ETHICS REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION NO. 20150428-03A

Date: April 28, 2015

Subject: Electronic Filing of Campaign Finance Reports

Motioned By: Vice Chair Einhorn

Seconded By: Commission Member Kiolbassa

Recommendation
The Commission recommends that the City Council adopt electronic filing requirements for campaign finance reports, encourage creation of an online searchable database of campaign finance reports, and provide adequate funding to institute the online filing and database.

Rationale
The Ethics Review Commission continues to be supportive of the City of Austin transitioning to an electronic filing system as an important innovation for transparency and efficiency.

Description of Recommendation to Council
The Commission is willing to participate as a member of a stakeholder subcommittee exploring the options for an electronic filing system.

That stakeholder committee should include: the Communications and Technology Management Department, the City Clerk's Office, the Law Department, the Ethics Review Commission, community members with campaign finance experience, city ethics and campaign finance watchdogs, and other stakeholders as deemed necessary.

The Commission further recommends that this important initiative have an identified funding source.

Vote: Approved 6-0

For: Chair Kaplan, Vice Chair Einhorn, Commission Member Hardman-Dingle, Commission Member Kiolbassa, Commission Member McCormick, and Commission Member Sassin.

Against:

Abstain:

Absent: Commission Member Speight

Attest:

Cynthia Tom, Ethics Review Commission Liaison