

Open Government Update

presentation to:

Austin City Council

Emerging Technology & Telecommunication Committee

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by:

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Innovation Office (1/2)

Civic innovation harnesses new technologies and methods to make government more efficient, effective and responsive – as well as increase citizen engagement.

– OpenAustin

- Aug 14: City Manager Ott commits to an innovation initiative, recognizing community support, as well as community role
- Sep 11: Council adopts FY2012-13 budget, reallocating \$250K for “seed funding” to create an Innovation Office and 2 new FTEs

Innovation Office (2/2)

Key Priorities

- Consensus on mission and objectives
- Identify organizational placement for the office
- Initiate hiring for program lead

“Code Across Austin” Hackathon

- Sept 8: “Code Across Austin 2” Hackathon, sponsored by Code for America
 - Event Wiki: <http://codeacrossaustin.wikispaces.com/>
 - CfA Newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/pmqlf>
- Approximately 30-50 people participated through the day
- Four projects presented:
 - Cycle Nearby: <https://github.com/AustinBlues/findit>
 - “Aunt Bertha” mobile: <http://www.auntbertha.com/>
 - TEC Filer: <https://github.com/chip-rosenthal/tecfiler>
 - Real Time Transit
- Issue: supporting civic hackathons beyond CfA fellowship

Community Activity

- Aug 23: Austin is one of 16 cities participating in *Code for America Brigade Captain* program
 - Announcement: <http://tinyurl.com/8cfofrx>
- Sep 18: *OpenAustin* sponsors first “OpenGov Meetup”
 - Support for developing organization, including a one year plan
 - Support for sponsoring further events, such as meetups and hackathons
- Ongoing: CT&T Open Government Working Group supporting staff development of *Open Government Directive*.
 - Based on model directive at <http://opengovernmentinitiative.org/>
 - First draft presented to WG