
For Immediate release:

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City seeks public input about Chief Innovation Officer candidates

Meet-and-greet set with finalists set for Nov. 18

The City of Austin has selected three finalists for the position of Chief Innovation Officer and will host a meet-and-greet session Nov. 18 for the public to meet the candidates.

The community meeting will be from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at the Ruiz Branch Library, 1600 Grove Road.

The newly created position of Chief Innovation Officer will work across City departments but also will be expected to forge relationships between the City and universities, community and business members, and those in the technology field.

The person, who will report to the City Manager, will act as a "gateway" for pro-actively engaging diverse constituencies in creating unique and creative solutions to civic challenges.

At Monday's meeting, participants will have the opportunity to hear from and interact with the individuals selected as finalists and will be provided information to offer feedback regarding the candidates. The City Manager will take into account public input before making his decision.

The finalists will be interviewed by City leaders earlier Nov. 18 and will meet with City Council that afternoon.

Finalists include:

- Jon Kolko, Vice President of Production Innovation and Design at MyEdu and Founder and Director of the Austin Center for Design.
- Doug Matthews, Chief Communications Director, Office of the City Manager at the City of Austin.
- Kerry O'Connor, Innovation Catalyst, Research and Design Center, Executive Secretariat, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of State.