

**RESOLUTION NO. 20150129-**

**WHEREAS**, the City Council is committed to deliberate, meaningful, transparent, and open government; and

**WHEREAS**, successful cities recognize that deliberate, meaningful public engagement is the key to understanding and solving problems; and

**WHEREAS**, Austin's new form of governance would benefit from an examination of public engagement tools and techniques to better support the 10-1 council district system; and

**WHEREAS**, enhancing community engagement will also serve to support the successful transition to the new Council committee system; and

**WHEREAS**, building on best practices would enhance and support the City's current extensive efforts to engage the community; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council finds having an outside independent facilitator with knowledge, experience and expertise in public engagement issues would substantially enhance the efficiency of the work of the Task Force; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

1. A Task Force on Community Engagement is created and will be composed of thirteen members drawn from the Austin community. Each council member will have one appointment, with the Mayor appointing the balance of the Task Force members. Appointments will reflect the diversity of the Austin community and include members with expertise in the field of public engagement.

2. A quorum for the conduct of business is a majority of Task Force Members. The Task Force shall elect a chair and vice-chair at its first meeting.
3. The Task Force shall be subject to the Texas Open Meetings Act.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the City Council directs the City Manager to retain an outside independent public engagement professional who will facilitate the work of the task force and will collaborate with key City departments.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Council directs the Task Force to report back to the Council in six months with a description of existing City community engagement tools, innovative techniques and technologies used across the country; identification of best practices; and recommendations for enhancing existing resources, including fiscal implications.

**ADOPTED:** \_\_\_\_\_, 2015

**ATTEST:** \_\_\_\_\_

Jannette S. Goodall  
City Clerk