

2026 IdentityPython (IdPY) Contributor Team Transition Charter

Six-month Charter (Effective March 2026 - September 2026)

1. Purpose

The IdentityPython Contributor Transition Team (“Transition Team”) is established to guide the project through a structured transition from its current development model to a more sustainable, transparent, and maintainable future state.

This is a six-month working charter focused on:

- Stabilizing technical practices
- Clarifying maintainership and contributor pathways
- Aligning code, documentation, and governance
- Supporting the Board in making policy actionable within a largely volunteer-driven open source community

This is a transition period. The goal is not to redesign the project from scratch, but to create clarity, sustainability, and shared ownership.

2. Scope of Work (Six-Month Focus)

During this charter period, the Transition Team will focus on the following areas:

A. Refining and Executing a Practical Work Plan

Within the first 30 days, the team will:

- Define and publish a scoped 6-month technical work plan
- Identify priority stabilization and simplification tasks
- Clarify which efforts are in scope vs. out of scope during this period

The work plan should reflect available volunteer capacity and aim for achievable outcomes.

B. Team Structure & Roles

The Transition Team will define and operationalize a clear contributor structure, including:

- **Maintainer Role (formalized)**
 - Responsible for merge decisions, release coordination, and code health oversight
 - Serves as the primary steward of the main branch
- Contributors (active code contributors)
- Project Stewards (longer-term technical continuity and architectural guidance)

The team will:

- Document responsibilities and expectations for each role
- Define a lightweight decision-making model
- Establish a clear pathway for onboarding new contributors

A documented onboarding guide will be produced to help new participants get up to speed.

C. Fork Review & Integration Plan

The Transition Team will:

- Identify significant forked or parallel codebases
- Review them as feasible within volunteer capacity
- Determine which elements should:
 - Be merged into the main branch
 - Be incorporated after refactoring
 - Remain external
 - Be deprecated

The outcome should be a documented integration roadmap, not necessarily immediate full integration.

D. Technical Governance Model

In coordination with the Board (which retains formal policy authority), the Transition Team will:

- Define technical governance practices that are actionable in day-to-day development
- Clarify:
 - Contribution workflow
 - Merge and review expectations
 - Backward compatibility approach
 - Release discipline
- Propose a sustainable model for technical decision-making

The Board will approve formal governance policy; the Transition Team ensures it works in practice.

E. Documentation Needs Assessment

The Transition Team will:

- Identify required user-facing documentation:
 - Getting started guidance
 - Supported use cases
 - Deployment expectations
 - Upgrade considerations
- Identify required contributor-facing documentation:
 - Development setup
 - Code standards
 - Release process
 - Governance model

The team will prioritize documentation gaps and publish a documentation roadmap.

F. Re-Establish Technical Coordination Calls

Within the first 60 days, the Transition Team will:

- Re-establish regular technical coordination calls
- Publish cadence and participation model
- Share notes publicly
- Encourage participation from the broader IdPY community

The goal is transparency, continuity, and collective ownership.

3. Deliverables by the End of the Charter Period

By the end of six months, the Transition Team is expected to deliver:

1. A documented 6-month work plan (published and tracked)
2. A defined and functioning maintainer model
3. A documented technical governance workflow
4. A fork review summary and integration roadmap
5. A prioritized documentation roadmap
6. Regular technical coordination meetings in operation

Progress updates will be shared periodically with the Board and community.

4. Relationship to the Board

- The Board retains responsibility for formal governance and policy approval.
- The Transition Team ensures that policies are realistic, implementable, and aligned with contributor capacity.
- The Transition Team may propose governance adjustments based on technical realities.

The relationship is collaborative and iterative.

5. Operating Principles

During this transition period, the team will operate under the following principles:

- **Operational stability over architectural churn**
- **Transparency in process and decisions**
- **Respect for prior contributions**
- **Sustainable volunteer engagement**
- **Incremental improvement rather than disruptive change**
- **Open participation consistent with open source norms**

6. Nature of This Charter

This charter:

- Covers a defined six-month transition period
- May be renewed, revised, or concluded based on outcomes
- Is shared publicly in the spirit of open governance

The intent is clarity, not rigidity. The Transition Team is empowered to adapt within scope, provided transparency is maintained.

Closing

The IdentityPython project has grown through years of community contribution. This transition period is an opportunity to align governance, code, and contributor practices to ensure long-term sustainability.

The Transition Team plays a critical role in shaping that future — collaboratively, transparently, and pragmatically.