approval of the February 19, 2026 meeting minutes

- Minutes approved unanimously.

3. Public Comments

- Rebecca Weinstein: Public comments regarding the relationship between APD and Flock.

4. Updates

No updates.

5. City Information Technology Services Updates

- Ryon Saenz is acting CIO while Vanetta Pledger is acting Deputy City Manager.
- Patrick Eze is the Commission's official liaison, taking over from Stacey Campbell.

6. Public Safety Technology Discussion

- Steve Chozick reached out to APD with questions that the Commission raised. APD is reviewing the questions and will respond at the April meeting, either in person or in writing.
- Ben M. proposed a resolution for the Commission to recommend to City Council that the City exit their contract with Flock: City's data is

vulnerable, hackers have accessed data in other jurisdictions, there are many high-level government employees living in Alexandria.

- Discussion about waiting until we receive information from APD before moving forward with the resolution.
- Task force put together to find points. Members are Ben M. Daniel R. and Taryn C.
- We will spend the majority of the next meeting discussing this.

7. Smart Roadway Project (Ryan Knight, T&ES)

- Presentation shared about the Smart Roadway project in Alexandria.
- Van Dorn and Duke Street corridors are currently prioritized, phase two will include more corridors.
- Steve R. Question about the distance of this infrastructure from municipal fiber, timeliness of data. Transportation system fiber is separate from municipal fiber.

8. AI Update & Discussion (Steve Chozick and Greg Useem)

- The City has an AI policy from around two years ago revolving around the usage of LLMs.
- There is an AI steering committee that meets regularly.
- Security awareness training from new vendor will be rolled out to City staff soon.
- City is looking at MS Copilot, what can be done with it and what the risks are.
- City is starting to stand up a data lake which will include AI capabilities.
- Asking for feedback from Commission: with regards to AI, gauge the Commission's level of comfort/concern with public organizations using AI to make decisions.
 - Tim C. The City needs to be transparent and open on how they're using AI.
 - Steve R. Discourage using it for open-ended research. Use it for decision support v. decision making.
 - Ben M. Distillation of large data sets is good, delegating decisions is not.
 - Daniel R. Check Microsoft contract and see if safeguards can be put into place. Also, use Claude or something else to check on Copilot's decisions/monitoring.
 - Nathan Z. Use it as a tool to aid human review.
 - Steve R. How are staff trained on structuring prompts? This is important.
 - Daniel R. Education and training are key for staff/users.
 - Tim C. Feedback loop for customers to see if it is worth the money.

9. Next Meeting

- Thursday, April 16.

10. Other Business

- None.

11. Adjournment at 8:48 pm. Next meeting is scheduled for April 16, 2026.