

York Region Remote Testimony Project

2019 MCMA Conference

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Agenda

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Program Changes

2016 – 5 COR matters were transferred from Richmond Hill to Newmarket

2017 – All MVC Part One Summons were transferred from Richmond Hill to Newmarket

Result = increased travel time for York Regional Police Officers



Problem Statement

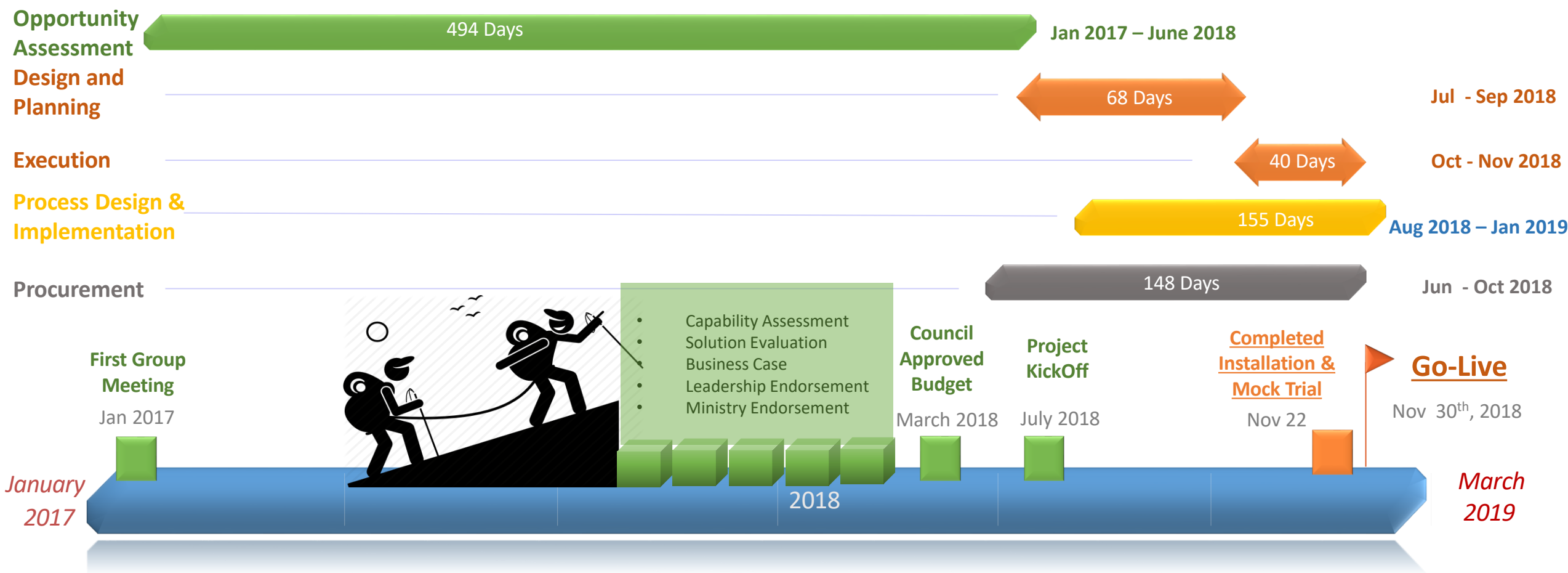
How can we minimize travel time for York Regional Police Officers while maximizing court capacity?

Remote Testimony

Electronic conferences

- 83.1 (1) In this section,
- “electronic method” means video conference, audio conference, telephone conference or other method determined by the regulations. 2009, c. 33, Sched. 4, s. 1 (48).
- Appearance by electronic method
- (2) Subject to this section, in any proceeding under this Act or any step in a proceeding under this Act, if the appropriate equipment is available at the courthouse where the proceeding occurs,
 - (a) a witness may give evidence by electronic method;
 - (b) a defendant may appear by electronic method;
 - (c) a prosecutor may appear and prosecute by electronic method; and
 - (d) an interpreter may interpret by electronic method. 2009, c. 33, Sched. 4, s. 1 (48).A

Our journey



Goals and Objectives

- Transform the POA court proceedings
- Allow greater flexibility in the scheduling of York Regional Police officers ensuring matters are brought before the justice system as expeditiously as possible
- Address inefficiencies and costs of providing police evidence in disputed traffic cases



Remote Testimony – Business Requirement

- **Internal IT explored potential options**
- **Solution had to meet the following criteria**
 - **Justice Grade Quality**
 - **Supported externally**
 - **Private and Secure**
 - **Integrate with the Liberty Recording**



The Solution

- https://youtu.be/7Q3_6SWSOyk

IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH

- Defined Roles and Responsibilities
 - Project Sponsor
 - Project Manager- IT
 - Steering Committee – Lead
 - Subject Matter Experts (SME)
 - Judiciary
 - Court Administration Staff
 - Prosecution
 - York Regional Police
 - Mock Trials



The Justice Video Network

- Unit within the Provincial Government
- Provide videoconferencing and audio visual services for the Justice Sector
- Provide end to end service delivery framework consultation/design/planning/implementation

Anticipated Costs

One Time

Courtroom- Includes purchase of AV and Codec Equipment and Labour

Video Suite- AV and Codec Equipment and Labour

Monthly Recurring Costs

Courtroom-equipment support and Maintenance

Courtroom- JVN Connectivity

Video Suite- JVN Connectivity

CHALLENGES

- No opportunity to “pilot” the solution without significant investment
- We are the first POA Court in the Province of Ontario to implement video conferencing technology for the purpose of officer testimony
- Contract and Procurement
- Policy and Process
- Anticipate legal challenges
- MAG- Role and Responsibility
- Temporary Courtroom – 2 weeks

Questions