

## **Recommendation for Council Action**

Austin City Council Item ID 56097 Agenda Number 47.

Meeting Date: 3/31/2016 Department: Transportation

### Subject

Approve a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit an application for the City to become a member of MetroLab, a network of city governments and university partners, to collaborate on infrastructure and service improvements among other public priorities.

# Amount and Source of Funding

N/A

### Fiscal Note

N/A

Purchasing Language:	N/A
Prior Council Action:	N/A
For More Information:	Robert Spillar, 512-974-2488, Jim Dale, 512-974-4070, Renee Orr 512-974-5607, Gilda Powers, 512-974-7092.
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:	
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

### Additional Backup Information

MetroLab is a network of city/university partnerships focused on bringing technology, analytics and innovation to cities. This is accomplished by creating a platform for addressing common challenges and sharing best practices that allow cities to deploy innovative solutions. This network was launched as part of the White House's Smart Cities Initiative.

Membership in MetroLab provides the City of Austin and the University of Texas with the opportunity to share and compare findings and challenges with other city-university partnerships. MetroLab is focused on deployment of research and innovation by providing a platform to identify solutions to common issues shared by multiple metroareas and to collaborate on a multi-city/multi-university scale. This network also provides a forum for sharing and implementing best practices across the network member areas.

This action directs the City Manager to apply to MetroLab. This membership commits the City of Austin to partnering with the University of Texas for the purpose of collaborating to improve infrastructure, services and other

priorities through research, innovation and analytically-based decision-making.

Joining the MetroLab partnership helps to further leverage the knowledge and experience-base gained from other City of Austin partnerships, such as the UT Center for Transportation Research, the Rocky Mountain Institute, Capital Metro, CAMPO, etc.

MetroLab founding members include:

City of Dallas Texas Research Alliance

City of Houston Rice University

City of Atlanta - Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia State University

City of Boston - Boston Area Research Initiative

City of Chicago - The University of Chicago

City of Portland - Portland State University

City of Seattle - University of Washington

City of San Jose - San Jose State University

City of Minneapolis, City of Saint Paul – University of Minnesota

City of Madison - University of Wisconsin-Madison

Cuyahoga County, OH - Case Western Reserve University

City of Detroit - Wayne State University

City of Memphis - University of Memphis

Montgomery County, MD - University of Maryland, Universities at Shady Grove

City of New York – New York University

City of Philadelphia - Drexel University, University of Pennsylvania

City of Pittsburgh - Carnegie Mellon University

City of Providence - Brown University, College Unbound, Rhode Island School of Design

City of San Diego - University of California San Diego

City of South Bend - University of Notre Dame

District of Columbia – Georgetown University, George Washington University, Howard University