IT Project Management Community of Practice

Last updated 12-21-2022

The statewide IT Project Management Community of Practice (PM CoP) is a peer network of project management enthusiasts that foster the exchange of best practices, lessons learned, helpful resources, tools, and templates in support of transforming IT project delivery in Washington state. It sponsors live learning and networking events, real-time discussion boards, white papers, and an online IT project lessons learned repository and other helpful resources.

Performance metrics:

- The IT PM CoP hosts at least six educational events and six networking opportunities per calendar year.
- To demonstrate increased value of the CoP and the training events, the average number of attendees and organizations are tracked.
- Additional information can be found on the OCIO IT Project Management Resources page.

Intended customers

This service is available to any state and local government staff interested in learning and networking opportunities in project management. This includes project managers and other IT project stakeholders such as business sponsors, project management office (PMO) directors and managers, change management professionals and more. The first CoP with attendance records was June 2021. There were 77 attendees representing 23 organizations. The July 2022 CoP had 85 participants representing 58 organizations.

Options available with this service

- All Community of Practice events are recorded. Videos of the sessions are publicly available.
- Participation in the events can be used for Professional Development Units (PDU) for certifications with Project Management Institute.

Customer engagement

- The CoP conducts post-event and annual member surveys to collect feedback, identify improvement opportunities and prioritize learning and networking topics.
- WaTech provides networking opportunities for the IT PM CoP.
- WaTech also encourages and provides opportunities for staff to volunteer with the development of events and topics.
- The CoP is governed by an advisory board of state-employed Project Managers and Project Management Office Managers.
- The CoP conducts regular customer surveys to solicit feedback and gather suggestions for future topics.
- Monthly Technology Management Council (TMC) and Business Management Council (BMC) meetings for agency CIOs and IT leaders to inform and sponsor enterprise strategy, policy and investments.
- Regularly scheduled meetings between customers and Business Relationship Managers (BRM) to connect, advise, address concerns and provide solutions.
- Weekly group calls for state CIOs and CISOs to provide updates on important and immediate issues and actions.

Helpful information

Service category
Professional Services

Service availability
Online resources available 24/7/365. Scheduled events available according to the annual calendar of events.

Related services
- Project Management Partner (PMP) services
- Washington State IT Project Dashboard

How to request service
Submit a request for service through our Customer Portal.

Service owner
Cindy Palko

- Regular outreach to solicit feedback, provide updates and inform agencies on emerging projects, initiatives, and services.
- Requests for new consultations and modifications to existing applications.

Action plan
Current activity

The PM CoP is led by an agency-representative CoP advisory board, which is comprised of Project Management Office Managers and Project managers WaTech is working closely with the Advisory Board in its second year of operating to develop a strategic plan and create a repeatable, sustainable model to support ongoing learning, best practice sharing and peer networking.
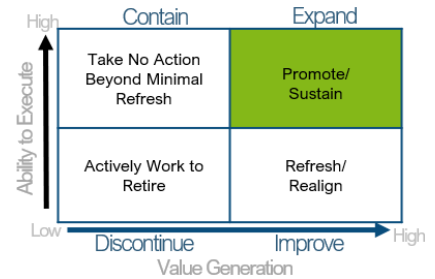
One- to two-year goals

- Facilitate six learning and six networking events in 2023.
- Regularly publish themed "Monday morning five-minute reads" aligned with learning events.
- Continue to moderate CoP discussion boards.
- Develop a 2023 action plan based on member feedback.
- Expand events to include Business Analyst.
- Expand event planning to non-Advisory Board members.

Three- to five-year goals

- Present a project management related topic at the global PMI congress.
- Present at the Information Professional Management Association (IPMA)

Service review and fully loaded service budget projection
Revenue source

The service is bundled and funded using revenue from the OCIO central service model. Funding for the OCIO central service model is based on actual agency IT FTEs. OFM provides a count of actual IT FTEs. For higher education institutions (four-year institutions and the community and technical college system), only IT FTEs that support administrative functions of the institutions are counted. Instructional staff, hospital staff and other non-administrative portions of the agencies are exempted from the FTE counts. OFM maintains the source data for budgeted FTEs.

Net Income over time [1]

[1] *Figures for FY 2018 through FY 2022 represent actuals. FY 2023 is based on projections.*

Decision Packages
None to date