Annual Internal Review

This report covers the time period of 7/1/2022 to 6/30/2023

Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission (CTTC)

The Board/Commission mission statement (per the City Code) is:

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

(A) The 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.

(B) In this section:

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

(2) Community technology includes information, communications technology training, and access that promotes civic and cultural participation, employment, and life-long learning.

(3) 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.

(C) 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; and

(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.

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

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

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

(E) 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, and

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

(F) 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.

(G) 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.

(H) 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).

Source: Ord. 20071129-011: Ord. 20080618-030: Ord. 20111208-073: Ord. No. 20141211-204, Pt. 11,7-1-15.

1. **Describe the board's actions supporting their mission during the previous calendar year. Address all elements of the board's mission statement as provided in the relevant sections of the City Code.**

Reflecting adoption by our 2022-2023 Commissioners and the topical focus of prior standing Commissions, the following first describes the agreed-upon challenges facing the Commission in service of our mission as "CTTC Challenge Statements", before separately listing "CTTC Annual Review Actions" or the key presentations and actions taken to address them during the previous calendar year. Although representative of the Commission as a whole, the presentations before the Commission described above and the representative Commission actions are grouped by the Working Group for the purposes of this Annual Internal Review.

Previous Year Challenge Statements, Working Group-Related Presentations, and Actions

Items in italics represent agenda items or representative Commission actions.

1. How might the Commission best support the City of Austin, Travis County, and the area designated by the Texas Broadband Development as the Capital Area in pursuit of the generational funding opportunities represented by IIJA, DEAP, BEAD, and other funding sources focused on Telecommunication Infrastructure development and Digital Inclusion?

2. How might the Commission best support the assessment of the current Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan and 'future-proofing" of the Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan refresh to ensure the persistent closing of the "Digital Divide" in the Austin area?

3. How might the Commission encourage and monitor the development, adoption, and deployment of small cell and other advanced/upcoming technology including possibly extending such services to areas beyond the downtown area'?

4. How might the Commission work with the city and the carriers to ensure that the city and the carriers cooperate to enhance the latter's capabilities in alignment with city projects to upgrade its road infrastructure?

5. How might the Commission provide citizen oversight over and insight into smart city and open government efforts?

6. How might the Commission work with other Commissions and across all City departments to identify opportunities for collaboration?

7. How might this Commission use city technology to promote civic participation, transparency, open data, and partnering with carriers, including possibly providing city incentives to carriers to deliver equitable access to services by the public?

8. How might this Commission advise City Council on how to improve access to technology and telecommunications services in underserved areas of Austin, particularly during times of emergency?

9. How might this commission work with the city and Cap Metro to ensure that all transportation infrastructure projects are implemented in a way that enables or permits simultaneous upgrades to the communication infrastructure?

10. How might the Commission continue to encourage and monitor the development, adoption, and deployment of small cell and other advanced/upcoming technology including possibly extending such services to areas beyond the downtown area'?

11. How might the Commission work with the city and the carriers to ensure that the city and the carriers cooperate to enhance the latter's capabilities in alignment with city projects to upgrade its road infrastructure?

12. How might this Commission advise City Council on how to improve access to technology and telecommunications services in underserved areas of Austin, particularly during times of emergency?

13. How might this commission work with the city and Cap Metro to ensure that all transportation infrastructure projects are implemented in a way that enables or permits simultaneous upgrades to the communication infrastructure?

Related Agenda Items, Budget Recommendations, & Council Agenda Item Requests

June 2022

- United Way presentation on ConnectATX (Anabella Tarango, Francisco Gallegos)
- Commission Discussion on FCC Broadband Standards (Discussion and Action)
- Commission Discussion on the Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan (Discussion and Action)
- Commission Discussion on an Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution (Discussion and Action)

July 2022

- Shaping Austin: Racism and Urban Planning (Sam Tedford, Principal Planner, Housing and Planning Department)
- T-Mobile For Government (John Bratcher, Nancy Anderson, and Heath Cox, TMobile)
- Commission Discussion on FCC Broadband Standards (Discussion and Action)
- Commission Discussion on the Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan (Discussion and Action)
- Commission Discussion on an Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution (Discussion and Action)

September 2022

- Motion Media Arts Center (Austin School of Film + Austin Cinemaker Space) ~ Faiza Kracheni, Co-Executive Director & East Austin Native
- Grant for Technology Opportunities Program – GTOPs Connect Update (Jesse Rodriguez, Program Manager)
- FCC Broadband Standards (Discussion and Action)
- The Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan (Discussion and Action)
- Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution (Discussion and Action)
- Digital Inclusion Town Hall Listening Session Planning (Discussion and Action)

October 2022

- City of Austin Analysis of Blockchain and Cryptocurrency (Daniel Culotta, Interim Chief Innovation Officer)
- Digital Inclusion Week 2023 Art Competition Update (Jesse Rodriguez, Program Manager)
- Commission 2023 Schedule (Discussion and Action)
- FCC Broadband Standards (Discussion and Action)
- The Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan (Discussion and Action)
- Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution (Discussion and Action)
- Digital Inclusion Town Hall Listening Session Planning (Discussion and Action)
- Discussion on the process for Citizen participation in Council meetings (Discussion and Action)

December 2022

- Digital Inclusion Week 2023 Art Competition Update (Jesse Rodriguez, Program Manager)
- Presentation on Project Lighthouse (Jeremy Striffler, Director of Real Estate, Austin Independent School District)
- Grant for Technology Opportunities Program 2023 Update (Jesse Rodriguez, Program Manager)
- Digital Inclusion Town Hall Listening Session Report (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Digital Inclusion Town Hall Listening Session Planning (Discussion and Action)
- CTTC By-Law Review: Working Groups & Committees (Discussion and Action)
- FCC Broadband Standards (Discussion and Action)
- Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution (Discussion and Action)

January 2023

- Digital Inclusion Town Hall Listening Session Report (Commission Discussion and Action)
- FCC Broadband Standards (Discussion and Action)
- Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution (Discussion and Action)
- Council Committee Agenda Request in support of a publicly accessible online queue of public speakers for City Council agenda items (Discussion and Action)
- Community City Council Action Database (Discussion and Possible Action)
- Project Lighthouse Pilot & Innovation Support Resolution (Discussion and Possible Action)

February 2023

- Presentation on internet access research being done by Travis County and Austin (Chloe Mun, Reyda Taylor, Jesse Rodriguez)
- Regulatory update from Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs (Khotan Harmon, Senior Program Manager)
- Grant for Technology Opportunities Program 2023 Panel Selection (Commission Discussion and Action)
- FY 24 Commission Budget Priorities (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Community City Council Action Database (Discussion and Possible Action)
- Discussion of the Good Governance Resolution (Discussion and Possible Action)

March 2023

- Grant for Technology Opportunities Program – Brief update on applications submitted (Dan Martinez, Business Process Specialist – Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs)
- Discussion of the Good Governance Resolution (Discussion and Possible Action) 2. FY 24 Commission Budget Priorities (Commission Discussion and Action)
- National Telecommunications Information Administration (NTIA) - Digital Equity Act Of 2021 - Request For Comments

April 2023

- New Commission Member Welcome and Introductions (Amarige Azzam, Gabriel Nwajiku, & Brianna Smith)
- Briefing on Housing and Planning Department's Action Plan for FY23-24 (Chris Duran, Senior Research Analyst – Housing and Planning Department)
- Working Group Assignments (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Approval of selected applications for GTOPs Core 2023 (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Officer Elections (Commission Discussion and Action)

May 2023

- FY 2024 Work Plan (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Working Group Assignments (Commission Discussion and Action)

May 2023 - Special Called Meeting

- Officer Elections (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Working Group Assignments (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Recommendation to Council regarding N50 Project IDV Community Center Pilot Opportunity (Commission Discussion and Action)

June 2023

- Google Fiber community update (John-Michael Cortez – Government and Community Affairs Manager)
- Homeland Security and Emergency Management Briefing on Emergency Messaging Capabilities (Juan Ortiz – Homeland Security and Emergency Management)
- Quarterly Legislative Update (Khotan Harmon, Senior Program Manager, Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs of the Financial Services Department)
- Work Plan Discussion and Working Group Assignments (Commission Discussion and Action)
- Digital Inclusion Summit Planning Resource Opportunities (Commission Discussion and Action)

Boards & Commissions Council Committee Agenda Item Requests 2022

- **Council Committee Agenda Request** - Recommendation 20221012-006: Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan Update(583KB)

Boards & Commissions Council Committee Agenda Item Requests 2023

- **Recommendation** (272KB) - RECOMMENDATION NUMBER: 20230111-7 REGARDING: Project Lighthouse & Innovation Support
- **Recommendation** (152KB) - RECOMMENDATION NUMBER: 20230111-4 REGARDING: Intelligent Infrastructure Resolution
- **Council Committee Agenda Request** (442KB) - Council Committee Agenda Request in support of a publicly accessible online queue of public speakers for City Council agenda items.
- **Recommendation** - Recommendation 20230308-1: Creation of database that tracks progression of items through City Council approval process.(83KB)
- **Recommendation** - Recommendation 20230308-2a: Funding request for 2023 Affordable Connectivity Program awareness
- **Recommendation** - Recommendation 20230308-2b: Request for further funding for the 2024 Affordable Connectivity Program awareness campaign(110KB)
- **Recommendation** - Recommendation 20230308-2c: Recommendation for funding for three 2023 digital inclusion town hall listening sessions.(88KB)
- **Recommendation** - Recommendation 20230308-2d: Recommendation for funding for multiple 2024 digital inclusion town hall listening sessions.(93KB)

2. **Determine if the board's actions throughout the year comply with the mission statement.**

   The Commission's actions fully comply with the mission statement.

3. **List the board's goals and objectives for the new calendar year.**

Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission 2023 - 2024 Work Plan (Goals & Objectives)

This Work Plan sets out the areas of focus and corresponding Working Groups (WG) for the Commission. Each area of focus has a working group and identified topics to discuss, as agreed upon during prior Commission meetings and working group meetings. Once formally adopted by the Chair's submission to the City Clerk, the implementation and actions can be amended over the year after CTTC discussion and approved action.

Digital Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Strategic Policy Impact Working Group

Current Schedule - 1st Tuesday of the month (4PM)

Current Members
- **WG Chair:** Nehemiah Pitts III - Council Member, Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1
- Steven P. Apodaca - Council Member, Vanessa Fuentes, District 2
- Cristina J. Garza - Council Member Jose "Chito" Vela, District 4
- Gabriel Nwajiku - Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, District 6
- Brianna R. Smith - Council Member José Velásquez, District 3

Strategic Outcomes:
Economic Opportunity & Affordability
Safety
Mobility
Health & Environment
Culture & Lifelong Learning
Government That Works For All

Current Objectives

Objectives (Order does not reflect prioritization): (All Strategic Outcomes Reflected)

1. Investigate ways to enable the homeless population using a digital matching program i.e. job matching, programs etc.

    a. Historical: Small conversations about the role played by local nonprofits and DECA partner solutions without much follow-up. Digital Kiosks were discussed as something to pursue. Must leverage key learnings from existing use cases (e.g. convention center, cap metro, airport, City Hall, etc...). Hosted Diana Grey Chief Homelessness Strategy Officer at a WG meeting and she presented to this WG on the "Homelessness Response System" We also hosted a Town Hall at Terrazas Branch library in 10/2022 wherein the outreach process to get participants led us to the Austin Homelessness Advisory Committee (AHAC) meeting and connected us with Laura Williamson.

    On 7/11/2022 a "Community Showcase: Capacity Building Initiative" was hosted at City Hall featuring a cohort of 21 nonprofit service providers who were selected to receive technical assistance and grants up to $45k, all as part of the City's commitment to "expanding services, improving equity, and supporting minority-led organizations within the Homelessness Response System."

    b. Next Steps: Request an update related to the Homelessness Services Organizational Capacity Building Initiative, born from coordination between the Homelessness Strategy Division and Innovation Office, in collaboration with Blue Sky Partners. On 7/11/2022 a "Community Showcase: Capacity Building Initiative" was hosted at City Hall featuring a cohort of 21 nonprofit service providers who were selected to receive technical assistance and grants up to $45k, all as part of the City's commitment to "expanding services, improving equity, and supporting minority-led organizations within the Homelessness Response System.

    Request a WG briefing on the City of Austin Homeless Encampment Management (HEM) - The Homeless Encampment Management Team provides a coordinated, cross-departmental City response to encampments that prioritizes the health and safety of all Austinites and strives to preserve human dignity and respect. Resources and tools to support citywide homeless encampment efforts are centralized on a Sharepoint page, with public group acces.

        i. https://www.austintexas.gov/news/city-austin-announces-community-showcase-event-celebrating-organizational-capacity-building-initiative-homelessness-response-system#:~:text=The%20evening%20of%20July%2011,organizations%20supporting%20Austin's%20unhoused%20neighbors.

      ii.   https://www.austintexas.gov/article/homelessness-services-capacity-building-program

     iii.   https://cityofaustin.sharepoint.com/sites/HomelessEncampmentManagement/

2. Increase CTTC relationships/partnerships with local technology companies (AT&T, Google, etc.) with the goal of identifying opportunities to expand both access and upskilling/education including the development of broadband standards for minimum acceptable speeds in households, particularly for communities of color.

   a. Historical: We have open communication lines with a history of more frequent presentations from Carriers on changes impacting the community, such as the Affordability Connectivity Programs and community-oriented programs.

      Pursuant to CTTC Work Plan the CTTC has committed to hosting a Digital Inclusion Stakeholder Summit in coordination with DECA partners that would include local tech companies, both as a focused part of the content with the Digital Inclusion Ecosystem. In 2019 the Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission (CTTC) committed unanimously to organize a Digital Inclusion Stakeholder Summit during Digital Inclusion Week (DIW) 2020. Due to the impact of COVID-19 on public events over the next two years planning for this event shifted to DIW2023.

      The Digital Inclusion Stakeholder Summit will **educate stakeholders about the Digital Divide, and raise awareness about Digital Inclusion focused entities and DIW2023, all while convening representative stakeholders on October 2, 2023**, from critical parts of the Digital Inclusion Ecosystem for a day of intentional programming to help align goals, strategies and outcomes, as well as celebrate successes.

      After a meeting with Google Fiber Government Affairs contact, Jon-Michael Cortez, with Chair Pitts, Google Fiber provided a WG update and briefing at our July 2023 CTTC meeting sharing updates about their Commuity Connections Program Interest in sponsoring the Digital Inclusion Stakeholder Summit.

   b. Next: Follow up with Jon-Michael Cortez about potential Summit sponsorship. Formalize an engagement strategy with all local carriers, including discussion on broadband standards and upskilling/workforce development programs.

3. Remote participation at Boards and Commission meetings

    a. Historical: After several years of pushing this forward from the initial concept and pilot to the Governor's emergency declaration/services use during the pandemic, Remote participation at Boards and Commission meetings to allow for Hybrid meetings is now the standard.

       Cost and personnel need to be confirmed

    b. Next: Promote this success as an example of effective government aligned to all of the strategic objectives and advocate for improvement and expansion where appropriate. Confirm with the Clerks' office the broadcast slots available to other Commissions

4. Advocate for Zoom licenses administered by libraries for civic groups

    a. Historical: Budget Recommendation.

    b. Next: Confirmed removal from Work Plan by consensus

5. Continue to advocate for increased funding for library wireless hub and platform lending programs

    a. Historical: Budget Recommendation

    b. Next: Renew Budget Recommendation. Increase advocacy with local partners and collaborative funding sources with the Digital Inclusion Stakeholder Summit

6. **GTOPs**

    a. Continue to advocate for increased funding for GTOPS

        i. Historical: Standing Budget Recommendation and review process.

        ii. Next: Renew Budget Recommendation

    b. GTOPs Expansion - Community Needs assessment and/or resource mapping

        i. Historical: Discussion of aggregating digital inclusion data points (e.g. unmet needs, resiliency challenges, institutional obstacles, etc…) and digital inclusion resources (GTOPS recipients, access providers, nonprofits, integrators, etc..) to help us expand the funding capabilities and better award funds based on an active data-driven community need analysis

Next: engage Open Austin to create a resource and the open the data group.

Continue ILA Travis County - COA - CTTC - to conduct community circles and yield data-driven community needs analysis. Included a door-to-door survey analysis by Travis County. That data is being made ready

Dashboard created to help make decisions.

We have convened 3 advisory groups to help us convene the conversations that will take place. 19 Nonprofit entities are being remediated 2k each for full participation. Community participants are being remediated at $50.

The data yield will inform both the Travis County and COA strategic plans. UT is also partnering with COA to create the newest strategic plan.

7. Emergency Broadband Relief Carrier Evaluation (Central TX BDO)

   a. Historical: Commission requested engagement from TARA office and CTD. A variety of responses were provided. Recent legislation has likely increased the number of responses and the need to confirm who is participating. COA, CTTC, and Travis teams participated. Provide a community report on all providers who responded and those who didn't. Need to consider creating a provider map that highlights what carriers are available for what neighborhoods to enable competition and consumer advocacy.

   Ongoing TX BDO participation by CTTC, COA, and Travis County since 2021 culminating in our participation at the first in-person Capital Region meeting.

   b. Next: This effort is currently being managed by the TX BDO who has mapped out the unserved and underserved areas, which can be and has been challenged by households, businesses, and organizations. Encourage Commissioner participation and information shareouts from staff liaison, while avoiding a walking quorum. Encourage mapping challenges and consider outreach strategy to enable education about the challenge process. Ask the staff liaison to send out an invitation to participate in the upcoming Burnet TX BDO in-person meeting on 7/21/2023.

8. State Legislative Tech & Telecommunications Policy Evaluation

   a. Historical: Ongoing discussions about the impact of Federal, State, and County policy and actions on the City of Austin decision-making. Regular briefings from Rondella Hawkins, Officer, TARA, and CTD, staff.

   b. Next: Quarterly updated briefing.

   c. Next: Continue to evaluate a proposed Constitutional amendment and part of HB9, which will create the Broadband Development Fund. November 2023 is the estimated timeline.

9. ATD Smart Mobility & Project Connect (see IAS above)

   a. Historical: Open communication with ATD and IAS teams, which have evolved over time as the departments have changed.

   b. Next: Coordinate with new contacts met at the Juneteenth festival and others.

      i. Rob Borowski, MSCRP, ENV-SP

         Sustainability Officer, Capital Metro

         robert.borowski@capmetro.org

   c. Next: Action will be for staff to confirm contacts from the Austin Transit Partnership or Austin Transit Committee and follow up with additional contacts

10. Collaboration, Civic Engagement & Lived Experience Sharing w/Tech

    a. Special Called Meetings (Wide-Scale DI Ecosystem reflective)

       i. Historical: Special Conversation for Digital Equity - See meeting

       ii. Next: Discuss the potential for Q4 FY2023 special called meeting to advance recommendations and council committee agenda requests

       iii. Next: Discuss the potential for Q1 FY2024 special called meeting to advance recommendations and council committee agenda requests

11. D.E.C.A. Expansion - Making DECA more specific and goal-oriented, perhaps that targets 2028 as an opportunity to show what we've done in 100 years since the 1928 strategic plan which set the stage for the digital divide

    a. Next: Push for the Summit to potentially establish a new or updated mission. For it to be a DECA convening

    b. Funding Source Identification

12. Public-Private Partnerships (PPP)

    i. N50 Project Intel IDV Pilot - Community Centers (Geeks w/out Frontiers)

       1. Three locations have been identified and devices are on the way. Working through network dynamics and ordinance restrictions to facilitate the labs being brought online. Partner Austin Freenet has agreed to offer some support.

    ii. Next: Check the current status on a more public share out of locations and tech.

Knowledge, Information, and Data Stewardship Working Group

Current Schedule - 2nd Monday of the month (4PM)

Current Members
- **WG Chair:** Steven P. Apodaca - Council Member, Vanessa Fuentes, District 2
- Vacancy
- Cristina J. Garza - Council Member Jose "Chito" Vela, District 4
- Nehemiah Pitts III - Council Member, Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1
- Vacancy

Strategic Outcomes:
Economic Opportunity & Affordability
Safety
Mobility
Health & Environment
Culture & Lifelong Learning
Government That Works For All

Objectives (Order does not reflect prioritization):

1. To help COA communicate city programs, resources etc. to underserved areas and communities without access to the internet. To help citizens engage COA using technology. (**Government That Works For All, Health & Environment, Safety, Economic Opportunity & Affordability**)

   Future Activities:

   > **1. Provide further input to the Digital Resource List for TARA to consider**
   >
   > **2. Identify organizations to share resource list with that could easily leverage the information.**

2. Data Mapping & Analysis (**Economic Opportunity & Affordability, Government That Works For All**)

   a. Equitable Broadband Geographical Data Report & Analysis

   b. Collaboration between COA and UT to create SpeadUpAmerica bandwidth map

   c. GTOPs

   Future Activities:

   > **1. Continue to collaborate with Travis County Digital Equity Office on upcoming community outreach project**

3. Monitor COA website redesign project (**Government That Works For All, Health & Environment, Safety, Economic Opportunity & Affordability, Mobility, Culture & Lifelong Learning**)

   > **1. Continue to monitor CoA website for changes and invite website development staff to provide periodic updates**

4. Council vote database (**Government That Works For All**)

   > **1. Invite City Manager's office to provide an update on council vote database & Council Agenda Scheduling (I believe this transitioned to the other working**

> group).
> 2. **Determine which committee this will live during our planning meeting.**

5. Residential Technology Study (**Government That Works For All, Health & Environment, Safety, Economic Opportunity & Affordability, Mobility, Culture & Lifelong Learning**)

   Future Activities:

   > 1. Discuss a formal process for the commission (or committee) to provide support to the Travis County Digital Equity Office
   > 2. Discuss ongoing interaction with Travis County at the work plan retreat
   > 3. Potentially narrow focus separate from the KIDS working group

6. UT-COA & CTTC ILA Research Collaboration (**Government That Works For All, Health & Environment, Safety, Economic Opportunity & Affordability, Mobility, Culture & Lifelong Learning**) -- follow up

   Future Activities:

   > 1. Invite "Civis" to present on the Data Analytics dashboard in February via Jesse.
   > 2. *Receive update from Alba Sereno (Chief Research & Strategic Initiatives Officer) on progress*

7. City-Wide Technology Pilot Audit & Assessment (**Government That Works For All, Health & Environment, Safety, Economic Opportunity & Affordability, Mobility**)

   a. Software Applications

   Future Activities:

   > 1. Continue to invite Technology office back to present at the working group and commission level on progress

    b. Atlas One APD App - follow up

        i. **_Next Action:_** _Follow-up with APD PIO (Jesse) and engage with bodycam research contacts (N. Pitts)_

Future Activities:

> 1. Follow-up with APD PIO and engage with bodycam research contacts
>
> 2. Continue dialogue and invitation (via C. Pitts) regarding DMAV updates and technology
>
> 3. Receive briefing on AtlasOne

    c. Community First 3-Printing Homelessness Solutions

        i. **_Next Actions:_**

            1. _Check on status and invite to present at a future commission meeting (D. Floyd)_

            2. _Connect with Dianna Grey (Homeless Strategy Officer) (Jesse)_

Progress as of 11/14/22: Completed. D. Floyd will continue to keep a pulse on opportunities. Revisit future meetings with Diana Grey as necessary.

Future Activities:

> 1. None at this time

    d. Autonomous Vehicles, Drones, & Smart City Tech

        i. **_Next Action:_** _Follow up with Jason John Michael (N. Pitts)_

Progress as of 11/14/22: Completed. D. Items are being discussed in the Infrastructure working group. Bring topic areas to full commission as necessary.

    e. _Emergency Response & HSEM_

      i. *The City's current emergency response plan in the event of a planned outage, unplanned outage, or "blackout."*

      ii. *The outreach strategy of HSEM, TARA, and other pertinent City departments to help increase signup, adoption, and usage of these apps (CAPCOG Ready Central Texas and Warn Central Texas) in these underrepresented communities to help ensure that these communities do not experience disparate impact by weather emergencies.*

Technology, Infrastructure, and Innovation Working Group

Current Schedule - 1st Monday of the month (6:30 PM)

Current Members
- **WG Chair**: Sumit DasGupta - Council Member Alison Alter, District 10
- Nehemiah Pitts III - Council Member, Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1
- Griffen Rice - Council Member Ryan Alter, District 5
- Brianna R. Smith - Council Member José Velásquez, District 3

- Vacancy

WG Specific Commission Challenge Statements:

Technology, Infrastructure, & Innovation Working Group

1. Google deployment

2. The rollout of upgrades by carriers to interconnect technology, particularly in areas where the city is upgrading its road infrastructure (connect with carriers at regular intervals)

3. Continued emphasis: COA network sharing, e.g., GATTN and evaluation of means by which the city could incentivize carriers to provide upgraded services throughout the city

    Next: (A). Circle back regarding PPP success and future funding.

    B. Identify the potential of leveraging dark fiber and shared conduit.

    C. Prioritize Special called WG meeting 7/24 @ 6:30 PM

4. Continued emphasis: 5G and small cell deployment beyond the downtown area including adoption of the Intelligent Infrastructure (Jeff DeCoux, Autonomy Institute). How can this topic enable items 5 & 6 below? Possibly combine all 3? How can topic this assist in solving item # 8 below?

> Next Steps: Jeff DeCoux invite to the WG 7/24 @ 6:30 PM

5. Continued emphasis: Smart Cities progress and review of 2023-2024 initiatives

> Next Step: Coordinate with Innovation office and Charles Purma

6. Continued emphasis: ATD smart mobility effort and means to align enhancements to communications infrastructure

7. Continued emphasis: Alignment with Project Connect (Austin Transit Partnership) plans

8.. Removal of barriers to access to broadband / wireless connectivity in marginally-served (low-income) areas of the city and thus empowering neighborhoods that have always been deprived before.

OVERALL COMMISSION:

1. How might the Commission best maintain support the City of Austin, Travis County, and the area designated by the Texas Broadband Development as the Capital Area in pursuit of the generational funding opportunities represented by IIJA, DEAP, BEAD, and other funding sources focused on Telecommunication Infrastructure development and Digital Inclusion?

2. How might the Commission best support the assessment of the current Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan and 'future-proofing" of the Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan refresh to ensure the persistent closing of the "Digital Divide" in the Austin area?

3. How might the Commission encourage and monitor the development, adoption, and deployment of 5G, small cell and other advanced/upcoming technology including possibly extending such services to areas beyond the downtown area?

4. How might the Commission work with the city, Austin Transit Partnership that is driving Project Connect, other regional authorities, and the carriers to ensure that the latter's

capabilities are enhanced in alignment with projects in Austin and surroundings to upgrade its transportation ecosystem?

5. How might the Commission provide citizen oversight over and insight into Smart City, Open Government efforts?

6. How might the Commission work with other Commissions and across all City departments to identify opportunities for collaboration?

7. How might this Commission advise City Council on how to improve access to technology and telecommunications services in underserved areas of Austin, particularly during times of emergency?

8. How might the Commission work with other Commissions and across all City departments to identify opportunities for collaboration?

9. How might we use community technology to promote civic participation, transparency, open data, and partnering with carriers, including possibly providing city incentives to carriers to deliver equitable access to services by citizens?

10. How might this Commission work with the City of Austin, community resources, (e.g. UT of, Austin), and the carriers to facilitate residents in marginally served (low-income) neighborhoods to acquire the necessary equipment and are provided the necessary services (broadband / wireless) at affordable prices to ensure that adults (and children) in these neighborhoods have equitable access to online resources (e.g. employment, educational, social services, etc…) as any other resident?

11. How might the Commission help corporate entities identify and address community technology needs with innovative programming approaches that both serve the community and address capacity or skills gap workforce challenges facing those entities?

12. How might the Commission better support or advise Austin Public Health (APH) on integrated data-enabled strategies and insights to become use a "Smart City" approach to tackling future health crises, like the COVID-19 pandemic?

13. Beyond Smart Meter technology, how can the Commission better understand what Austin Energy is doing to become more "intelligent" in delivering reliable services in the wake of documented power breakdowns and potential future breakdowns? How can the Commission support increased usage of solar panels and other renewable energy strategies?

14. Beyond Smart Meters, how can the Commission better understand what Austin Water is doing to become more "intelligent" in delivering clean potable water during a population boom and declining water levels in Lake Travis?