Managing IT within state government requires balancing innovation with traditional ways of delivering services in an evolving technology environment set against security risks, operational challenges, and budget constraints. In Texas, innovation means doing things better, optimizing existing processes and services, and enabling new capabilities.

Planning for the Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR) annual fall conference is underway and will support the theme of *Balancing Tradition with Innovation*. The 2017 Technology Forum is a free one-day, two-track conference for public sector IT leaders.

Subject matter experts are invited to submit presentation abstracts for consideration. Sessions range from 20-50 minutes with most being a standard 50 minutes, but shorter “spotlight” topics will also be considered. As always, topics must be purely educational with no marketing or self-promotion.

**TOPICS OF INTEREST**

How are organizations balancing foundational operations with innovative and emerging trends?

The conference will offer information about DIR solutions and services, strategic issues, technology updates, and industry presentations of interest to public sector IT leaders. Possible target topics include, but are not limited to:

- Cloud
- Data Management
- Agile
- Network
- Tech forecast/visionary
- App Dev
- Accessibility
- Internet of Things
- Modernization

We are particularly interested in cloud topics this year.

**GENERAL TIMELINE**

- Call for Presentations May 1 – May 22
- Exhibitor Registration Opens June 1*
- Attendee Registration Opens July 17*

Visit the [conference website](http://www.dir.texas.gov) to learn more and to submit a proposal via the online form.

DIR thanks the Texas Association of State Systems for Computing and Communications (TASSCC) for supporting this event.