

# IT Implications of Rahm Emanuel's Victory in Chicago

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Rahm Emanuel's victory in this Tuesday's election for mayor of **Chicago**, bodes well for IT vendors. His campaign agenda was filled with items in the Community Development, Economic Development/Regulation, General Government Services, and Justice/Public Safety verticals. His victory, along with **Mayor Gray's** (2010) in Washington, D.C., proves that IT remains a key area of investment for America's major cities despite the economic downturn. As with the election of **Gov. Quinn** (2010), the spotlight is on procurement reform and ethics for government as the state and city seek to reverse their historic (and somewhat overblown) reputations for corruption.

Below are a sample of the agenda items culled from mayor-elect Emanuel's campaign platform with the most direct IT implications.

## **Community Development**

*Help all building owners by expediting the development of an online one-stop-shop for building owners.*

*Make the zoning and business license process more transparent.*

*Create an online portal to track zoning decisions*

## **Economic Development/Regulation**

*Cut bureaucratic red tape and streamline business permitting, regulation and inspections.*

*Make it easier to work with the City establishing an on-line, one stop for businesses.*

## **General Government Services**

*Overhaul Chicago's broken procurement process.*

*Make Chicago's contracting process fair and efficient to save \$20 million*

*Open city budget data to public review.*

*Create an online database of lobbyist activity.*

*Rein in no-bid contracts and increase transparency.*

*Crack down on abuse of minority-and women-owned business status.*

*Enhance compliance with the Freedom of Information Act.*

*Make all TIF information available for taxpayer scrutiny and move TIFs "on budget."*

## **Justice/Public Safety**

*Integrate child intervention programs across departments.*

*Increase efforts to trace weapons that are used in crimes and push to publicly release that information.*

*To help cops on the beat, Rahm secured funding for CLEAR – a computerized information system that improves information sharing between criminal justice agencies at the local, state and federal level.*

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