

RESOLUTION NO. 20160225-017

WHEREAS, the City of Austin strives to be an open government pioneer, promoting unprecedented levels of innovative transparency, accountability, and responsiveness; and

WHEREAS, the City has a demonstrated track record of creating and seeking out opportunities to learn from others, share experiences, and build upon our colleagues' open government work, such as through the Council's Message Board, the City's Open Data Portal, the biennial Open Government Symposium, civic hack-a-thons, collaboration with the Council on Governmental Ethics Laws, and participation in the Open Government Partnership's most recent Global Summit; and

WHEREAS, the Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a 69-country partnership of governments founded in 2011 that aims to support government entities in their commitment to transparency, citizen empowerment, fighting corruption, and harnessing new technologies to strengthen governance; and

WHEREAS, OGP participants engage in peer learning and exchange with counterparts around the world, enabling the spread of new ideas and solutions to public policy challenges; and

WHEREAS, OGP requires civil society organizations to be included in the co-creation of the reform commitments, meaning that the process of joining OGP represents experimenting with new forms of open policy-making; and

WHEREAS, the OGP is launching a new "subnational" pilot program designed to more proactively involve municipal government in its international

effort to promote transparency, open policy making, government reform, and public trust in government; and

WHEREAS, pilot program participants receive dedicated assistance and advice from the OGP Support Unit and OGP Steering Committee to develop open government commitments and action plans, in collaboration with other pilot program participants; and

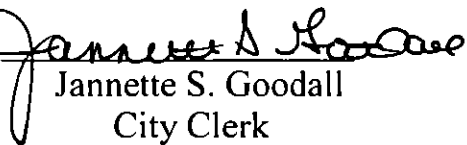
WHEREAS, the City's transparency efforts and "best-managed" mission will benefit from this international assistance and collaboration, while the City's contribution will help develop a global network for peer learning; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

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

1. The City Council confirms its support for the City's participation in the Open Government Partnership (OGP) subnational pilot program; and
2. The City Council confirms its support for the OGP's efforts and principles and the City's interest in receiving institutional support from the OGP.

ADOPTED: February 25, 2016

ATTEST:


Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk