

# AGENDA



## Recommendation for Council Action

### AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: August 9, 2018

Item Number: **053**

### Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2017-2018 Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs Department Operating Budget Special Revenue Fund (Ordinance No. 20170912-001) to accept and appropriate an additional \$20,000 in grant funds from US Ignite for the Smart Gigabit Communities Program to fund development of applications that use high speed broadband networks to benefit the community.

<b>Lead Department</b>	Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs.
<b>Fiscal Note</b>	A City funding match is not required. A fiscal note is attached.
<b>Prior Council Action</b>	On March 23, 2017, Council approved Ordinance No. 20170323-48 amending the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs Department Operating Budget Special Revenue to accept and appropriate \$145,000 in grant funds from US Ignite for the Smart Gigabit Communities Program to develop applications that use high speed broadband networks to benefit the community.
<b>For More Information</b>	Rondella Hawkins (512) 974-2422.

### Additional Backup Information:

The City of Austin was selected to participate in the US Ignite Smart Gigabit Communities (SGC) project to connect participating cities through a high-speed advanced network infrastructure. In 2015, the

National Science Foundation awarded US Ignite, a national non-profit, a \$6 million grant to be used over a three year period to encourage and foster the development of transformative new applications that can be supported by gigabit broadband speeds. The goal is to create the country's first network of smart gigabit communities that share new applications with each other to deliver important advances in the six national priority areas of clean energy, education and workforce technologies, health information technologies, public safety, transportation, and advanced manufacturing. Funding is covering expenses to create two smart gigabit applications per year, for a total of four applications that will be shared among all participants. If this budget amendment is approved, the City will use the additional \$20,000 in grant funds for the two smart gigabit applications selected in year 2, to supplement the original award of \$145,000 that Council accepted and appropriated on March 28, 2017 (Ordinance No. 20170323-048).

The additional \$20,000 will be used as follows: two \$10,000 awards for gigabit application development and sharing.

The General Fund will not be required to contribute additional funds beyond those currently budgeted to this grant. When the grant funds expire, the Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs Department's need for continuing funding will be evaluated and may be denied.