

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

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**DEPARTMENT:** Economic Development

**REQUEST NO.:** 178

**REQUESTED BY:** Tovo

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

**DATE POSTED:** 9/7/18

**REQUEST:** How much is included in the proposed budget for worker cooperatives?

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**RESPONSE:**

The FY 2018-19 Budget does not include funding specific to worker cooperatives.

The Economic Prosperity Commission recommended the City of Austin include in its FY 2018-19 budget \$75,000 for a Request for Proposal (RFP) in order to contract with a qualified individual or entity to fulfill the following scope of work:

1. \$50,000 to create a pilot program to provide training, technical assistance, referrals and outreach to local cooperatives and groups interested in forming a cooperative;
2. \$5,000 for advertising costs to promote succession to a worker cooperative by existing small businesses; and
3. \$20,000 for providing technical assistance to owners and workers with the transition.

The Economic Development Department currently does not have the staff expertise to oversee this scope of work.