

**LOW INCOME CONSUMER ADVISORY TASK FORCE
SUMMARY OF TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS**

Prepared for Public Meeting

June 1, 2015

6:00-8:00 PM

South Austin Recreation Center

1100 Cumberland Rd.

Austin, TX 78704

The Low Income Consumer Advisory Task Force is charged with exploring program options for low and low moderate income customers to reduce their energy usage and utility costs. The task force began meeting in November of last year. Since that time the task force has been gathering information and is currently working to finish recommendations that, if adopted, would affect the fiscal year 2016 Austin Energy budget. We have one more meeting on June 5th to finish these recommendations. The task force will likely continue until October working on more recommendations.

At this public meeting the Task Force members encourage you to explain what programs and services you would like from Austin Energy. We also welcome your comments on the recommendations we have finished in time for the upcoming budget cycle.

The Task Force recommendations to date affecting the budget currently include:

- Making sure that all funds budgeted for weatherization are spent on weatherization even if the funds have to be carried over to the next budget year.
- Make it less expensive for affordable housing developers to provide solar energy to multifamily residents by providing customers with billing credits for power produced on the property instead of installing an extra meter to measure the production of each unit.
- Create a residential energy efficiency program to provide low interest loans for low to moderate incomes families to purchase energy efficient window heating and/or cooling units at a discounted price and have them professionally installed.
- Create a residential energy efficiency program to enable moderate income homeowners to weatherize their homes and to purchase energy efficient cooling and/or heating appliances. The program would provide unsecured loans to some families that would not qualify for a loan under Austin Energy's existing program. The loan amounts would be reduced by rebates that are increased over the current level for the home performance with a loan program and reduced appliance prices.

We thank you for your interest and applaud you for coming to share your story with us.