ANNUAL OPEN DATA REPORT FOR

LOUISVILLE METRO GOVERNMENT

OCTOBER 9, 2014

This serves as the first annual OPEN DATA REPORT to the Mayor in accordance with the requirements set forth in Executive Order No. 1, Series 2013, dated October 11, 2013. The purpose of this report is to summarize the current state of data availability in Louisville Metro Government and to provide a plan for the continued improvement of public access to information and fostering transparency.

STATE OF OPEN DATA
Upon release of the Open Data Executive Order, Louisville Metro Government's Open Data Portal contained 36 datasets. Over the past year, Louisville Metro Government has added 71 new datasets to the Open Data Portal and is now providing a total of 107 valuable datasets to the public, which is an increase of 197 percent.

Louisville Metro Government also measures success of the open data policy by the number of visitors accessing the city's Open Data Portal. Website traffic analysis from April – September 2014 indicated an overall increase in usage by 12 percent, from 90,000 to 101,000 page views.

As a benchmark and comparison of the City of Louisville's open data initiatives to other cities, Louisville ranks 11th out of 70 cities participating in open data, (as of September 18, 2014) according to the "US City Open Data Census" published by Code for America and the Sunlight Foundation. In comparison, Louisville ranked 10th out of 41 cities only 6 month ago. As the data suggests, there is a rapid movement of government agencies migrating to an open data architecture and Louisville is considered to be in the top echelon of cities leading in this area.

PLAN FOR IMPROVEMENT
While the initial open data efforts of the past year have been successful and the City of Louisville has made significant progress in making more information available to citizens, there are opportunities for improvement in delivering additional datasets and Internet-based services to consumers. The following outlines specific activities either currently underway or being planned for implementation over the course of the next year that will enable "breakthrough" opportunities in how the city provides digital services:

- Metro Technology Services (MTS) has created a new position (Performance Improvement and Outreach Manager) that will work directly for the MTS Director and will oversee the city's advancements in online services, population of information on the Open Data Portal, MTS departmental performance and goals, as well as community engagements related to technology.

- MTS is developing an Online Services and Open Data Management Steering Group consisting of the MTS Director and applicable staff, departmental representatives, local businesses, community organizations, and area citizens who wish to participate. The purpose for the new steering committee is to better capture the needs of the community

as a whole, foster communications among interested parties, and cultivate an environment of transparency surrounding the City of Louisville. To date, there are over 30 individuals signed up and the number is growing each week. MTS will be hosting a kickoff meeting in November and will meet on a quarterly basis thereafter.

- MTS is working on a new online services and open data strategy for 2015 that will provide a roadmap for new goals and key performance indicators, which will continue to improve the quality of services and take our capabilities to a new level of excellence.

- Finally, MTS is working to offer Internet services and open data through other digital means such as text-based, mobile apps, and other web-based graphical interfaces (Open Gov, GIS, etc) that will provide a multitude of new options in delivering government information to citizens.

CONCLUSIONS

The growth of open data has been exciting for Louisville Metro Government and has proven valuable to metro employees, area residents, and other concerned citizens from around the country looking at Louisville for possible opportunities. Louisville is clearly leading in this space and is postured to possibly be a benchmark city this time next year given appropriate resources. As the data demonstrates, there is an increasing appetite and expectation for more information and transparency of government organizations. MTS is proud to be the champion for this cause and looks forward to partnering with other interested groups, expanding services, and helping to pave the way in making Louisville a better place.

Respectfully submitted on __Oct 9, 2014__
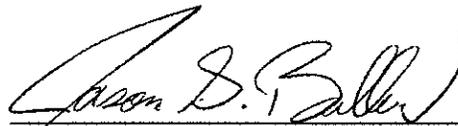
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