



## Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

**Meeting Date:** July 22, 2014

**Prepared By/Phone Number:**

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**Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head:**

Roger Jefferies, County Executive, JPS, (512) 854-4759

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "RJ", written over the name Roger Jefferies.

**Commissioners Court Sponsor:** County Judge Samuel T. Biscoe

**AGENDA LANGUAGE:**

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON CONFERENCE OF URBAN COUNTIES TECHSHARE COURTS PROJECT

**BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:**

The attached memo provides an update on the proposed TechShare Courts Project which is a joint project with the Conference of Urban Counties, Dallas County, and Tarrant County. The TechShare Courts Project was approved to replace Travis County's current FACTS court case management system.

**ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:**

Please see attached memo.

**FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

**REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:**

District Court Judges  
County Court at Law Judges  
Probate Court Judge  
District Clerk  
County Clerk

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a pdf to the County Judge's office, [agenda@co.travis.tx.us](mailto:agenda@co.travis.tx.us), **by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.

PBO  
Auditor's Office  
Purchasing Office  
ITS  
County Attorney  
District Attorney  
Probation/Pretrial Services  
IJS Steering Committee

**ATTACHEMENTS:**

Memo from County Executive Justice and Public Safety

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## MEMORANDUM

**To:** Sam Biscoe, Travis County Judge  
Ron Davis, Commissioner, Precinct 1  
Bruce Todd, Commissioner, Precinct 2  
Gerald Daugherty, Commissioner, Precinct 3  
Margaret Gomez, Commissioner, Precinct 4

**From:** Roger Jefferies, County Executive, Justice and Public Safety 

**Date:** July 22, 2014

**Subject:** **UPDATE ON TECHSHARE COURTS PROJECT – CUC REQUESTING APPROVAL OF THREE COUNTY STAKEHOLDER RESOLUTION**

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### Summary

On December 18, 2012, the Commissioners Court voted in favor of an addendum to the TechShare master interlocal with the Conference of Urban Counties (CUC), which authorized Travis County to join the CUC, Tarrant County, and Dallas County in an effort to develop a new criminal court case management system to replace our current legacy system known as FACTS.

Prior to this approval, the CUC had led a competitive bid process, with input from the participating counties, to select a vendor who would provide a baseline set of software on which the counties could develop a customized criminal court case management system. Out of six vendors who responded to the RFP, AMCAD was selected through the CUC's procurement process as the vendor for the project.

Over the last year and a half, county staff from the three counties, CUC staff, and staff from AMCAD have been working to gather business requirements, conduct workshops to develop extensive design documents for the software. The team had just begun to test some of the software features that have been completed by AMCAD.

On June 23, 2014, AMCAD announced that they were pulling out of the justice system software business altogether effective immediately. The Commissioners Court was briefed on the circumstances surround AMCAD's decision on July 1, 2014. At that time, the Commissioners Court was also briefed at a high level on possible options for Travis County going forward.

## **CUC Actions**

A three county summit was held by the CUC for the counties participating in the TechShare Courts Project on July 8, 2014. In that meeting, the CUC presented their plan to go forward without AMCAD.

The plan, in summary, was that the CUC would take on the software development responsibilities previously held by AMCAD, which would require additional staff for the CUC. They have begun to contract for additional staff, including staff who previously worked for AMCAD. The CUC has since come into possession of the latest version of the AMCAD software code, version 4.1, as well as all of the work products completed by AMCAD for the project before they exited. The CUC's aim is to establish a development environment within the CUC TechShare organization to complete the software project.

The CUC is also in negotiations with Headspring Systems to conduct an analysis and evaluation of the AMCAD source code to validate its quality, and to validate the levels of effort currently estimated to complete the project. The CUC is also proposing a new interlocal amendment to replace the current one we are now under that would represent these new developments, provide a revised timeline, and a provide a revised schedule of payments.

The CUC has asked the three-county stakeholder committee, which includes the county administrators from Dallas and Tarrant Counties, and me, who represents Travis County, to vote on a resolution approving the steps they have taken in the wake of AMCAD's exit. The resolution is as follows:

*Resolved by the TechShare.Court Development Project Stakeholder Committee that the proposed plan for continuing development of the TechShare.Court software is approved on an interim basis, pending the completion of independent analyses by each of the participating counties that will culminate in an update to the Project Addendum to be ratified by the TechShare Oversight Committee, Commissioners Courts and Urban Counties Board of Directors.*

*The proposed plan includes, but is not limited to, the following action items to be completed by the Urban Counties Project Team in collaboration with the participating counties, where appropriate:*

- 1. Secure both the human and intellectual property resources necessary to move forward with software development.*
- 2. Contract with Headspring Systems for an independent review of the AMCAD source code at a cost not to exceed \$30,780.*
- 3. Establish a development environment within the Urban Counties domain.*
- 4. Complete the software design in accordance with the approved Software Requirements Specifications.*

5. *Prepare an updated Project Addendum, including a revised schedule and confirmation of the approved budget, for consideration by the Stakeholder Committee.*

It should be noted that the \$30,780 for the analysis of the source code by Headspring Systems would be paid by the CUC from funds already designated for the TechShare Courts Project. No additional monies are being requested by the CUC from the counties for the analysis. Monies paid to the CUC to date have been based on each partner's population. Travis County represents approximately 19.6% of those monies paid.

### **Next Steps - Update**

In our last update to the Commissioners Court following AMCAD's exit, we listed next steps and possible options to the current project. Below is an update on those items:

### **Establish a high level timeline for decisions around options for stakeholders and status reports to Commissioners Court.**

Travis County's ITS department is working on a high level timeline around options for stakeholders and the Commissioners Court

### **Consult with County Attorney regarding:**

1. Current situation pertaining to AMCAD and CUC, and options available under the current interlocal with the CUC.
2. Options pertaining to Fiscal Year 2014 and 2015 payment schedule in Amendment No.1 of TechShare.Courts development, a payment was due on June 30, 2014.

The County Attorney's Office briefed the Commissioners Court in executive session on legal matters related to the interlocal on July 1, 2014. The CUC has not invoiced the county for the June 30<sup>th</sup> payment and is proposing the payment be included in the new interlocal proposed in item 5 in the above resolution.

### **Consult with stakeholders and County Attorney to develop options and recommendations for Commissioner Court for going forward that may include:**

1. Conduct an independent review of the AMCAD system code.

*In addition to the evaluation by CUC and Headspring Systems, the internal Travis County stakeholder group, which includes the elected officials and offices impacted by the software project (including Criminal, Civil, and Probate Courts, District Clerk's Office, and County Clerk's Office), have expressed a desire for an independent review of the AMCAD source code by their technical staff and the county's ITS division, and possibly an outside expert.*

*A technical committee with representatives from these offices, and ITS, was formed on July 11, 2014 to look into this option.*

2. Placing CUC Techshare.Courts project on-hold until further analysis and risk management is completed.  
*We are currently moving forward in a transition and evaluation mode on the courts software project.*
3. Continue with CUC using current inter-local agreement allowing CUC to modify AMCAD code.
4. Continue with CUC with a new inter-local agreement outlining new scope and vendor.  
*The CUC has proposed a new interlocal amendment with the three participating counties reflecting their proposed plan to continue and complete the project. Please see resolution item #5 above.*
5. Continue with CUC conducting a new Request for Proposal (RFP) process for system vendor.  
*The CUC has indicated they are not interested in pursuing a RFP process for another system vendor.*
6. Continuing without CUC and conducting an RFP process for a Courts Case Management System.  
*The Travis County internal stakeholders have discussed this option, but no recommendations have been finalized.*

This is the second in what will be a series of briefings for the Commissioners Court to let you know of the status of the TechShare Courts project following the exit of AMCAD. We will return to Commissioners Court with additional briefings as information is gathered and recommendations finalized.