



COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION

TECHNOLOGY COMMISSION

RECOMMENDATION NUMBER: 20250305-010:

REGARDING: Recommendation for Continued Funding for AI Upskilling for City of Austin Employees in the FY26 Budget

WHEREAS, artificial intelligence (AI) is rapidly transforming industries, including government operations, and enhancing efficiencies in data analysis, decision-making, and service delivery; and

WHEREAS, the City of Austin has already made initial investments in AI training and upskilling programs to ensure that its workforce is equipped with the necessary knowledge and tools to leverage AI-based technologies effectively; and

WHEREAS, the [previous requested budget amendment during FY2025 of \\$75,000](#) for AI training, technical assistance, and continuing education has provided City employees with critical skills in data science, design, and AI applications; and

WHEREAS, demand for AI-related education and resources continues to grow among City employees, highlighting the need for sustained investment in training programs; and

WHEREAS, the expansion of initiatives such as the DIVE (Data Impact Visualization and Exploration) program would further support the City's commitment to fostering technological innovation and digital proficiency among its workforce; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Technology Commission recommends that the Austin City Council allocate continued funding in the amount of \$75,000 in the FY26 Budget to sustain and expand AI upskilling initiatives for City of Austin employees, as well as in the area of digital literacy and practice, ensuring they remain proficient in emerging technologies that enhance public service delivery.

Date of Approval: March 5th, 2025

Record of the vote: Motion to approve made by Commissioner Anga and seconded by Commissioner Heritage. The recommendation was approved on a vote of 6-0.

Attest:  _____

Dan Martinez

Community Technology Division

Economic Development Department / City of Austin