The City and County of San Francisco (City) is dedicated to building a strong cybersecurity program to support, maintain, and secure critical infrastructure and data systems. The following policy is intended to maintain and enhance key elements of a citywide cybersecurity program.

**PURPOSE AND SCOPE**

The COIT Cybersecurity Policy lays the foundation for the City’s Cybersecurity Program as a whole and articulates executive level support for the effort. Cybersecurity operations across the City are in different stages of deployment. The Cybersecurity Policy supports the City’s Cybersecurity Program established to:

- protect our connected critical infrastructure
- protect the sensitive information placed in our trust
- manage risk
- continuously improve our ability to detect cybersecurity events
- contain and eradicate compromises, restoring information resources to a secure and operational status
- ensure risk treatment is sufficient and in alignment with the criticality of the information resource
- facilitate awareness of risk to our operations within the context of cybersecurity

The requirements identified in this policy apply to all information resources operated by or for the City, and County of San Francisco and its departments, and commissions. Elected officials, employees, consultants, and vendors working on behalf of the City and County of San Francisco are required to comply with this policy.

**POLICY STATEMENT**

The COIT Cybersecurity Policy requires all departments to:

1. Appoint a Departmental Cybersecurity Officer or security liaison to coordinate cybersecurity efforts.
2. Adopt a cybersecurity framework as a basis to build their cybersecurity program. The City recommends adopting the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Cybersecurity Framework as a methodology to secure information resources.
3. Conduct and update, at least annually, a department cybersecurity risk assessment.
4. Develop and update, at least annually, department cybersecurity requirements to mitigate risk and comply with legal and regulatory cybersecurity requirements. Department will develop and adopt cybersecurity requirements that should be equivalent to or greater than the citywide security requirements by December 31, 2019.
5. Participate in citywide cybersecurity roundtable meetings.
CYBERSECURITY FRAMEWORK

The Cybersecurity Policy requires all departments to adopt a cybersecurity framework to guide their operations.

In order to adequately protect information resources, systems and data must be properly categorized based on information sensitivity and criticality to operations. A risk-based methodology standardizes security architecture, creates a common understanding of shared or transferred risk when systems and infrastructure are connected, and makes securing systems and data more straightforward.

The NIST framework provides five elements to a cybersecurity program:

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<th>Function</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>Identify</td>
<td>Develop the organizational understanding to manage cybersecurity risk to systems, assets, data, and capabilities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Protect</td>
<td>Develop and implement appropriate safeguards to ensure delivery of infrastructure services.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Detect</td>
<td>Develop and implement appropriate activities to identify the occurrence of a cybersecurity event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Respond</td>
<td>Develop and implement appropriate activities to respond to a cybersecurity event.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Recover</td>
<td>Develop and implement appropriate activities to maintain plans for resilience and to restore any capabilities or services impaired by a cybersecurity event.</td>
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Departments, in consultation with the City Chief Information Security Officer (CISO), may choose alternatives to the NIST Cybersecurity Framework. However, all departments shall implement or consume central standards and services from their respective framework, such as access control and management, risk assessment and management, awareness and training, and data classification.

CYBERSECURITY RISK ASSESSMENT

As defined in NIST Special Publication 800-30, “Guide for Conducting Risk Assessments,” risk assessment is the process of identifying, estimating, and prioritizing information security risks. Assessing risk requires the careful analysis of threat and vulnerability information to determine the extent to which circumstances or events could adversely impact an organization [i.e. City departments] and the likelihood that such circumstances or events will occur.
The purpose of risk assessment is to inform decision makers and support risk responses by identifying:

i. relevant threats to [departments]
ii. vulnerabilities both internal and external to [departments]
iii. impact (i.e., harm) to [departments] that may occur given the potential for threats exploiting vulnerabilities
iv. likelihood that harm will occur

The end result is a determination of risk (i.e., typically a function of the degree of harm and likelihood of harm occurring).

To ensure their cybersecurity programs comply with an approved cybersecurity framework, including NIST CSF, ISO 2700x, and CIS Top 20, and a risk-based approach, the City Services Auditor conducts readiness assessments to measure implementation.

Readiness assessments align with an approved cybersecurity framework and enable departments to determine their current cybersecurity capabilities, set individual goals for a target state, and establish a plan for improving and maintaining cyber security programs. Readiness assessments also assist the Department of Technology and the Controller in the efficient and effective planning of cybersecurity activities.

ROADMAP

Departments are required to develop and update cybersecurity requirements to mitigate risk profiles and comply with legal and regulatory cybersecurity requirements. The City Chief Information Security Officer will provide a baseline for departments by first conducting a citywide risk assessment, and then developing cybersecurity requirements to address citywide risk profile. Department should subsequently develop cybersecurity requirements that should be equivalent to or greater than the citywide security requirements to address department risks. Departments are required to develop and adopt specific cybersecurity requirements by December 31, 2019.

A high level roadmap follows:

- October 2018: CISO completes citywide cybersecurity risk assessment.
- December 2018: CISO develops cybersecurity risk assessment methodology for department use.
- March 2019: CISO drafts cybersecurity requirements to address citywide risk profile.
- June 2019: All departments complete department cybersecurity risk assessment
- December 2019: Departments develop and adopt cybersecurity requirements that should be equivalent to or greater than the citywide security requirements to address department risks

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. **Department Heads** shall:
   a. Promote a culture of cybersecurity awareness and compliance with the City’s cybersecurity policy. Department heads must remind their employees and contractors about the City’s Cybersecurity policies, standards, procedures, guidelines, and best practices.
   b. To the extent resources allow, budget and staff the cybersecurity function for systems procured, operated, or contracted by their departments to ensure that all systems and the data contained by them are protected in accordance with the category / classification of the data and systems.
c. Designate a cybersecurity officer or liaison in the case of smaller departments. Departments should consult with the City’s CISO to determine if their information technology activities warrant the appointment of a Department Cybersecurity Officer or if a Security Liaison is adequate.
d. When appropriate, consult with the City CISO office when gathering the requirements for new information systems to ensure the security design is vetted before selection and deployment.

2. Department Cybersecurity Officers / Liaisons shall:
   a. Ensure information resources are properly protected through risk treatment strategies that meet the acceptable risk threshold for the category / classification of the information resource.
   b. Inform the City CISO when there is an event which compromises the control, confidentiality, integrity, or availability of a system or data involving Personally Identifiable Information, Regulatory Protected Information (such as HIPAA or Social Security Numbers), and/or data that is not considered public as soon as practical.
   c. Participate in the citywide cybersecurity round table meetings.
   d. Conduct and update, at least annually, department cybersecurity risk assessments, and confidentially share results with the CISO.
   e. Develop and update, at least annually, department cybersecurity requirements to mitigate department risk profile and comply with legal and regulatory cybersecurity requirements, and confidentially share requirements with the CISO.
   f. Develop and adopt cybersecurity requirements that should be equivalent to or greater than the citywide security requirements to address department risks by December 31, 2019.

3. CISO shall:
   a. Ensure that Department, Commission, and the Centralized Information Technology Cybersecurity Programs employ a risk-based assessment and treatment program, and regularly report the status of the City’s residual risk profile to City leadership.
   b. Develop cybersecurity risk assessment methodology and provide training to Department Cybersecurity Officers / Liaisons on conducting cybersecurity risk assessments.
   c. Develop and update, at least annually, citywide cybersecurity requirements to mitigate the City’s residual risk profile, and comply with legal and regulatory cybersecurity requirements. The first set of cybersecurity requirements to be developed within six months of this policy’s publication.
   d. Develop and maintain a centralized incident response program capable of addressing major compromises of City information resources.
   e. Establish and maintain a security team and function with the ability to identify, protect, detect, respond, and recover from attacks against City information resources.
   f. Support departments’ implementation of citywide cybersecurity requirements.
   g. Support department Cybersecurity Officers/ Liaisons in their cybersecurity responsibilities, including through the centralized incident response program, cybersecurity defense capabilities, and a citywide cybersecurity toolset.
   h. Organize citywide roundtable cybersecurity meetings.

4. COIT and Mayor’s Budget Office shall:
   a. To the extent possible, adequately support and fund City and Department cybersecurity operations in alignment with the risk assessment.
5. **Chief Data Officer** shall:
   a. Work with the City CISO to develop and maintain an information classification system and support departments in their data classification efforts.

6. **City Services Auditor** shall:
   a. Evaluate City cybersecurity efforts with regular readiness assessments and assist in the evaluation of cybersecurity audit controls.
   b. Review, at least annually, department implementation plans for adoption of citywide and department-specific cybersecurity requirements.
   c. Perform security testing for departments in alignment with the citywide cybersecurity requirements to validate that departments effectively implement the requirements.

7. **City Employees, contractors, and vendors** shall:
   a. Comply with cybersecurity practices, requirements, and acceptable use agreement, and promptly report any incidents to the appropriate officials.

**COMPLIANCE**

To the extent resources allow:

1. Department heads are responsible for ensuring that systems procured, operated, or contracted by their respective department or commission meet the appropriate security protections required by the system’s risk category /classification, in addition to any regulatory requirements.
2. Employees, consultants, and vendors shall ensure that information resources are appropriately and securely utilized, administered, and operated while authorized access is granted, according to the Acceptable Use Policy.
3. City Services Auditor shall evaluate City cybersecurity efforts and validate departments’ implementation of the applicable security requirements.

**EXCEPTIONS**

No exceptions to this policy will be approved.

**REFERENCES**


**DEFINITIONS**

For a list of definitions please refer to: [http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/ir/2013/NIST.IR.7298r2.pdf](http://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/ir/2013/NIST.IR.7298r2.pdf)