TECHNOLOGY GOVERNANCE

POLICY STATEMENT:

This policy establishes the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Technology Council to provide technology governance and guide the strategic deployment of technology that enables the optimum delivery of ODOT business processes, program and project delivery, operations, and services.

The mission of the ODOT Technology Council is to recommend policies, procedures, and processes to the Director, Chief of Staff and Assistant Directors (the ODOT Governance Board) to guide technology investments. The goal of the Council will be to evaluate and recommend technology investments that generate business value; evaluate technology investments in consideration of enterprise architecture deployment and ODOT risk mitigation; and manage the performance of ODOT’s technology program and technology investments. The Council shall establish a five (5) year technology plan and update the plan annually.

The ODOT Technology Council membership shall be appointed by the Director. The Council membership shall consist of eleven (11) members, of which no more than three (3) will be unclassified members. The Council membership will be selected so as to provide a cross functional representation of ODOT.

Members will serve three-year terms and may be re-appointed. At the beginning of each fiscal year, the Director will designate two members to serve as Co-Chairs of the ODOT Technology Council from among the members.

To ensure the ongoing continuity of the ODOT Technology Council, the terms of the initial members of the Council will be divided into three groups as follows: three (3) members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2015; three (3) members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2016 and four (4) members whose terms will expire on June 30, 2017. Following this start-up period, terms will continue to be staggered to ensure continuity of the Council.

The ODOT Technology Council may designate any number of ad hoc, non-voting members as may be needed to support the conduct of Council business. The Deputy Director of the ODOT Division of Information Technology will have a standing position as an ad-hoc member on the council.
AUTHORITY:

Ohio Revised Code 5501.02 and 5501.03

SCOPE:

All Districts, Divisions, and Offices of the Ohio Department of Transportation

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE:

The technology demands of ODOT have grown more rapidly than could be met by the resources of the ODOT Division of Information Technology. Since there was no structured investment strategy for technology investments, business areas in need of technology initiated their own technology development and deployment projects using commercial software providers, university developers, and private information technology (IT) consultant developers. The systems implemented have served the immediate needs of the business area but often have not provided integration with data of the many other systems utilized by ODOT. While the business areas were deploying new technology, the backbone applications of the business support functions of ODOT continued to use older technology that is becoming harder to support. The lack of technology governance in ODOT is believed to have contributed to this situation.

DEFINITIONS:

Technology: Software applications and systems, hardware, databases, networks, policies, procedures, etc. that manage the department’s information and support the delivery of ODOT's programs, projects, services, and operations.

Technology governance: Technology governance provides senior leadership the ability to direct, measure, and evaluate enterprise technology resources to support the achievement of the organization’s vision, mission, and strategic goals. It recognizes technology as a strategic part of the organization’s success; it integrates technology, people, and processes; it guides technology investments that generate business value; it steers technology investments to mitigate ODOT risks; and it monitors performance of technology resources and establishes accountability.

TRAINING:

Training is not mandated for implementation of this policy or the statutes identified as the authority for this function. However, training on the policies and procedures implemented by the ODOT Technology Council may be required.
FISCAL ANALYSIS:

The Technology Council will prepare and monitor a five-year fiscally constrained technology work-program which will guide the technology investments of the department. The goal of this work program is to select an optimal mix of projects which support department business objectives and provide the best return on investment possible for the department’s technology related expenditures.