County Open Data Policies: How, Not Why

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Pending Legislation (current as of June 24, 2015)

**AB 169 (Maienschein)**

Requires a local agency to post a public record in an open format if the agency voluntarily posts on its website a public record described as “open”.

– Must meet the following requirements:

• Be retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used Internet search applications; platform independent and machine readable; available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the public record; and retains the data definitions and structure present when the data was compiled, if applicable.
Pending Legislation (current as of June 22, 2015)

SB 272 (Hertzberg)

• Requires local agencies to create a catalog of enterprise systems.
• Defines "enterprise system" as a system that is both:
  • a) A multi-departmental system or a system that contains information collected about the public.
  • b) A system of record.
• Defines "system of record" as a system that serves as an original source of data within an agency.
Pending Legislation (current as of June 22, 2015)

SB 272 (Hertzberg), cnt’d:

- Requires that the catalog prepared by each local agency must:
  - a) List the enterprise systems utilized by the agency.
  - b) Disclose, for each enterprise system, all of the following: current system vendor, current system product, brief statement of the system's purpose, general description of categories, modules, or layers of data, the department that serves as the system's primary custodian, how frequently system data is collected, how frequently system data is updated, and be made publicly available in a specified manner.
In the beginning . . .
Program expansion
Motivations

- Ideological reasons
- Practical reasons
- Opportunistic reasons

Photo by Eric Forgaard
Executive support

• Absolutely vital
• Drives programs to open data
• Creates new opportunities

Photo by Flickr user David Sifry

Information Services Department
County of San Mateo
Set program level

- Chief Data Officer
- County Manager’s Office
- Information Services Department
- Project Management Office
Implementation

- Share data internally
- Authoritative data
- Easy wins
- MVPs
Use what others share

- City of Chicago on GitHub [https://github.com/chicago](https://github.com/chicago)
Your open data destination:

At what cost?

- Use available web services
- Create a website
- Open source

Supportive vendors

- Programmatic & technical help

Photo by Flickr user Laney Griner
Thanks!

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