



City of Austin Information Technology Update

Emerging Technology & Telecommunications
Committee
September 18, 2013



Audit Report: Open Government & AustinGO

- Audit and Finance Committee report delivered on Aug. 28
- Staff reviewed and concurred with audit findings and recommendations
- Staff highlighted distinction between Open Government Initiative and AustinGO
- Staff has responded with the following strategies for implementation

Recommendation 1: Open Government

Implement an Open Government strategic framework/plan that includes milestones and clear roles and responsibilities to effectively meet requirements of City Council resolution 20111208-074.

- Executive team to release a draft of the City of Austin Open Government Directive that outlines the implementation plan for an open governing framework (Completed 8/26/2013)
- Implement governing body to oversee open government*
 - Add budget for support of open government initiatives
 - Create additional guidelines and policies, as needed, to support and promote open government strategies

* To begin Fall 2013 with the hiring of Chief Innovation Officer

Recommendation 2: AustinGO

The City Manager's Office should ensure that a complete web governance structure is developed, documented, implemented, and monitored to address current gaps.

- The web team will develop a comprehensive list of best practices for City of Austin websites related to branding, content standards, regulatory compliance, domain management, performance, data retention, accessibility and 3rd party contracts. (Draft due 9/30/13)
- The City Manager will promote an Administrative Bulletin to set in place standing controls for websites implemented for City business. Non-compliant websites will be either brought into compliance or replaced by an AustinGO site supported by the web team. (Planned for 12/16/2013 completion.)

Resolution Updates

- Open Data
 - Hire of Data Architect (proposed FY14) to oversee Business Intelligence and Data Management—expected benefit to Open Data
 - CTM meeting with regional government agencies to explore data sharing opportunities
 - CTM and Open Austin to present ideas on open data and hackathons at upcoming GovTech CIO Academy panel
 - Working on releasing additional GIS data with new Socrata capabilities
 - Department directors participated in hacking event
 - Department directors providing list of top 5 datasets to CTM

Resolution Updates

- Open Source Platforms
 - Developing hosting environments to support community developed Open Source applications (Rackspace, Heroku, etc.)
 - Continue Drupal development and develop strategy to contribute to Drupal community
 - Identify strategy to get City staff up to speed in Open Source platforms
 - Address procurement, legal and security processes

Resolution Updates

- **Mobile Applications**
 - 3-1-1 mobile application plans on schedule for end of calendar year
 - Reviewing application development platforms to develop City strategy for mobile application development
 - Assembled multi-department advisory group to recommend a viable solution
- **Social Media**
 - Continued integration of social media in Austintexas.gov

Resolution Updates

- Open government framework
 - Participate in open government oversight/governance
 - Participate in development of supporting guidelines and processes related to implementation of initiatives
 - Participate in identification of funding for Open Government
- Participate in national dialogue on standards for Open Data
 - Member of Code for America Peer Network
 - CTM and CPIO staff attending CFA Summit in Oct.
 - AustinTexas.gov recognized by Center for Digital Government Best of Web in 2 categories
 - Best City Web Portal
 - Driving Digital Government – IMPACT

Resolution Updates

- Report bi-monthly to Council Emerging Technology and Telecommunications Committee
 - CTTC Budget Recommendations
 - Issue Management/Tracking System
 - CPIO investigating Podio as a possible solution
 - Open Data Dashboard
 - CTM reviewing Microstrategy capability
 - CTM reviewing Socrata modules
 - Open Data Administrator
 - FY14 includes budget for Data Architect to lead Business Intelligence (BI) & Master Data Management (MDM)
 - FY15 propose addition of Data Analyst for data curation
 - Civic Hosting Platform
 - Currently reviewing Rackspace and Heroku platforms
 - Addressing procurement, legal and security concerns