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CALIFORNIA



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August 22, 2022

REF: EXE-269-22

Honorable Members of the City Council
City of Los Angeles
Room 395, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Subject: **RESPONSE TO COUNCIL AND COMMITTEE REFERRALS – REPORT ON SECURITY MEASURES AND PROTOCOLS IN PLACE TO DETECT NOVEL ATTACKS INREAL-TIME, AND ANY OTHER FORM OF ADVANCED CYBER-ATTACK THATCOULD PLACE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE IN JEOPARDY COUNCIL FILE: 22-0779**

Cybersecurity is the tools and controls the City of Los Angeles puts in place to ensure that our systems and data are used for helpful City services and not as a payday for cyber criminals. Every City department from Airports to Zoo has highly sensitive data about City employees, LA residents, businesses, and vendors we do business with. Following Mayor Eric Garcetti's Executive Directive No.2 to protect the City's digital assets, network infrastructure, and establish cybersecurity collaboration among the departments and law enforcement agencies, the Information Technology Agency (ITA) department has taken the lead to identify, implement and recommend technologies to other departments capable of detecting and mitigating advanced cyber attacks in real-time. Among some of the steps that ITA has taken to safeguard our digital assets and network infrastructure are as follows:

- Closely monitoring our critical assets by analyzing communications and patterns of data transmissions to and from these devices, making sure these critical assets are hardened through the use of technologies and best practices such as security benchmarks, Endpoint Detection and Response software, and centralized security event management system.
- Continuous vulnerability scanning of internal and external assets and provide risk score and mitigation recommendations to City departments.
- Providing cybersecurity awareness training to City employees and contractors.
- Providing a platform where City employees can report suspicious emails.
- Providing cybersecurity guidance whenever other departments need to implement new systems or update existing ones.
- Continually monitoring City network traffic and working in conjunction with other departments to detect and respond to cyberattacks.
- Protecting our websites through the use of Web Application Firewall (WAF) technologies.
- Creating a platform where external researchers and bug bounty hunters can safely report potential vulnerabilities to City assets.

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- Partnering with other government entities for cybersecurity collaboration, some of these include: Federal (CISA, USSS, FBI, DHS), State, and Local (LA Cyber Lab).
- Leveraging the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC) for 24/7 cyber security monitoring.

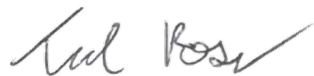
ITA is also leading the development of policies and implementing different cybersecurity frameworks to safeguard our critical infrastructure and data. This includes, a continuous improvement of existing policies, generating new policies, and adapting existing policies to new emerging cybersecurity frameworks, standards and best practices.

Following Executive Directive No. 2, ITA established cybersecurity collaboration among City departments through the Cyber Intrusion Command Center (CICC) and the Integrated Security Operations Center (ISOC), a centralized security analytic platform to provide cybersecurity situational awareness, monitoring and reporting cyber alerts, and mitigating cyber security breaches.

Fiscal Impact

This is an informational report and has no fiscal impact to the General Fund.

Respectfully submitted,



Ted Ross
General Manager

ec: Honorable Councilmember John S. Lee
Honorable Councilmember Nithya Raman
ITA Exec Team