INTRODUCTION

Good afternoon Chairman Dowell, Vice Chairman Silverstein, and members of the City Council. Thank you for allowing me to join you today to present and discuss the 2021 budget request for the Department of Assets, Information and Services (AIS).

Our Department’s mission is to support the operations of other City departments and sister agencies by providing high-quality and cost-effective asset management and operational support services along with reliable and secure access to information and the smart application of technology. We ensure the safe and efficient use of the City of Chicago’s assets by effectively managing the maintenance and repair of vehicles, equipment, and properties used or occupied by the City. We provide a range of support services including environmental health and safety programs, energy procurement, graphics and reproduction, records management, and mail delivery. Our Department strives to make Chicago a city empowered by technology, where residents and businesses are at the center of our strategies, and where our department works to provide City government with innovative technology solutions.

EQUIPMENT

Our portfolio of equipment includes 1,918 pieces of leased or rented equipment and 8,763 pieces of owned equipment for a total count of 10,681. We also provide equipment maintenance services and fuel through intergovernmental agreements with the Chicago Park District, Chicago Transit Authority, City Colleges of Chicago, Chicago Public Schools, and other sister agencies. The total sister agency fleet size we service, and fuel is 1,742 and includes leased, owned, and rented equipment.

FACILITIES

Our facility portfolio currently includes 446 owned and 58 leased facilities for a total count of 504. The owned properties include 21 parking lots and 27 vacant or abandoned buildings managed on behalf of DPD. In total AIS manages over 20,603,696 square feet of owned and leased property.

INFORMATION

In 2020, as a part of the effort to prioritize and optimize IT investments through improved governance and planning, AIS embarked on a citywide IT Assessment & Strategic Plan project. The objective of this assessment is to provide the City with an actionable and realistic roadmap for using technology to better serve residents, businesses, visitors, as well as City departments. As part of this project we will accomplish the following: (1) assess the current state of the City’s
information technology resources, processes, networks, and systems in order identify high priority improvement areas and capability gaps; (2) suggest opportunities to reduce risk, lower operational costs and safely secure City data; (3) optimize and unify the City’s application portfolio and improve overall IT service delivery; (4) define a citywide vision that promotes technology opportunity, inclusion, engagement, and innovation for City departments and external stakeholders; (5) develop a forward-looking strategic roadmap to align the City's IT efforts and resources with business goals and objectives as well as best practices and industry standards; (6) expand the skill sets and capabilities of City’s IT workforce; and (7) aggregate this work into a prioritized comprehensive technology strategic plan that will serve as the guide for future City IT investments.

This project will be complete in the second quarter of 2021.

SAFETY

The health and safety of our employees is paramount. AIS achieved a 27% reduction in the OSHA Total Recordable Incident Rate from the 2018 rate of 7.5 incidents per 100 people to 5.5 in 2019 through the implementation of EHS programs and training.

In March 2020, the EHS Bureau pivoted to focus on COVID-19, some highlights of their efforts include;
- creating the Facility and Vehicle Cleaning and Disinfection Policies,
- developing the Social Distancing Plan,
- conducting contact tracing and recordkeeping for AIS personnel who tested positive,
- establishing the protocol for and conducting OSHA Work relatedness determinations for COVID positives citywide,
- developing and providing training on PPE and temperature checks for City staff,
- reducing the use of medical grade PPE by identifying appropriate substitutes where appropriate
- and performing facility assessments for the reopening of 33 aldermanic ward offices and multiple libraries.

2021 BUDGET PROPOSAL

AIS’s 2021 budget proposal is $441.5 million compared to the 2020 appropriation of $442.6 million. The 2021 proposal reflects a reduction of 90 vacant positions across all eight of AIS’s bureaus. This brings AIS’s position count from 1207 down to 1117.

CONCLUSION

Managing and caring for the City’s public assets and information technology is an important responsibility, and it is one that every employee at AIS takes very seriously. We are committed to delivering the highest quality of services to the city departments in the most efficient and cost-effective manner possible. I
would like to personally thank our employees for their tireless effort to continuously improve on the services we provide.

Madam Chairman, this concludes my prepared statement. My staff and I are pleased to answer any questions you or the members of the City Council may have on our presented budget.