

# Put Technology TO WORK

QUARTERLY UPDATE FY2018

VOLUME 3 ISSUE 1



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*“By continuing to invest in technology, we have afforded ourselves the ability to make informed decisions that will allow staff to optimize available resources and protect the citizen’s investment in the most cost effective manner.”*



**Mindy Carmichael**

*Public Works & Transportation Director*

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**#PutTechnologytoWork**



## Smooth Ride: Arlington Increases Investment in Street Maintenance and Repairs

There’s little doubt about the impact technology has on our daily lives. We see it everywhere we look; our phones, cars, TVs, refrigerators and road maintenance. Yes, even the upkeep of the roads you drive is affected by technology.

Since the mid-1990s, the Public Works and Transportation Department has conducted an annual pavement survey using state-of-the-art technology to inventory the condition of all streets within the city limits.

The project consists of contracting with a third-party vendor that operates a

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## Demonstration Rides on Milo, Arlington's Autonomous Shuttle, Coming Soon

Interested in catching a ride on a self-driving shuttle? You will be able to come try out Milo and provide the City of Arlington with feedback about your experience in November!

The City of Arlington will be booking rides on select dates in November to provide the public an opportunity to check out the Milo autonomous service.

Arlington is leasing two of these electric shuttle vehicles as part of a one-year pilot program to explore autonomous transportation technology in a real-world setting.

Dates for the rides will be posted online at [arlingtontx.gov/milo](http://arlingtontx.gov/milo) in the coming weeks. Because seating is limited, rides are only guaranteed to those individuals who register online and receive confirmation by email from the City. Rides can be booked for between 1 and 10 passengers.

# Updates

## Smooth Ride (cont'd)

fleet of sophisticated data collection vehicles equipped with an array of precision instrumentation and data collection equipment. Each year of the contract the vendor will collect data on one-third of the City's streets. During the month of August, the vehicles will travel specific roads to collect information on:

- The type, extent, and severity of pavement surface distress (i.e. cracks and ruts); and
- The smoothness and ride comfort of the road.

The data collected is entered into an asset management system and combined with other factors to determine the road's score, or Overall Condition Index (OCI), of 0-100. The OCI assigned to individual road segments assists city officials in identifying the proper level of maintenance needed to keep the road viable for as long as possible or whether or not a complete rebuild is needed.

This technology and data gathering allows the City to develop a comprehensive and proactive approach to roadway management that ensures road maintenance budgets are spent wisely.

"This pavement management system provides a condition inventory of every street segment in the city and tracks its maintenance history, which helps staff identify deficiencies, prioritize roadway projects, and monitor pavement performance," said Mindy Carmichael, Public Works and Transportation director. "By continuing to invest in technology, we have afforded ourselves the ability

to make informed decisions that will allow staff to optimize available resources and protect the citizen's investment in the most cost effective manner."

The City of Arlington recognizes that smooth, well-maintained streets are important to residents. About 58 percent of Arlington residents rank the maintenance of all major streets as excellent or good while 51 percent rank the condition of neighborhood streets as excellent or good in the latest City Services Satisfaction Survey.

Enhancing Regional Mobility is a top priority for the Arlington City Council. When the Council adopted a "worst first" approach to street repairs and maintenance in 2015, Arlington had 320 lane miles with an Overall Condition Index score that indicated those streets were in need of a complete rebuild. Today, Arlington has whittled that number down to only 278 lane miles.

This year, the City has awarded more than \$38 million in road construction contracts and has a street maintenance budget of approximately \$18 million to keep that progress moving forward.

Residents with questions or needing additional information regarding the vehicles, project, or process are encouraged to contact the City of Arlington at 817-459-6561.

To stay up-to-date on street improvements across The American Dream City, visit the City of Arlington's Street Tracker website.

# Highlights

## Medical City Arlington Adds Web Cameras to NICU

Parents of sick babies can view their little ones, even when they are away, thanks to new web cameras in the Medical City Arlington Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU).

The cameras are mounted above each of the 23 beds in the NICU. A live video stream enables parents to see their infants in real-time, 24-hours a day, 7 days a week. Parents are able to view their children via secure web address that can be accessible from computers, laptops and cellphones.

“This technology allows parents to really feel connected to their newborn baby, which helps



decrease anxiety and promote the bonding experience,” said Kamala Richmond, RN, Director of Women’s and Children Services at Medical City Arlington. “These cameras support our goal of providing high quality care to patients and families.”

The NICVIEW® webcam system operates via a secure encrypted online portal. Live streaming is only accessible to specified users

using passwords issued by the NICU. Families can use the service to allow siblings, grandparents, and others that might not be able to visit the NICU to see their baby.

The NICVIEW® camera service is free to families with babies in the NICU. It is part of Medical City Arlington’s commitment to help strengthen bonds, while decreasing the stress of having a baby that requires intensive care.



## UTA FabLab Using Technology to Make Dreams a Reality

The newest “Culture Buzz” segment on MyArlingtonTV takes a journey to the UTA FabLab, located inside The University of Texas at Arlington’s Libraries, 702 Planetarium Place, Arlington, TX 76019.

The UTA FabLab is a creative hub for students, faculty and staff, providing access to technologies, equipment, training, opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration, and inspirational spaces in support of invention and entrepreneurship.

The FabLab is a platform for project-based, hands-on Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics (STEAM) experiential learning.

The UTA FabLab is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. The space is also on from 12-6 p.m. on Saturday and 12-8 p.m. on Sunday. For more information, please call 817-272-1785 or visit [www.fablab.uta.edu](http://www.fablab.uta.edu).

# FY2018 Budget *by the Numbers*

Radio and CAD  
Maintenance



\$85,000

Software  
Maintenance



\$143,000

City Website  
Rebuild



\$150,000

Departmental  
Technology Projects



\$1.4 M

# ARLINGTON IS A WHAT WORKS CITY

## The City of Arlington Public Comments on Draft Open Data Policy

The City of Arlington requested public input for a proposed new policy designed to govern the release and accessibility of city data, ranging from code violations to construction permits.

Besides increasing transparency for the public and improving efficiency for city employees, the City also recognizes that easily accessible data can be a useful tool for economic development, academic and scientific research, neighborhood involvement and other ventures.

The creation of an Open Data Policy furthers the Arlington City Council's priority to Put Technology to Work.

Arlington's proposed Open Data

Policy aims to:

- Improve the provision of services, increase transparency and access to public information
- Enhance coordination and efficiencies among City Departments and partner organizations
- Develop opportunities for commerce, economic development, increased investment and civic engagement for citizens
- Protect privacy, confidentiality, and security while also advancing the City's transparency and accountability through open data

- Facilitate the proactive provision of information currently sought through Open Records Requests.

"The City of Arlington's Open Data Policy is a foundational element in our effort to use our data to connect the dots that will help us improve transparency, productivity and evidence based decision making," Deputy City Manager Theron Bowman said. "By making more data accessible externally, we hope to increase public engagement and invite more innovation and accountability from our resident, business, non-profit and educational stakeholders."