Testimony of Anne Roest  
Commissioner, New York City Department of Information Technology & Telecommunication  
before the  
New York City Council Committees on Finance, Technology and Land Use  
concerning the  
FY 2017 Executive Budget  

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Good morning Chair Ferreras-Copeland, Chairman Greenfield, Chairman Vacca, and members of the City Council. My name is Anne Roest and I am the Commissioner of the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (DoITT), and New York City’s Chief Information Officer. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today about DoITT’s Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget. With me are John Winker, our Associate Commissioner for Financial Services; Rachel Laiserin, our Associate Commissioner of Procurement and Vendor Management; and Chad Rosenthal, our Deputy General Counsel.

DoITT’s Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget provides for operating expenses of approximately $635 million; allocating $149 million in Personal Services to support 1,800 full-time positions; and $486 million for Other than Personal Services (OTPS). Totaling $128 million, Intra-City funds transferred from other agencies to DoITT for services provided accounts for approximately 20% of the budget allocation. Telecommunications costs represent the largest portion of the Intra-City expense, which was $115 million in Fiscal 2016.

The 2017 Executive budget reflects a decrease of $8 million and an increase of $45 million from the Fiscal 2017 Preliminary Budget for Fiscal 2016 and Fiscal 2017, respectively. The increases to the Fiscal 2017 Executive Budget are attributed to IFA extensions; OTPS funding associated with the ongoing maintenance costs required to support recently approved, capital-funded initiatives; and one-time funding that are rolled from Fiscal 2016 for projects such as Citywide Procurement Innovation, and Broadband Access.

In short, the 2017 Executive budget provides the funds we need to keep doing all the things we do to provide resilient, scalable, and leading IT services, infrastructure, and telecommunications to city agencies.

So while the budget breaks the DoITT mission down into line items, we are talking about something far greater than the sum of its parts. We are talking about how DoITT is going to leverage its resources to lead and efficiently manage world-class IT services for the City of New York.
The 2017 Executive budget we are talking about today reflects our commitment to fulfilling DoITT’s mission through:

- **A robust infrastructure**, secured by layers of intertwined defenses.

- **Improved services**, such as 24x7 coverage for essential citywide IT functions, facility and technology upgrades, as well as keeping pace with agencies requests for shared IT services. And we are doing more. For example, our data center has grown from 2,300 servers to 7,500 servers over the last four years, that’s a significant increase in output, and that’s just one example.

- **Investments in human capital**, by insourcing consultant staff but also by ramping up our recruitment efforts with an eye towards diversity and inclusion, led by our Chief Diversity Officer, Kenneth Hunter…And since our last hearing we continue our work with agencies to identify opportunities to insource IT work and reduce reliance on external IT consultants. In just this last budget cycle alone, 94 headcount have been added across various agency budgets, bringing the total to nearly 300 new headcount for the conversion of IT consultant positions to City staff.

And by:

- **Expanding access to technology** for all New Yorkers through the expansion of Wi-Fi and broadband initiatives. You may recall that in my last testimony I also highlighted Mayor de Blasio’s commitment to providing every resident and business access to affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband service by 2025. To further this goal, the Administration has funded six positions in this budget to staff a broadband unit to work closely with Mayor’s Counsel Maya Wiley’s office on rolling out various broadband initiatives.

I appreciate the opportunity to discuss DoITT’s 2017 Executive budget. This concludes my prepared testimony, and I will now be pleased to address any questions. Thank you.