

**COMMISSION RECOMMENDATION
COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
RECOMMENDATION NUMBER: 20200408-002
BUDGET RECOMMENDATION**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION:

Recommends budget support to maintain the Grant for Technology Opportunities Program (GTOPs), this grant is an essential component to implementation of the COA Digital Inclusion Strategic Plan adopted by Council Resolution No. 20140320-056. The COVID-19 pandemic has increased need for the community's ability to participate in digital society through GTOPs programs. The Commission recommends program improvements for FY21 include:

- Digital Inclusion resource accessibility
- Digital Inclusion Ecosystem innovations
- Outcome focused alignment

In FY20, GTOPs funds available to local Austin nonprofit groups increased to \$400,000 and 2020 Awards are underway, with additional COVID-19 digital access funding pathways and awardees depending upon funds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THE COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION RECOMMENDS TO THE CITY COUNCIL THE FOLLOWING: To include an allocation for GTOPs of \$400,000, as approved in FY20 unanimously, in the FY21 City of Austin budget.

Date of Approval: April 8, 2020

Record of the vote: Motion to approve GTOPs funding of \$400,000 annually made by Commissioner DasGupta, seconded by Gairo passed on a vote of 7-0.

ATTEST:



Jesse Rodriguez
Telecommunications and Regulatory Affairs
City of Austin