

Legislation Text

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Agenda Information Sheet

DEPARTMENT: Technology Services

CM/ ACM: Bryan Langley

Date: August 8, 2016

SUBJECT

Receive a report and hold a discussion regarding information security and Technology Services' security practices.

BACKGROUND

Information security is a holistic set of activities that are focused on protecting an organization's vital information. Information security includes the technologies employed to protect information. It includes the processes used to create, manage, share, and store information. It includes the practices such as workforce training and testing to ensure information is properly protected and managed. Effective information security preserves the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information, protecting it from attack by bad actors, damage of any kind, and unauthorized access by those who do not have a "need to know". Information security is no longer a technology-focused problem. It has become the basis for business survival as much as any other issue.

Our increasing dependence on technology and web-based communication has opened the door for cybersecurity threat to the power and utilities sector-the prime industrial target for cyber criminals and hacktivists. Cyber-attacks to utility equipment and systems can result in costly physical damage, which can take time to repair because of long lead-time and customization of utility equipment. As dependence on the grid increases due to the growing connectivity of machines, including utility equipment, a successful attack on this sector can cause massive physical, economic, and psychological harm to any population. Protecting the electrical utilities that power our lifestyle has never been more important, or necessary.

A sound information security program is needed to help mitigate these cyber-attacks. The City of Denton is committed in ensuring adequate controls are in place to minimize and prevent these threats.

EXHIBITS

1. Information Security Presentation

Respectfully submitted: Melissa Kraft Chief Technology Officer