Work Plan Adopted 3/11/2015

Accomplishments adopted 2/10/2016

Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission
2015 Work Plan - Accomplishments

The Board/Commission mission statement per the City Code Section 2-1-107 is:

§ 2-1-107 AUSTIN COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION.

The Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission membership should be broadly representative of community interests. A commissioner should have resided continuously within the City for not less than 180 days.

In this section:

- Information and communications technology includes digital devices, networks, and software that allow people to create access, store, transmit, and manipulate information.

- Community technology includes information, communications technology training, and access that promote civic and cultural participation, employment, and life-long learning.

- Telecommunications services include all transmission of voice, data, or video by means of permanent facilities installed in the City's rights-of-way or by means of radio transmission.

(A) The commission shall advise the city council regarding issues that include:

(1) community technology;
(2) telecommunications services;
(3) new sources of funding for access television projects;
(4) new sources of funding for community technology projects;
(5) allocation of annual financial support;
(6) the evaluation of the performance of access television contractors and other community

technology contractors, including development of criteria to be used for evaluations;

(7) Information and communications technology facilities and services that are operated by the City for public use, including the City web site, Internet services and open government technologies

(B) The commission shall conduct public hearings regarding issues that include:

(1) the performance of access television contractors and other community technology contractors;

(2) the identification of community cable, telecommunications, and technology needs

(C) The commission shall promote access to telecommunications services and community technologies by methods including:

(1) public awareness, use, and viewership of access television programming and other community media;

(2) identifying community technology needs and problems in the City and defining innovative programming approaches to those needs and problems;

(3) public awareness of telecommunications policy and community technology issues.

(D) The commission shall serve as a coordinating forum for issues relating to the provision of every different type of telecommunications services and community technologies, by receiving reports and recommendations from other City boards and commissions and from City departments, and forwarding these to the city council.

(E) The commission does not possess any sovereign authority regarding any cable television or cable related telecommunications issue, and the commission serves in an advisory capacity only.

(F) The Commission may create a Grant Review Committee consisting of up to seven members to review grant applications, conduct interviews, and evaluate applications for the purpose of providing recommendations to the Commission for grant awards under the City's Grant for Technology Opportunities program. The Commission may appoint persons to the Grant Review Committee who are not members of the Commission, but must appoint one member of the Commission to the Grant Review Committee who shall serve as ex-officio chair of the Grant Review Committee. All members of the Grant Review Committee are subject to Article 4 of Chapter 2-7 of the Code (*Code of Ethics*).

Issue areas: A, B

(A) The commission shall advise the city council regarding issues that include:
(B) The commission shall conduct public hearings regarding issues that include:

Objectives served:

(1) community technology;
(2) telecommunications services;
(3) new sources of funding for access television projects;
(4) new sources of funding for community technology projects;
(5) allocation of annual financial support;
(6) the evaluation of the performance of access television contractors and other community technology contractors, including development of criteria to be used for evaluations;
(7) Information and communications technology facilities and services that are operated by the City for public use, including the City web site, Internet services and open government technologies

(1) the performance of access television contractors and other community technology contractors;
(2) the identification of community cable, telecommunications, and technology needs

Goal areas:	Strategy statements:
Commission Effectiveness	Collaborate with staff to develop a Council District focused Communications Plan to provide updates to Council appointees of Commission priorities.

Coordinate with other relevant City Commissions to organize a "show & tell" of Commission priorities, achievements and opportunities.

Revise enabling charter language to better reflect pertinent issues such as open government.

<u>**Accomplishments**</u>

- Received 2015 SXSW update from Hugh Forrest.
- Received update on Distracted Driving Ordinance from Art Fortune, APD, Robert Spillar, City Transportation Dept.
- Austin Broadband Provider Q&A (AT&T, Google Fiber, Grande Communications and Time Warner Cable
- Received staff briefing on Legislative & Regulatory Overview and Public, Educational and Government (PEG) Access Update
- Presentation from Austin Chamber of Commerce on Clean Energy |

	- Received CTM Open Government update
- Received presentation on City of Austin Transport Network 2.0 from CTM
- TARA Officer's Report – Executive update, channelAustin Report, Austin Free-Net Report
- Received update on City of Austin Distracted Driving Ordinance
- Received Briefing on CTM Budget from Stephen Elkins, City Chief Information Officer
- Received staff briefing on City's IT capabilities and governance process from Rob Byrd, Chief Enterprise IT Architect, Communications & Technology Management
- Adopted Commission's 2016 meeting schedule
- Welcome of new 10-1 Council appointees
- Intro/Overview of Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs
- Received Overview of Community Technology & Telecommunications Mission and Scope
- Election of officers for term July 1, 2015 to April 30, 2015
- Discussed revisions to Commission Bylaws for 10-1
- Reviewed Commission's 2015 Work Plan
- Approved updated Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission Bylaws

Issue areas: C, D, E

(C) The commission shall promote access to telecommunications services and community technologies by methods including:

(D) The commission shall serve as a coordinating forum for issues relating to the provision of every different type of telecommunications services and community technologies, by receiving reports and recommendations from other City boards and commissions and from City departments, and forwarding these to the city council.

(E) The commission does not possess any sovereign authority regarding any cable television or cable related telecommunications issue, and the commission serves in an advisory capacity only.

Objectives served:

(1) public awareness, use, and viewership of access television programming and other community media;

(2) identifying community technology needs and problems in the City and defining innovative programming approaches to those needs and problems;

(3) public awareness of telecommunications policy and community technology issues.

Goal areas:	Strategy statements:
Community Media & PEG	Solicit increased community input in establishing the public access TV management contract. Leverage the resources among all the PEG channels provide relevant training to students, parents and small businesses. Receive updates from the Digital Inclusion Working Group to support community media and PEG focused strategies and then monitor implementation through the Digital Inclusion Advisory Group. **<u>Accomplishments</u>** • Received channelAustin update from Linda Litowsky, Executive Director • Received presentation on Capital City Black Fil Festival from Winston Williams Executive Director • Received staff update on Public Access/Community Media Management Request for Proposal

Issue areas: None

Objectives served: None

Goal areas:	Strategy statements:
Open Government	Define short-term measurables for city and community civic engagement. Engage the Commission's Open Government Working Group (and representative City departments) to solicit the input of stakeholders regarding the Open Government Resolution and collaborate with staff

	by making recommendations to the Austin City Council.
	Monitor the Open Austin organization for development of new applications or innovations that may promote civic engagement.
	Accomplishments • Received update on Open Austin from Chip Rosenthal • Received update on City of Austin Innovation Office from Kerry O'Connor, Chief Innovation Officer • Received update on Hack for Change from Commission Vice Chair McCullough

Issue areas: C, D
(C) The commission shall promote access to telecommunications services and community technologies by methods including:
(D) The commission shall serve as a coordinating forum for issues relating to the provision of every different type of telecommunications services and community technologies, by receiving reports and recommendations from other City boards and commissions and from City departments, and forwarding these to the city council.

Objectives served:
(1) public awareness, use, and viewership of access television programming and other community media; (2) identifying community technology needs and problems in the City and defining innovative programming approaches to those needs and problems; (3) public awareness of telecommunications policy and community technology issues.

Goal areas:	Strategy statements:
Digital Divide / Inclusiveness	Leverage the partnership with Austin Free-net to address digital divide awareness with the city's gig speed providers. Receive updates from the Digital Inclusion Working Group to support program implementation strategies and then monitor implementation through the Digital Inclusion Advisory Group. Collaborate with staff by making recommendations to the Digital Inclusion Advisory Group regarding program implementation.

| | Review and improve communication strategies in all demographic and Council districts to increase and measure technology dashboard goals.

Recommend a communications campaign to raise awareness of how technology can help the community.

Define goals and objectives for the Community Connections Program.

Accomplishments

- Commission gathered input on the process to replace Community Connection Sites
- Received update on the Austin Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan
- Presentation from Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA) on Unlocking the Connection
- Received update on Austin Free-Net from Juanita Budd, Executive Director
- Received Briefing on Digital Inclusion Initiative Policy |
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Goal areas:	Strategy statements:
Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs)	Leverage Digital Inclusion Working Group to act as GTOPs 2016 Review working group to ensure alignment with the Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan.

Create better solutions for the maintenance of hardware/software for GTOPS recipients who lack tech support staff. |

| | Recommend a $50,000 budget increase to support technology relevancy needs for community organizations in the 2016 budget development process.

Present an update to Mayor & Council on the importance of GTOPs.

Accomplishments

- Adopted 2015 Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) recommendations from GTOPs Grant Review Committee
- Presentation from River City Youth Foundation
- Recognition of GTOPs Review Committee members
- Appointed 2015 GTOPs Review Working Group
- Made appointments to the 2016 GTOPs Review Working Group
- Received update from 2016 GTOPs Working Group
- Adopted GTOP's Timeline recommended by 2016 GTOPs Working Group
- Update from 2016 Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) Working Group
- Adopted GTOPs Application Scoring Criteria (2015-09-19), Grantee Application, and Grant Reviewers' Applications
- Appointment of 2016 Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs) Grant Review Committee.
- Adopted the amended GTOPs application to scoring criteria adjusted after initial approval to accommodate the online system used to manage the grant review process and reconcile a sentence structure clarification recommended by the 2016 GTOP's Working Group. |