

# IT Strategic Planning (ITSP) & the 2005 Recommended Technology Investment Projects (RTIP) Report

## Emerging Issues

- Timing of the RTIP and Agency Strategic Planning Processes

On April 25, 2005, agencies received guidance from the Department of Planning and Budget for Agency Strategic Planning for the 2006 to 2008 budget biennium. Originally the due date for agency strategic plans was June 15, 2005 which was the date used when planning the RTIP reporting schedule. Because DPB was late in issuing their guidance, they extended the due date for agency strategic plans to July 15.

This has placed agencies in the position of identifying major projects for the next budget biennium before their agency strategic plan has been developed, which has had a negative effect on the data collection effort for the RTIP report. There is the possibility that a large number of major IT projects will be categorized in the Identified for Preliminary Planning (IPP) category due to insufficient information from the agencies. The IPP category is a holding area for agency projects that have a weak preliminary business case or that will be handled in an enterprise initiative. This category is not scored and ranked.

- Higher Education – Business Alignment

Institutions of higher education are exempt from the Department of Planning and Budget (DPB) agency strategic planning process, but are still required by the *Code of Virginia* to submit an IT strategic plan. Because they are exempt from the DPB strategic planning process, they will be unable to tie their investments to the business architecture as set forth by DPB. A comparable structure for higher education has not yet been developed by the State Council for Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV).

- Priority Technology Investment Projects (PTIP) Report

In the current report outline, the PTIP report is broken out into two lists, enterprise/collaboration projects and agency specific projects. In this format, there will be two number one projects, one for each category, which could create confusion. One option is to combine these two categories back into one group using a 1 - n ranking. Another option is to keep the two distinct categories separate but one category takes precedence over the other when assigning the 1- n ranking.