

**FY 2021-2022 Virginia Beach Budget
Response to Council Questions**

Question Number: 73

Question: What are we doing to reduce our IT vulnerability to our third party providers?

Date Requested: 4/14/21

Requested By: Councilmember Moss

Department: IT

Response: The city works closely with our external vendors to outline their specific approach towards security guidelines of their applications and/or hardware infrastructure. As the trend continues towards the cloud platform, and web hosting, the city is updating the policy to include the vendors security requirements and what is acceptable and what is not. That includes having the vendors provide details of any security certifications, what framework(s) their security program is based on, and a base external security scan of their environment along with annual scans if their proposal is accepted.

We are requiring vendors who leverage cloud service providers provide their own attestations for the security of their environments and not rely on the various certifications and attestations of their Content Security Policy (CSP). The overall program is also developing a framework and process around categorizing our vendors to rank them by level of risk which will ultimately determine the level of controls requirements.