

Portland City Council | 5.3.17

# Establish an **Open Data Policy** and create an **Open Data Program** for the City of Portland



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability  
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City Budget Office



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## What does this Open Data Ordinance do?

1. Establishes a general Open Data policy: *The City will be committed to the publication, accessibility, and equitable and widespread sharing of data collected and generated by all City bureaus and by private sector companies, non-profit organizations, academic universities and other parties working on behalf of the City. The City will strive to make data open by default.*
2. Creates an Open Data Program to implement the policy.
3. Establishes a Data Governance team to determine the overall direction of the Open Data Program.

## **What issues does the Open Data Program address?**

- The City has no comprehensive list of existing datasets.
- Multiple, redundant datasets exist across the City.
- There is no process for releasing data that is repeatedly requested through public records requests.
- Better data management is a necessary foundation for Portland's Smart Cities efforts.

## What issues does the Open Data Program address?

- There are few mechanisms to facilitate data-sharing with the public.
- The City has no consistent policies for data-sharing with the private sector.
- We do not manage our data as a resource.
- Good data design is not always a priority.

## Who will do this work?

- The Bureau of Planning and Sustainability has asked for a position to coordinate the initial implementation.
- This position will assist City bureaus with their participation in the program.
- The Data Governance Team will develop a system of governance and identify resources needed.

## **What specific City goals does this achieve?**

- Portland Plan implementation
- Comprehensive Plan Policy 2.11
- Citywide Racial Equity Goals & Strategies

## **What are some of the community benefits?**

- Empowers residents by giving them greater access to usable information about City decisions, policies and services.
- More proactive City decisions that are informed by data, and evaluated against data, which improves City programs and the quality and delivery of services.
- Local tech community gets access to data they can use to help solve Portland's most pressing issues, to boost economic development, and to build ladders of opportunity for our community through innovative uses of data and technology.

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