

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council

Item ID

55086

Agenda Number

17.

Meeting Date:

2/25/2016

Department:

Innovation Office

Subject

Approve a resolution supporting the City's participation in the Open Government Partnership subnational pilot program.

Amount and Source of Funding

No unanticipated financial impact

Fiscal Note

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

Kerry O'Connor, Chief Innovation Officer, 512-974-1637

Council Committee,
Boards and
Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

The Open Government Partnership (OGP) is a multi-national initiative that aims to secure commitments from governments to promote transparency, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance. Since its launch in 2011, it has worked with its 69 national government participants to develop over 100 action plans with over 2,500 specific reform commitments to open up government.

The OGP is launching a new pilot program designed involve state and local governments in the initiative. OGP is looking for state and local governments with committed political and working level reformers, and engaged and energetic partners, to take part in a pilot program designed to advance open government reforms. These governments will use the OGP to engage in peer learning and exchange with counterparts around the world, enabling the spread of new ideas and solutions to public policy challenges. OGP requires state and local governments to be included in the co-creation of the reform commitments, meaning governments are also experimenting with new forms of open policy-making.

The objectives of the pilot program are to:

- Foster more diverse political leadership and commitment from different levels of government to OGP and to hold governments accountable at a local level where many citizens are directly accessing services and information.

- Discover and promote new and innovative open government techniques and practices emerging at the local level around the world.
- Create practical opportunities for subnational governments to learn from each other, share experiences, and build upon the open government work of their counterparts.
- Support and empower state and local government reformers with technical expertise and inspiration and create the right conditions and incentives for them to make concrete commitments to open government.