



**CITY OF DETROIT**  
DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION  
AND TECHNOLOGY (DoIT)

2 WOODWARD AVENUE  
1212 COLEMAN A. YOUNG MUNICIPAL CENTER  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN 48226  
PHONE 313 • 224 • 2900

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**To:** Council President Pro-Tempore James Tate  
**Through:** Mary Sheffield, City Council President  
**From:** Art Thompson, Director  
**Date:** March 24, 2023  
**Re:** Responses to 2023-2024 Department of Innovation and Technology Budget Questions

Please find below responses to your questions sent on March 17, 2023, regarding the proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Proposed Budget for the Department of Innovation and Technology (DoIT).

1. Is City Council's Executive Protection Unit (EPU) operating on a different server than the rest of the City of Detroit staff? If not, how much would it cost to switch EPU to a different server?

*DoIT will proactively work with EPU to review any outages from the last 18 months to identify and implement any reasonable changes that would have reduced the outage.*

*The City's servers are very dependent on each other and having a separate physical server for EPU would not provide any increase in reliability as it would be dependent on the other servers except in very unusual circumstances. Deploying separate servers dedicated for any area would likely increase the time for recovery in the event of a failure.*

*DoIT has received the ARPA funded hardware to replace the current end of useful life / support server infrastructure with devices that will be more secure, reliable, and fault tolerant which should address the performance concerns. Fault tolerance and speed of recovery from failures is a critical part of our hardware design process.*

2. What is DoIT's capacity to incorporate Wi-Fi in the community within a one (1) mile radius of recreation centers and libraries? For context, my office would like to have strong wi-fi in churches, community centers, etc. when having events/meetings.

*All public entities in the state of Michigan are prevented from providing internet services to citizens outside city facilities due to the:*

*MICHIGAN TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT (EXCERPT) Act 179 of 1991*

*More information about the act can be found at:*

*[http://www.legislature.mi.gov/\(S\(eb3loebt4qngvna5gtghg1x3\)\)/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectName=mcl-484-2252](http://www.legislature.mi.gov/(S(eb3loebt4qngvna5gtghg1x3))/mileg.aspx?page=getobject&objectName=mcl-484-2252)*



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*The DoIT plan to help address the digital divide will be able help address this issue by making highspeed internet more prevalent throughout the city as a whole.*

*DoIT has worked with a number of groups to help them understand how to test and configure internet at remote sites for meetings. We have created documents and a process to help improve connectivity for hybrid meetings these resources including the [Hybrid Meeting Planner Form](#) we ask that departments submit, which does include some recommendations and a checklist designed to help plan for a hybrid public meeting. Another resource is the [Sample Meeting Host Checklists.pptx](#)*

Thank you,

CC: Honorable Council Members  
Mr. Malik Washington, Mayor's Office  
Mr. Steve Watson, Office of the Chief Financial Officer