

## RESOLUTION

**WHEREAS**, the Grant for Technology Opportunities (GTOPs) was established to provide money to Austin organizations and citizens' groups for projects focusing on digital opportunities and bridging the digital divide; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council approved \$150,000 for the 2008 GTOPs program; and

**WHEREAS**, in its first six years, the GTOPs program provided the means for more than 15,800 individuals to be served by a variety of technology-related programs, including training in computer skills, media production, Internet accessibility and organizational management; and

**WHEREAS**, GTOPs grantees have raised more than \$1,000,000 matching funds including 17,000 volunteer hours, \$429,000 in-kind donations and \$368,000 cash; and

**WHEREAS**, the GTOPs success rate over its six year period averaged 123%; and

**WHEREAS**, GTOPs continues to be a successful economic development investment for the Austin community; and

**WHEREAS**, although the funds allocated last year were not sufficient to fund all deserving projects, they did support a significant number of them and utilized all available staff capacity to manage them; and

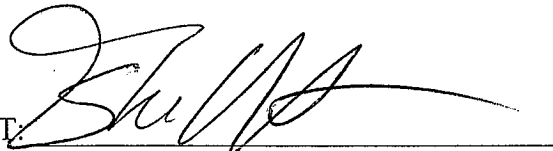
**WHEREAS**, the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission recommends that the City Council approve the funding required to maintain the current level of success for GTOPs program for the year 2009;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE AUSTIN COMMUNITY TECHNOLOGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION:**

To recommend that the Austin City Council approve \$150,000 towards the Grant for Technology Opportunities (GTOPs) to be applied to approved applicants during the 2009 grants award period.

DATE: **June 11, 2008**

ATTEST:



Sheena Harden

Telecommunications & Regulatory Affairs