

## **Open Data Initiative – Meeting Minutes**

**13 August 2009, 11-12pm**

**Rose Conference Room, City Hall**

### **Attendees:**

- Thomas Bizeau, Mark Chubb, Kevin York, Patrick Jones, Joe Williams, Thanh Nguyen, Mark Ellwood, Marsha Palmer, Kalei Taylor, Phillip Holmstrand, David Woboril, Skip Newberry, Rick Nixon
- Randy Paden (Gresham), Deb Bryant (OSL), Sherry Swackhamer (MultCo), Angela Gillette (PDC), George Beard (PSU), Zac Christiansen (Metro), Paul Couey (Metro)

### **Meeting Agenda:**

- Roundtable Discussion: Introductions, Thoughts, Concerns
- City Attorney Discussion
- Open Data Portal: What Does It Look Like, Branding, Hosting
- Next Steps/Action Items

In summary, varying expectations surrounding the utility and duration of the datasets were expressed. Open Data is the first step, however, to transparency and openness in Open Government, which is the overarching goal of this project. Plans for a Design Contest are in support of this Open Data initiative, but achieving Open Data itself is the gating factor to all subsequent goals and objectives.

A legal summary of issues was also presented resulting from legal's review of (9) sample datasets. The extent of concern was widespread and seemingly treacherous, which will require special heed in all of our analysis going forward.

### **Key Discussion Points:**

- Rick Nixon kicked off the meeting with a brief "preamble" of sorts; advising group Sponsors we need to work towards an acceptable level of "shared agreement" between us on at least three different levels to achieve and maintain alignment between us. These were: agreement on a shared vision (what/why we're doing this), shared policies (biz constraints, duration of data availability, terms of use, etc), and infrastructure (ensure adequate standards and ongoing access to data).
- Concerns were raised regarding the longer term availability and utility of the data (beyond the contest); for example, Metro would like to use the design contest as a "pilot" to explore the longer term viability of the data. If successful, this may be considered in their revenue strategy planning process for RLIS.
- Concerns regarding long term support (and augmentation) of the datasets will require ongoing maintenance effort/cost; what if certain data never used, will it continue to be supported or will it be deprecated / made obsolescent or removed outright? Need to determine an acceptable shared policy surrounding this issue.
- BOEC is interested in applications that may result in crowdsourcing real-time data surrounding public safety incidents; currently BOEC uses the Twitter API and correlates it to mapping data.

- Kalei Taylor and David Woboril from the City Attorney's Office presented a number of business, political, and legal concerns from their review of nine sample datasets.
- Discussion and concerns were shared surrounding possible exploitations and/or nefarious intent either by reverse engineering/indexing aggregate data for a given dataset or by mashing separate datasets into any form of purposeful wrongdoing.
- Recommendations and general agreement to release what we know is "popular" as a start, assess this set of data for any vulnerabilities and scrub if necessary. Recommendation to also augment this initial offering with obvious choices we know would be highly popular (e.g., data pertaining to sustainability, or the ~2500 EV charging stations for electric vehicles, as examples).
- Next Steps / Action Items:
  1. Data Owners need to send us contact information for both Sponsor-level and Project-level leads.
  2. Data Owners need to send us two listings of candidate datasets (with brief explanations); those without apparent issues, and those with anticipated issues.
  3. Mayor's Office to review legal recommendations based on the sample set of data.
  4. Based on outcome of legal review, project team to begin identifying a reasonable approach and process to begin vetting the data for potential issues.

Lastly, Skip will send out another meeting invite for our next meeting towards the end of the month. Please let me know if I've missed anything, and thank you again to those that attended the meeting.

--Rick

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