

# Open Government Working Group Update

Sept 11, 2013  
Chip Rosenthal

## Activity

The Open Government Working Group has not met since the last Commission meeting.

## AustinGO Performance Audit

The City Auditor conducted a performance audit of the AustinGO initiative.

One of the findings was “lack of a defined strategy” impacting the Open Government initiative. City staff have concurred, and presented an action plan.

The audit is posted here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Auditor/au13006.pdf>

## Community Coordination

Assistant City Manager Anthony Snipes has reached out to the WG to setup a meeting to discuss status of the Open Government and Innovation Office initiatives. The meeting should occur before the next Commission meeting.

## Working Group Membership

Previously, the WG had nine members: three commissioners, three city staff people, and three people from the community. One of the community seats has been vacant.

We'd like to make two changes to the working group membership. One is to fill the open seat. The other is to reorganize the WG so that members include the commission and community seats. These WG members would then engage the appropriate city staff people as an issue arises.

With these changes, the members would be:

- Commissioners: Chip Rosenthal (chair), Lemuel Williams, Wendell Ramsey
- Community: Julio Gonzalez Altamirano, Conor Kenny, Ben Hockenhull

The WG was formed at the Dec. 14, 2011 meeting, with the following action:

*Motion to form [an] Open Government Working Group to make a recommendation to this Commission on how this Commission should proceed on Open Government framework was approved ... [Commissioner] Rosenthal will chair this group with [Commissioners] Ramsey and Williams [...] participating. (<http://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=162746>)*

Commission action is not required for the membership change, but might be considered to cover the ongoing scope of the effort. This should be posted for action at a future Commission meeting.