



COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION

<http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc>

MINUTES

Regular Meeting

Wednesday – February 9, 2022 – 6:30 PM

City Hall – Boards and Commissions - Room 1101

301 W. 2nd Street - Austin, TX 78701

Please go to http://www.austintexas.gov/cityclerk/boards_commissions/meetings/10_1.htm for backup material associated with this agenda.

All ATXN (City Channel 6) programming is cablecast on Spectrum, Grande Communications, and Google Fiber on their cable channel 6, on AT&T U-Verse Channel 99 and webcast online. Over 20 meetings per month, including this commission meeting, are available on demand online, typically within a few hours of the cablecast. Schedules and video can be found at: <http://www.austintexas.gov/page/atxn-video-archive>.

CURRENT COMMISSION MEMBERS:

Sophie Gairo - Mayor Steve Adler

Nehemiah Pitts III - Council Member Natasha Harper-Madison, District 1

Steven Apodaca – Council Member Vanessa Fuentes, District 2

Malcolm Yeatts - Council Member Sabino “Pio” Renteria, District 3

Vacant - Council Member Gregorio Casar, District 4

Dave Floyd - Council Member Ann Kitchen, District 5

Iliya Svirsky - Council Member Mackenzie Kelly, District 6

Maxine Eiland - Council Member Leslie Pool, District 7

Jennifer Ramos - Council Member Paige Ellis, District 8

Nicole Thompson – Council Member Kathie Tovo, District 9

Sumit DasGupta - Council Member Alison Alter, District 10

Commission Members Present

Sophie Gairo

Nehemiah Pitts III

Steven Apodaca

Malcolm Yeatts

Dave Floyd

Nicole Thompson

Commission Members Attending Remotely

Maxine Eiland

Sumit DasGupta

Unexcused Absence

Iliya Svirsky
Jennifer Ramos

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION: GENERAL

The first ten speakers who register to speak no later than noon the day before the meeting will be allowed a three-minute allotment to address their concerns regarding items not posted on the agenda.

No members of the public were signed up to speak.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – January 12, 2022

Motion to amend the January 12 minutes and approve them as amended made by Chair Pitts, seconded by commissioner DasGupta, passed on a vote of 7-0-1.

2. STAFF AND COMMUNITY BRIEFINGS (A member of the public may not address a board at a meeting on an item posted as a briefing)

a. Presentation on Digital Access Research (Susan Millea and Dan Brown, Children's Optimal Health)

The resource presented can be viewed here: [ACS Demographics & Internet Access Data | Digital Access: An Opportunity to Improve Equity in Central Texas \(arcgis.com\)](#)

The presentation can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=377513>

b. Presentation on Public Producer Workforce Development Programming (Rakeda Ervin and Rebecca Campbell, Austin Film Society – Austin Public)

The presentation can be viewed here:

<https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=377963>

3. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

a. Selection of the 2022 GTOPs Core Review Panel (Commission Discussion and Action)

The Commission conducted ranked choice voting of all the applicants. The resulting highest scoring 7 applicants were then proposed to serve on the panel by staff, with the

understanding that runners up would be offered the opportunity to serve on the panel in rank order should any of the top 7 drop out.

Motion to appoint the panel as recommended made by Chair Pitts, seconded by Commissioner DasGupta, passed on a vote of 8-0.

b. Commission Discussion on FY 2023 Budget Priorities (Commission discussion and possible action)

At Chair Pitts' invitation, Jesse Rodriguez of the Financial Services Department mentioned a number of budgetary items that the Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs Office is considering, including:

- Austin Public Producer Workforce budget support - \$450,000
- Funding to support interns (general and technical) to support the Community Technology division - ~\$45,000
- Austin Free-Net budget increase to support developing digital inclusion programming
- Digital Inclusion Week Art Competition - \$2,000

The Commission re-iterated its support for the tabulation of Council votes by the Clerk's Office.

Chair Pitts mentioned proposing marketing funding to spread the word about GTOPs and funding support for the town halls that the commission would like to host.

Commissioner Floyd mentioned funding support for shared conduit or one that supported consultants to evaluate it.

Commissioner DasGupta mentioned supporting City wi-fi lending and device distribution efforts.

Commissioner Yeatts mentioned supporting Zoom licenses for public use.

4. COMMISSION UPDATES (Discussion and Possible Action)

a. Digital Inclusion, Civic Engagement, and Strategic Technology and Telecom Policy Working Group

Chair Pitts mentioned the presentations held at this meeting from Children's Optimal Health and Austin Film Society. He also met with staff the Library Commission. He also attended a meeting with the Digital Empowerment Community of Austin to generate insights from the non-profit community.

b. Knowledge, Information, and Data Stewardship Working Group

Commissioner Floyd noted that this group discussed Council vote tabulation. Also discussed was the Autonomy Institute and public infrastructure network nodes (PINNS)

and how the City might use these equitably in the community. Also of note was the APD app and data that it might capture.

c. Technology, Infrastructure, and Innovation Working Group

Commissioner Floyd noted that the group discussed the Texas Broadband Office and funding that will be funneled through this office. As of now, the funding is targeted to “unserved areas” rather than “underserved areas”. Cities and counties are working together to expand that definition.

The group also discussed the Autonomy and PINNS, as well as shared conduit. Also discussed were resiliency hubs and GAATN.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- Chris Stewart – CTM CIO
- Austin Public Library – Town Halls
- Budget
- Austin Free-Net – Budget Request
- MEASURE Austin – Report out on focus group research

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Chair Pitts and seconded by Commissioner Gairo passed on a vote of 8-0.

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 2 days before the meeting date. Please contact Jesse Rodriguez at the Office of Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs at (512) 974-7676, for additional information; TTY users’ route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Community Technology & Telecommunications Commission, please visit their website at <http://www.austintexas.gov/cttc> or contact Jesse Rodriguez at jesse.rodriguez@austintexas.gov.

Posting Submitted by: Jesse Rodriguez, Business Process Specialist, Wednesday, October 13, 2021