

**2018-2019 BUDGET QUESTION**  
***Response to Request for Information***

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**DEPARTMENT:** Communications and Public Information

**REQUEST NO.:** 172

**REQUESTED BY:** Tovo

**DATE REQUESTED:** 9/4/18

**DATE POSTED:** 9/6/18

**REQUEST:** Please provide information regarding the proposed Community Engagement Online Platform (page 123 of the proposed budget) and how this differs from the City's current online community engagement forum, SpeakUp.

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**RESPONSE:** This is a reconciliation of actual costs for hosting a modern community engagement platform. As co-creator of the previous platform, the City of Austin was paying a deeply discounted rate for the service hosted by Granicus. Unfortunately Granicus ceased to provide continued development, iteration, or support for the platform which has led us to move on and explore alternatives over the past year. This reflects an adjustment to the budget consistent with the market costs of hosting SpeakUp on a more stable, versatile and effective engagement platform.