



Put Technology TO WORK

QUARTERLY UPDATE FY2016

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 2



In This Issue

- Page 1 City Data Strategic Plan | COA Grant for Smartphone App
- Page 2 UTA Engineers Use Technology to Evaluate Pipelines | UTA Innovation Day
- Page 3 New Social Network: Next Door | COA begins next phase of LED Streetlight Conversion Project
- Page 4 Social Media by the Numbers | Arlington Library Tech Link

COA Grant for Smartphone App



On November 10th, City Council authorized the acceptance of a \$74,999 grant from the United States Department of Justice Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) for the development of a Smartphone app for officers and residents.

The Arlington Police Department (APD) proposed a project to create an officer app for internal use exclusively for law enforcement as well as a public app for a mobile platform to complement the department's web page redesign.

The apps will increase the department's capacity to keep officers informed of critical topics while on patrol and help reach citizens on the most relevant technology platform.



City Data Strategic Plan

A key component of the Put Technology to Work priority is *Engage Our Data*. The purpose is to leverage data-driven decision making, and in turn, improve internal efficiencies, analyze current and future needs as well as opportunities, and increase transparency for Arlington's citizens and business community.

To this end, the City needs to gain an actionable understanding of city-wide data, specifically current data inventories, platforms, connections, and business processes. Creation of a City Data Strategic Plan will contribute to a better understanding of these key items and will articulate necessary future data management and integration strategies, analytics capabilities, and open data schema.

Connect with us on social media:



www.arlingtontx.gov | www.myarlingtontx.com



UTA Engineers Use Technology to Evaluate Pipelines

After decades of ferrying water and wastewater, drought, floods and changing soil conditions, sewer lines can begin to crack and fail. This happens across the country, and Arlington is no exception.

Replacing them all would cost millions, however leading civil engineers from The University of Texas at Arlington's Center for Structural Engineering Research and Simulation have a more efficient, cost-effective solution. They'll use a novel combination of robotic laser equipment and sonar to pinpoint trouble spots in 47 miles of large diameter city pipelines and prioritize which should be mended or replaced first.

"We'll make recommendations for what to do based on where the robots and sonar detect anomalies within the pipes," said Ali Abolmaali, chair of the UTA Civil Engineering Department and director of the Center. "This research could provide a blueprint for other cities to copy."

UTA engineers will complete the work under a three-year, \$882,000 contract approved by the Arlington City Council in November.

Updates

UTA Innovation Day

The University of Texas at Arlington challenged inventors to develop new ideas that can be taken to the marketplace during the second annual Innovation Day held Thursday, October 22, at College Park Center.

The event featured a student innovation competition for high school and college teams, a technology showcase, faculty and student poster presentations and sessions with guest panelists discussing innovation, entrepreneurship and how to attract angel investors. Eighteen teams participated in the student innovation challenge to build a vehicle for less than \$50 that could climb obstacles and travel 25 feet without using fuel or batteries.

The winning high school team, led by 14-year-old Samantha Maldonado, represented Arlington Martin High School's STEM Academy, an initiative developed jointly by UTA with Arlington Independent School District. First-year UTA students Chandon Lim and Chun Lau won the college-level team

competition.

Gloria Maceiko, competition judge, UTA alumna and serial entrepreneur, said in a Fort Worth Business Weekly article that university and high school students need to know they can actually convert their idea into a company. "When I was listening to these presentations today I was thinking that the students could be presenting their ideas to venture capitalists in Silicon Valley," Maceiko said. Maceiko is helping UTA establish a strategic outpost in California's Silicon Valley with a mission of matching UTA technology with investors and corporate partners.

Fadi Bishara, UTA alumnus and keynote speaker, emphasized the role that UTA has played in his career as an innovator and entrepreneur. "What I'm doing now is going out and teaching to the rest of the world how things are done in Silicon Valley," Bishara said. "But everything I've done, it all started here. I learned English here and learned how to learn here."



One of UTARI's innovations presented at Innovation Day was the ReHEAL glove, a pliable glove that delivers medicines to patients recovering from hand injuries (pictured above)

Highlights

New Social Network:

Next Door

The City is working to improve and expand its communication efforts with residents throughout Arlington by joining the private social network of Nextdoor.

Nextdoor is a private social network for neighborhoods and communities. Its mission is to use the power of technology to build stronger and safer neighborhoods.

The City of Arlington plans to share important news and emergency notifications that are relevant to specific neighborhoods, along with stories that would be beneficial for all Arlington residents.

Staff will not be able to see any of the content on neighborhood



websites except for the direct replies to their posts.

In addition to the City's Office of Communication, Arlington Parks and Recreation will also be joining Nextdoor under the same account to offer information on upcoming events and programs available to our residents.

Arlington Police Department, Arlington Public Library and the City's Garbage and Recycling are already members of Nextdoor.

To learn more about the social network and how you can sign-up as a member of an Arlington neighborhood visit the Nextdoor website.

COA begins next phase of LED Streetlight Conversion Project

The Arlington City Council is putting technology to work by approving the next phase of the LED streetlight retrofitting throughout the city with OpTerra Energy Services.

In March 2015, the Arlington Public Works and Transportation Department launched the largest streetlight conversion project in the southwest, retrofitting 10,500 lights with high performing LED technology that will cut energy costs substantially.

The Arlington City Council approved the financing of Phase II of the Energy Efficiency Program at the evening session on Tuesday, December 1, 2015.

The project will be engineered, designed, constructed and commissioned by OpTerra Energy Services in the amount of \$3,285,570.

As with Phase I, energy conservation measures for Phase II will include

installation of building energy control systems, upgraded HVAC systems and modifications, and energy-saving LED lighting and technology on streetlight infrastructure.

Appearing brighter than the legacy yellow sodium vapor lights, the new LED fixtures will save energy, enhance street safety, and generate cost savings.

In addition to the LED retrofit, the Energy Efficiency Program will improve energy efficiency at various city-owned facilities, including fire stations, libraries and the Ott Cribbs Public Safety Center. Aging air conditioning equipment, control systems and outdated lighting will also be upgraded.

This program is in line with both the Invest in Our Economy and Put Technology to Work council priorities.

Did You Know?

This project is projected save the city \$14 million dollars over the next 15 years while reducing energy usage by more than 2.5 million kilowatts.

#PutTechnology to Work

Social Media By the Numbers



PERISCOPE

THE CITY OF ARLINGTON'S PERISCOPE ACCOUNT
LAUNCHED OCTOBER 21, 2015

5

LIVE BROADCASTS:
2015 STATE OF THE CITY
360 SOUTH GROUNDBREAKING
101 CENTER GROUNDBREAKING
TEXAS LIVE! / RANGERS CONFERENCE

250+

FOLLOWERS

19,000+

WITH A REACH OF

THE CITY OF ARLINGTON'S PERISCOPE ACCOUNT CAN BE ACCESSED VIA TWITTER



Arlington Library Tech Link

Arlington Public Library's TechLINK is bringing the book culture and much more to residents across The American Dream City.

The impressive TechLINK mobile technology lab is a 39-foot bus that boasts 11 sit-down computer stations and travels throughout the city, providing free classes in technology, ESL, online literacy and other training.

TechLiNK can be requested for Arlington community events, with priority given to locations that target underserved populations. Library-sponsored instructors will be available to assist bus operations and teach classes.

This initiative connects with the Arlington City Council's *Support Quality Education* and *Put Technology to Work* priorities.