

How to appoint Doge Committee

To build an effective "DOGE-style" committee, you need a lean group of **3 to 6 members** who prioritize technical skill over political standing. Drawing from the **Texas SB 14** model and federal DOGE guidelines, the ideal committee should be composed of independent experts from the community rather than city staff.

Recommended Member Profiles

To ensure the committee can effectively "cut red tape" and audit finances, aim for the following specific roles:

- **Financial Expert (Chair):** A professional with a background in accounting (CPA), public finance, or corporate auditing. They should be capable of performing "deep dives" into municipal budgets to identify waste.
- **Operations or Process Engineer:** Someone experienced in **lean management** or industrial engineering. Their role is to apply "DOGE mentality" by identifying bottlenecks in city permitting and service delivery.
- **Technology/Digital Specialist:** An expert in software or AI implementation. Following the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office (TREO) model, this person focuses on "digital modernization" to automate manual city tasks.
- **Regulatory/Legal Advisor:** An attorney or consultant with expertise in **regulatory research** and compliance. They will identify "unnecessary or ineffective rules" and navigate the legal requirements for repealing them.
- **Small Business Representative:** A local business owner who has directly experienced "red tape." They provide the "regulated community" perspective needed to identify rules that hinder economic growth.

Core Selection Criteria

When vetting candidates, ensure they meet these high-bar standards:

- **Absolute Independence:** Members should have no active contracts with the city and no close family ties to city leadership to avoid any "appearance of conflict".
- **Evidence of "Exceptional Ability":** Similar to federal DOGE hiring, prioritize candidates who can demonstrate a track record of radical efficiency or cost-saving in their own careers.
- **Financial Literacy:** Every member must be "financially literate," meaning they can read and interpret complex government financial statements.
- **Commitment to Transparency:** Candidates must agree to operate in a "no-nonsense, efficiency-driven" manner, including supporting the creation of a public portal for citizen feedback.

Recommended Appointment Process

1. **Public Call for Interest:** Advertise vacancies widely, targeting local professional associations (e.g., GFOAT).
2. **Expert Interviews:** Hold open interviews where the City Council can vet technical expertise rather than political alignment.
3. **Staggered Terms:** Set **two-year terms** and stagger them to ensure "continuity" as the committee reviews long-term projects.