

Oversight Analysis Executive Summary

Background

The Florida Planning, Accounting, and Ledger Management (PALM) Project (the Project) is a multi-year initiative to replace the State of Florida's accounting and cash management systems with a financial management solution. The Project is considered to be one of the largest information technology projects in the history of the State of Florida. Because of this, oversight and transparency are of the utmost importance in project planning, risk management, and execution. While the Project's governance structure includes a 15-member Executive Steering Committee (ESC), there are two separate external reporting oversight entities for the Project: 1) Division of State Technology (DST), and 2) Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V). Additionally, the Project performs a self-assessment of the Project's performance.

Division of State Technology (DST)

DST was established in 2019 by the Florida Legislature to develop and publish information technology policy for the management of the State's information technology resources, oversee the State's essential information technology projects, and manage the State Data Center.¹ Pursuant to 282.0051(13A)gen, Florida Statutes (F.S.), DST provides oversight to the Department of Financial Services projects that have total project costs of \$25 million or more. DST assesses the Project on a quarterly basis using criteria established in Chapter 60GG-1, Florida Administrative Code (F.A.C.).

Independent Verification and Validation (IV&V)

IV&V is defined in Subsection 74.1 (2)(a)17, F.A.C. as a review of project plans and other project artifacts by an independent third party. The primary purpose of IV&V is to provide an objective assessment of products and processes throughout the project management lifecycle. In addition, IV&V facilitates early detection and correction of issues, enhances management insight into risks, and ensures compliance with project budget, performance, and schedule requirements. IV&V has no technical, managerial, or financial interest in the project and has no responsibility for or participation in any other aspect of the Project.

Oversight Approach

DST Approach and Components

DST produces and publishes a monthly Key Performance Indicator (KPI) Dashboard that evaluates risk in the following categories: scope management, schedule management, cost management, risk management, issue management, and overall Project status. Each category is assigned a color (green, yellow, or red) to indicate risk level. Table 1 below provides a legend for each color. DST is to report to the Executive Office of the Governor (EOG), the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives at least quarterly if DST identifies a project to be high risk due to exceeding acceptable variance ranges defined and documented in a project plan. All monthly KPI Dashboards may be accessed through the Project's [Oversight webpage](#).

¹ Information taken from the Division of State Technology website at https://www.dms.myflorida.com/business_operations/state_technology

Table 1: DST KPI Scoring Color Legend

Color	Risk Level
Green	Low
Yellow	Medium
Red	High

IV&V Approach and Components

At the end of each month, IV&V produces and publishes a Monthly IV&V Assessment Report that evaluates the following Project areas: overall status; execution; governance; procurement and contracts; quality management; and communications and outreach. IV&V is not required to assess the Project using the same categories, methodology, and/or compliance with DST assessment criteria. Each IV&V assessment category is assigned a color (green, yellow, or red) to indicate risk and performance level. Table 2 below provides a legend for each color. All Monthly IV&V Assessment Reports may be accessed through the Project’s [Oversight webpage](#).

Table 2: IV&V Assessment Category Scoring Color Legend

Color	Descriptions
Green	The assessment category or area is on track without material issues.
Yellow	The assessment category or area faces a challenge or set of challenges that could, if left unmanaged, negatively impact the Project’s outcome in terms of schedule, cost, or quality in the future.
Red	The assessment category or area faces a challenge or set of challenges that threatens the Project’s outcome in terms of schedule, cost, or quality. The Project Team should take corrective action immediately.

Project Approach and Components

The Project evaluates the performance of the following Project areas on a monthly basis: cost; schedule; risks; issues; scope; quality; and staffing. Each Project performance area will be assigned a color (green, yellow, or red) to indicate performance level. Table 3 below provides a legend for each color.

Table 3: Florida PALM Project Area Scoring Color Legend

Color	Descriptions
Green	The performance area or area is on track without material issues.
Yellow	The performance area faces a challenge or set of challenges that could, if left unmanaged, negatively impact the Project’s outcome.
Red	The performance area faces a challenge or set of challenges that is threatening the Project’s outcome.

Oversight Analysis Quarterly Dashboard

Side-by-side comparisons of oversight assessment data will be posted to the Project's [Oversight webpage](#). The oversight assessment data will include the last month of the current quarter assessment for DST, IV&V, and project performance review.

June 2020 Update

Assessment Criteria	DST Assessment (Monthly*)	IV&V Assessment (Monthly*)	Project Performance (Monthly*)	Project Comment (As Needed)
General Project Management	G	G	G	
Project Scope Management	G	G	G	
Project Time Management	R	Y	G	<p>DST Assessment notes that for the June reporting period, the project schedules have two critical path items showing as late, as well as tasks with positive finish variance up to 14 days. The Florida PALM team was aware of these items and actively monitors for needed updates.</p> <p>IV&V Assessment notes that the project schedule is at risk due to delays in completion of functional designs, potential conflicts in demand for external resources because of fiscal year end and year begin activities, operational impacts of COVID-19, and because of potential misalignment of development and test schedules with one of the enterprise system partners.</p> <p>While there were several schedule related risks tracked during this reporting period, the Project Performance Measure is based upon the SPI and CPI's for the QTR. Those all indicate green coding.</p>
Project Cost Management	G	G	G	
Project Quality Management	N/A	G	G	
Project Stakeholder Management	N/A	G	N/A	
Project Communications Management	N/A	G	N/A	
Project Risk & Issue Management	G	G	G	
Project Procurement Management	N/A	G	N/A	
Project Vendor Management	N/A	G	N/A	
Project Human Resource Management	N/A	G	G	
Project Change Control	N/A	G	G	
Project System Capability Management	N/A	G	N/A	
Project System and Acceptance Testing	N/A	G	N/A	
Project Training Management	N/A	G	N/A	