

Issue Brief – State Funded IT Capital Projects

DEPARTMENT OF TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

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SUMMARY

As it does with buildings, Utah acquires information technology (IT) capital projects that require significant up-front investment followed by sustained operations and maintenance funds. This issue brief summarizes the IT capital projects to be considered by the Legislature during the 2007 General Session.

Statewide Radio Interoperability

(Capital Facilities)

Omnilink is a technology asset that allows various communications devices, like cellular phones, land lines, 800 MHz, 450 MHz, and 150 MHz radios connect to one another. The state acquired Omnilink using federal funds during the Walker administration and has been operating it since using revenue from other internal service fund products. Given its recent rate re-alignment, DTS requests \$650,000 ongoing from the General Fund for operations and maintenance of Omnilink.

Electronic Resource Eligibility Project (eRep)

(Commerce and Workforce Services)

The Departments of Workforce Services, Health, and Human Services have undertaken the Electronic Resource Eligibility Project (eRep) – a multiple-year project to automate management of certain social service programs. During the 2006 General Session, legislators provided \$4,085,000 from the General Fund, one-time, to add a Medicaid eligibility module to eRep. In the last year, eRep managers have discovered that implementation of the Medicaid module will require acquisition of additional functionality from the eRep contractor. As such, DWS and Health are requesting \$3,244,000 in one-time General Funds in FY 2008 to finish eRep.

Arches (Economic Development and Revenue)

The Tax Commission successfully upgraded its Delinquent Collections and Motor Vehicle systems under the UTAX project, and most recently it has updated the state's income tax processes under what it calls Arches. Legislators provided \$7 million from the General Fund and \$5 million from Tax non-lapsing balances for Arches during the 2006 General Session.

This money funded core functionality plus the income tax code set. Tax has requested \$10 million one-time for the next two phases of Arches in FY 2008. The Analyst recommends \$5 million one-time for phase 2 of Arches – most likely to be sales tax.

Community and Culture Digitization (Economic Development and Revenue)

The Department of Community and Culture has a rather large collection of cultural and historic documents which need to be digitized. It is requesting \$1,300,000 one-time and \$500,000 ongoing to digitize the most critical of its documents.

Public Safety Computer Upgrades (Executive Offices and Criminal Justice)

Technology and communications have become paramount to law enforcement. In order to maintain and improve public safety in the face of increasingly complex threats, the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Technology Services have made the following requests: \$462,000 ongoing for improved data services, \$421,000 ongoing for computer replacements, and \$61,200 for business continuity.

Commerce Digitization (Commerce and Workforce Services)

In ongoing efforts to improve access to and preserve critical documents, the Department of Commerce is seeking funds to digitize Division of Occupational and Professional Licensing (DOPL) disciplinary case files. Commerce has requested \$120,200 from the Commerce Service Fund for this purpose in FY 2008.

Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS) (Health and Human Services)

The Department of Health's Division of Health Care Financing has requested funding to replace its antiquated Medicaid Management Information System (MMIS). It intends that MMIS will streamline eligibility, tracking, and reimbursement of clients and providers. The project could cost more than \$60 million to complete, with roughly 10% of that amount coming from the General Fund. The Department has requested \$1 million in restricted state funds augmented by \$1 million federal funds in FY 2008 to begin a needs analysis and scoping document for the future multi-year project.

Capitol Hill Wireless Technology (Capital Facilities)

The Capitol Preservation Board has requested \$750,000 to install wireless equipment that will enable mobile phones, computers, and public safety radio in the remodeled Capitol building. The equipment would utilize a single distributed antenna system throughout the building, for which the Legislature appropriated \$590,000 to the capital development budget last year