ITSP Summary Biennium 2026-28

Agency Name: 942 Virginia Museum of Natural History (VMNH)

Date Generated: 09-29-2025

Agency Mission, Goals and Objectives:

Agency Mission:

To interpret Virginia's natural heritage within a global context in ways that are relevant to all citizens of the Commonwealth.

Agency Goals:

Create and deliver life-long learning opportunities for the citizens of the Commonwealth of Virginia, as well as, its visitors through programs, exhibits, and publications based on scientific and educational research.

Provide meaningful educational programs using a variety of electronic and distance learning technologies.

Provide meaningful education programs that are aligned with state and national education standards and reform initiatives.

Increase museum attendance annually; both at the museum and at remote museum exhibit sites.

Stimulate use of the museum by increasing individual memberships and corporate partnerships, and expanding benefits and cost-benefits to members and partners.

Operate scientific labs that are visitor-friendly and provide public education by encouraging interaction with Museum visitors.

Provide natural history-related retail products to customers in the Museum Store.

Maintain and seek new strategic partnerships with individuals, agencies, and with formal and informal educational organizations that seek to serve more areas of the state.

Produce well-designed and maintained exhibits that are dynamic, educational, interactive, thought provoking, and grounded in scientific and social content for a wide range of audiences.

Produce text, electronic, and web-based publications and educational materials.

Conduct and disseminate research relevant to the stewardship of Virginia's natural environment, leading to enhanced appreciation of these resources for improving the quality of life for our citizens and contributing to the global reservoir of knowledge.

Be the premier resource in understanding Virginia’s natural heritage within a global context in ways that are relevant to the citizens of the Commonwealth.

Build collections through appropriate research.

Develop a web-accessible collections and scientific library database that enables scientists and educators to find information and perform research.

Retain existing volunteers and recruit new volunteers.

Develop visitor experiences that are interesting, emotionally charged, immersive, well-paced, dramatic, social and grounded in content which result in multiple visits per person.

Generate operating revenue through increased grants and other voluntary contributions from the public and private sectors and through cooperative arrangements with other museums, state agencies and organizations.

Increase revenue from contributed or grant support from individuals, corporations, foundations and range of public sector sources and rental of museum facilities.
Preserve and maintain the record of the Commonwealth's natural history - the library of our natural heritage - for present and future generations.

Provide collections management, preservation, care, and accessibility to protect the longterm integrity of specimens and artifacts, as well as their associated data documentation.

Maintain existing and expand outreach education programs to more areas of the state, reaching more Virginians.

Agency Objectives:

The museum's innovative education programs reach students, teachers, and the general public statewide and throughout the region. From "at-the-museum" programs to outreach education and distance learning programs that bring the museum to locations across the Commonwealth, the museum's education programs are correlated directly to state and national learning standards. VMNH educators are leaders in the field of informal science education throughout the state, providing a vital link between the museum's important research, collections programs and all citizens of Virginia and beyond.

Current IT State:

In this section, describe the high-level strategy the agency will use to manage existing operational IT investments over the next year to 6 years in support of the strategic objectives of your agency.

At this time, the agency anticipates that all Current Operational IT Investments will continue to meet agency business needs in the foreseeable future and will not need enhancement or additional investment.

Will any of the following areas require additional funding over the next 6 years beyond that currently forecast by your agency? (please check all that apply)

Looking ahead over the next 6 years, please list any IT initiatives needed to support the business Mission, Goals, and Objectives of your agency not addressed by application modernization (other than staffing levels and applications detailed elsewhere). These could include disaster recovery, network upgrades, radio communications etc.

External Factors Impacting IT:

In this section, describe changes or mandates from external sources to the agency's current IT investments. These are requirements and mandates from external sources, such as new federal or state legislation, executive orders, regulatory bodies, or legal requirements. The agency must identify the change, any important deadlines that must be met, and the consequences if the deadlines are not met.

At this time, the agency is not aware of any external factors, requirements or mandates that will require IT investments by the agency in the foreseeable future.

Are there any mandate driving changes in your current IT environment? (Yes/No)

No

Future IT Solutions:

This section will discuss how the agency's IT investments and investment strategies support the business strategies over the next 6 years. The agency does not need to discuss specific technologies at this time.

At this time, the agency does not have any Proposed IT Solutions or investments that will support agency strategic objectives, service area strategic objectives, commonwealth, enterprise, or secretariat-level strategic priorities, agency performance measures, or societal indicators.

IT Strategic Plan Budget Tables

Current IT Services				
	Costs Year 1		Costs Year 2	
Category	**GF**	**NGF**	**GF**	**NGF**
Projected Service Fees	$173,485		$178,689	
VITA Infrastructure Changes				
Estimated VITA Infrastructure	$173,485		$178,689	
Specialized Infrastructure				
Agency IT Staff	$54,000		$60,000	
Non-agency IT Staff				
Cloud Computing Service				
Other Application Costs	$60,000		$20,000	
Total:	$287,485		$258,689	

Proposed IT Investments				
	Costs Year 1		**Costs Year 2**	
Category	**GF**	**NGF**	**GF**	**NGF**
Major IT Projects:				
Non-Major IT Projects:				
Agency-Level IT Projects:				
Major Stand Alone IT Procurements:				
Non-Major Stand Alone IT Procurements:				
Agency-Level Stand Alone IT Procurements:				
Procurement Adjustment:				
Total:				

Projected Total IT Budget				
	Costs Year 1		**Costs Year 2**	
Category	**GF**	**NGF**	**GF**	**NGF**
Current IT Services	$287,485		$258,689	
Proposed IT Investments				
Total	$287,485		$258,689	

Commonwealth Projects >= $250,000.00

There are no projects for this agency.

Commonwealth Procurements >= $250,000.00

There are no stand alone procurements for this agency.