



GAATN GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The Greater Austin Area Telecommunications Network is an essential element in fulfilling the current and future needs of the public sector institutions in the Austin and Central Texas area. GAATN broke through historic conceptual barriers to enable existing and new services for its seven members – Austin ISD, City of Austin, Travis County, State of Texas DIR, Austin Community College, University of Texas, and Lower Colorado River Authority. GAATN guides its efforts with the following principles.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The GAATN Interlocal governmental structure require constituent oversight of the GAATN Agency. Each GAATN participant's unique perspective should ensure GAATN meets the mission of each GAATN participant in the most cost-effective manner.

COLLABORATION

The GAATN story is first and foremost a collaboration story that produced a fiber optic infrastructure in Austin and Travis County. GAATN should always strive to bring timely and innovative solutions to all GAATN participants.

CLARITY

GAATN continually seeks to maintain a strategic, operational, and state-of-the-art technical infrastructure for GAATN participants to not only meet their missions but to already prepare for the future needs of GAATN participants.

EFFICIENT USE OF RESOURCES

GAATN uses all GAATN participants' expertise and initiative in the operation, management, and maintenance of GAATN. GAATN is focused on the prudent and careful use of public funds to operate and manage high quality maintenance, modifications, and expansion of GAATN.

NETWORK RELIABILITY

The GAATN owned, operated, and managed network is the nexus for the seven GAATN participants' information technology activities. GAATN's focus is to provide all GAATN participants with a highly reliable fiber optic network. GAATN expands the topology to reach additional sites and to increase reliability.

PROACTIVE OPERATIONAL ALIGNMENT WITH PRINCIPLES

GAATN governance will be proactive in innovative organizational, operational, and technical processes and policies to meet and fulfill the current and future needs of its participants.

SECURITY

GAATN provides proactive network security for topology and sites, including maintenance and repair provider protections. Security also includes rapid response times and strong overall topology defenses against outages.

TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION (INTERNAL AND PUBLIC)

GAATN is the foundation of its members' high technology hub in Central Texas. The GAATN Agency should communicate GAATN's success story throughout Austin, statewide, and nationally. GAATN welcomes public scrutiny and encourages public input in all its business transactions and dealings. GAATN complies with the Open Meetings Act and Public Information Act and strives to make all decisions based on the best interest of the public.

TRUST

Trust built and sustains GAATN. GAATN participants and participants' constituents should trust GAATN will continue to serve and innovate for Central Texas.

VISION

GAATN's vision is and should continue to be fulfillment of the current and future GAATN participants' missions and to improve GAATN's ability as an enabler for the people and governmental entities of Central Texas.