

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

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Center for Technology in Government Announces Four New Projects: Using Information in Government Focus of Work with State/Local Agencies

Albany, NY - The Center for Technology in Government (CTG) at the University at Albany/SUNY is continuing its tradition of making technology work for state and local government agencies with four new projects.

As part of the Using Information in Government Program, the Center is starting projects with the New York State Office of Real Property Services, Office of the State Comptroller, Department of Transportation, and the New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications. These projects involve studying the management, policy, and technology issues government agencies encounter when they use information. All of the projects will begin this year and continue into 2000.

"These projects present a great opportunity to address the information needs of an array of government programs. They should result in lessons that will benefit many state and local agencies," said CTG Director Sharon S. Dawes.

The NYS Office of Real Property Services is in the process of creating a new comprehensive, statewide database that will help local property tax assessors annually update assessments for the state's five million parcels of real property. CTG will assist in this effort by assessing local needs and hosting a workshop for local assessors and agency staff to discuss the resources, policies, and operational changes necessary to implement the new system.

The Office of the State Comptroller is planning to redesign the state's 17-year-old central accounting system, which is the backbone of financial and budgetary operations in New York. CTG will assist in the analysis phase of this effort by meeting with system users from throughout the state to help the agency assure that their needs and capabilities are reflected in the redesigned central accounting system.

The NYS Department of Transportation is creating a standard process for evaluating and approving information technology investments. CTG will help the agency define the needs and goals of such a process, as well as evaluate the Department's efforts to link business, management, budget, and IT investment processes.

The New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications is creating a new process to manage information about the City's technology systems. CTG will work with the agency to define and test a new information management model that will support sound information technology investment decisions linked to New York City's IT Strategic Plan.

The Center for Technology in Government is an applied research center devoted to improving government and public services through policy, management, and technology innovation. The Center, located at the University at Albany/State University of New York, works with government, corporate, and academic partners to pursue new ways of applying computing and communications technologies to the practical problems of information management and service delivery in the public sector.