



DEPARTMENT OF INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY
CITY OF CHICAGO


MEMORANDUM

TO: Steve Berlin
Executive Director
Ethics

FROM: Brenna Berman
Commissioner and CIO

DATE: November 27, 2015

RE: Amazon Web Services – City on a Cloud 2015 Competition



The City of Chicago entered Amazon Web Service's (AWS) "City on a Cloud 2015" competition. The competition was widely advertised and is in its second year—last year, the City did not enter. The competition provides \$50,000 of AWS credits, which can be used for a variety of "cloud" services offered by AWS, including the ability to use their computers for data process, data storage, web hosting, etc.

This year, the city submitted a proposal for "OpenGrid"—a data warehouse and business intelligence tool—that is being developed by the City of Chicago. The proposal was submitted through their online portal for judging.

Winners for the competition was chosen by an 11-member panel of judges. Four members were from governments that won last year's competition and the remaining members are academics, technologists, and government officials. The panel selected the City of Chicago as a winner of the \$50,000 prize.

DOIT will be receiving the prize on behalf of the city for the OpenGrid project. Due to the project size, DOIT will also be using that to pilot other cloud technologies to improve the city's technology infrastructure. The credits will expire in December, 2016.