

**Report to the Kansas Legislative Coordinating Council
Kansas Virtual Statehouse Project
by Tom Day, Director of Legislative Administrative Services
and
Alan Weis, Legislative Chief Information Technology Officer
November 19, 2020**

Update:

This report is an update on the Kansas Virtual Statehouse Project after the LCC approved the project during the 9/16/2020 LCC meeting. Below are the items in progress or completed.

Project Execution:

1. The Project Plan was finalized and approved by the CITO, Alan Weis and Director of Legislative Services, Tom Day on 9/23/2020 and the plan was submitted to the KITO office. Terri Clark is the Project Manager on the Virtual Statehouse Project.
2. The System Requirements were finalized and were included in the Request for Proposal (RFP).
3. The RFP was released 9/25/2020. The deadline for vendors to submit proposals was on 10/12/2020.
4. A working group consisting of staff from the Legislative Office of Information Services, the Office of Information Technology Services (OITS), the Kansas State Historical Society (KSHS), and the Office of Facilities and Property Management (OFPM) met on 10/1/2020 to document the existing infrastructure and identify areas of improvement needed for this project. The working group conducted a walkthrough of the Statehouse on 10/8/2020 to review and document the following considerations:
 - a. Possible location of cameras and monitors in committee rooms and chambers.
 - b. Possible modifications to the building for additional data jacks and power outlets.
 - c. Review modifications for possible issues with the historic building.
 - d. Inventory the current network connections and power outlets in the rooms.
5. The proposals were reviewed by staff and three vendors were selected to provide demonstrations at the Statehouse. Video Conference System demonstrations were provided during the week of 10/26/2020 by Cytek Media Systems Inc., World Wide Technology, and AVI Systems Inc. Legislative staff, OITS staff, Property and Facilities management staff, Kansas State Historical Society staff, and Robert Cooper of the Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing were invited to the demonstrations.
6. The Project Procurement Negotiating Committee (PNC) meet on 11/3/2020 to review and discuss the proposals, demonstrations, and staff feedback.
7. A system detailed design is currently being drafted for review and approval.

Project Funding:

1. The funding request to the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) was submitted on 9/3/2020. The funding request was for the amount of \$5,068,000. The Kansas Virtual Statehouse project is included in the CRF Round 3 Priorities.
2. The SPARK committee approved the recommendation of the funding to the State Finance Council at the 9/16/2020 SPARK meeting.
3. The State Finance Council approved the funding during their 9/17/2020 meeting.

4. Tom Day received an official email notification from the Office of Recovery of the project funding approval on 9/21/2020.
5. LAS and KLOIS management staff attended the CRF reporting webinar on 9/25/2020.

Statehouse Infrastructure Update:

1. Network Switch Upgrades: OITS has started a project to upgrade the Capitol switches. This upgrade will provide 10Gb bandwidth throughout the building. Three wiring closets have been successfully upgraded. The project is scheduled to complete by December 20th. KLOIS is testing each location following the switch upgrades. Users can work remotely through VPN access when switches affecting their office are being upgraded. On November 21st the switches for the Legislative data center will be upgraded. During this work Legislative servers, applications, and data will be offline. This includes VPN access, email, Spark messaging, network printing, KLISS applications, and internet access.
2. Legislative Firewall Upgrade: The Legislative firewalls will be upgraded the week of November 30th. This upgrade will provide 10GB bandwidth through the firewalls. The firewalls are redundant and this work should not be service affecting.
3. Audio System Upgrades: The audio systems in the committee rooms and House and Senate chambers will be upgraded Nov. 30th – Dec. 20th. Several committee rooms have been upgraded due to equipment failures during the past two years, but others require a full system upgrade. The upgrades include:
 - a. Integrate the audio system with conference calls using a handset in the committee room,
 - b. Integrate the audio system with the Virtual Statehouse teleconferencing system
 - c. Provide ability for vendor to support the audio systems remotely
 - d. Provide the ability for KLOIS staff to manage microphone volume settings directly
 - e. Improve security of the audio systems through network segregation

Critical Project Items to be completed:

- Approve the system design.
- Negotiate and finalize a vendor contract.
- LCC approval the vendor contract.

Request for LCC approval:

1. The original project request specified video conference system implementations in the Statehouse Chambers and Committee Rooms. We would like to expand the project to include video conference system implementations in 10 Statehouse conference rooms and the Visitor Center auditorium and training room. We believe there is significant value to be able to use these rooms in Legislator and staff virtual meetings and for training purposes. We therefore request the Legislative Coordinating Council allow the project to include these additional rooms for system implementations.
2. We are requesting the Legislative Coordinating Council to grant the LCC Chairperson the authority to approve the vendor contract for the Kansas Virtual Statehouse Project.