



Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley, District 7
 2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
 PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177
 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 19, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington
 Subject: City Manager Referral: Establish an Open Data Policy for the City of Berkeley

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager to review the creation of a resolution establishing an Open Data policy for the City of Berkeley for making public data available in machine readable formats using open data standards.

BACKGROUND

The creation of an Open Data policy allows for the disclosure of public data, making it accessible and useful to residents without creating any barriers. By sharing data freely, governments are able to develop economic opportunities and promote civic engagement. Open Data improves transparency while improving coordination and efficiencies among organizations across the public, non-profit, and private sectors.

Open Data policies have been implemented in other cities. Most recently, Oakland, California passed a resolution on October 15, 2013. In total, 30 states have launched Open Data initiatives. During his first full day in office, President Obama signed the Memorandum on Transparency and Open Government, allowing for further transparency of information.

This council item is based on the resolution that was passed by the City of Oakland. That item provided the information that helped inspire this item, and the language of the resolution is attached to this item.

FISCAL IMPACTS

None.

CONTACT PERSON

Councilmember Kriss Worthington	510-981-7170
Stefan Elgstrand, Intern	510-981-7170

ATTACHMENT:

1: City of Oakland Resolution on Open Data

OAKLAND CITY COUNCIL

Resolution No. _____ C.M.S.

INTRODUCED BY COUNCILMEMBER LIBBY SCHAAF

A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING AN OPEN DATA POLICY FOR THE CITY OF OAKLAND FOR MAKING PUBLIC DATA AVAILABLE IN MACHINE READABLE FORMATS USING OPEN DATA STANDARDS

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland is committed to using technology to foster open, transparent, and accessible government ("Open Government"); and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland collects or generates data that is legally accessible to the public ("City Data"); and

WHEREAS, by publishing such data more freely, the City of Oakland seeks to improve government service delivery, develop opportunities and insights for promoting economic development, commerce, increased investment, civic engagement and strengthening our community; and

WHEREAS, proactively publishing City Data is a foundation of Open Government and is consistent with laws regarding residents' right to access public information as well as privacy laws that have been outlined by the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code §6250, et seq.) and the Oakland Sunshine Ordinance (Oakland Municipal Code §2.20.180.C.); and;

WHEREAS, publishing structured standardized data in machine readable formats creates new opportunities for information from different sources to be combined and visualized in new and innovative ways, for niche markets to be identified and developed, and for citizens, policymakers and public servants to browse, interpret and draw attention to trends or issues with greater efficiency; and

WHEREAS the use of open data exchange standards improves transparency, access to public information, and improved coordination and efficiencies among organizations across the public, non-profit and private sectors; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland seeks to encourage the local community to develop software applications and tools to collect, organize, and share City Data in new and innovative ways that benefit both residents and government; and

WHEREAS, software applications and tools that enable residents, policymakers and public servants to access, visualize, and analyze public information will encourage feedback on local issues; and

WHEREAS, on April 30, 2012, the City Council approved Resolution No. 83824 directing the City Administrator to prepare a report identifying the costs and benefits of implementing an open data system and analyzing the steps to implement such a system, and

WHEREAS, on June 20, 2012, staff returned to the Council with an Open Data System Implementation Report that outlined the implementation and planning of an Open Data system, identifying and prioritizing data, costs associated with developing an Open Data portal and a timeline for implementation; and

WHEREAS, on January 31, 2013 the City of Oakland launched an Open Data portal at data.oaklandnet.com. as the central repository for the City of Oakland's public data; and

WHEREAS, the City of Oakland was one of ten cities awarded a partnership with Code for America in 2013, providing the opportunity to share and expand technology with other jurisdictions across the nation; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the City of Oakland hereby establishes an Open Data Policy that the City shall make every reasonable effort to ensure that City Data is published in machine readable formats using prevailing open standards for data, documents, maps, and other formats of media for the purpose of making City Data available to the greatest number of users and for the greatest number of applications in a manner that is open and accessible to the public to be maintained in a catalog on a single City website ("Open Data"); and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: that it is the policy of the City .Council that an effective Open Data policy shall:

- "Ensure that the City provides sufficient knowledgeable support for Oakland's Open Data Policy to every organizational unit of the City regarding that unit's data to ensure each unit's successful compliance with and implementation of this Open Data policy, such as by designating a person or persons to be responsible for providing such support for each organizational unit;
- Include clear guidelines for identifying "high value" and "high interest" City Data sets and a policy for prioritizing its publication as Open Data;
- Include a public engagement strategy to ensure on-going feedback and collaboration with citizens and data users;
- Include City guidelines for maintaining consistency with applicable laws and best practices, including those related to privacy and security;
- Provide a process by which the City Administrator receives regular ongoing input from those City employees responsible for data collection in their respective organizational units. City employees in the Department of Information & Technology, employees working in citizen engagement, as well as members of the community who are users of Open Data, such as an Open Data Advisory Committee; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: Within one hundred eighty days of the effective date of this

resolution, the City Administrator or his/her designee shall prepare and present to the City Council's Finance and Management Committee for public review and comment, an informational report on the draft Regulations setting forth the technical requirements and standards for publishing Open Data sets in raw or unprocessed formats for the purpose of making Open Data available to the greatest number of users and for the greatest number of applications, as well as the guidelines and processes necessary for the effective implementation of this Open Data Policy; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: The City Administrator and his/her designee shall take into account such public review and comment before finalizing such Regulations for publication; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: Within twelve months of the effective date of this resolution, the City Administrator or his/her designee shall publish an inventory of Open Data and a plan for disseminating it; and such plan should include any information regarding the current state that the data exists in, as well as the costs and barriers of releasing it as Open Data; such inventory and plan will be presented to the City Council's Finance and Management Committee as an Informational Report for public review and comment; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: The City Council's Finance and Management Committee shall hear an informational report from the City Administrator or his or her designee every six months informing the public of updates to the data catalog and evaluating the implementation, successes, barriers, and public uses resulting from the Open Data policy for the first two years and henceforth once yearly after the first two years; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: The City Administrator or his/her designee must publish existing City Data sets to the Open Data catalog that are already publicly available on oaklandnet.com within twelve months of the effective date of this resolution; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: The City of Oakland shall license any Open Data it publishes for free re-use to ensure clarity of copyright without legal responsibility or liability for publishing such data as described further below; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: All data sets shall be updated in the public Open Data catalog as often as necessary to preserve the integrity and usefulness of the data sets; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: All Open Data sets shall be clearly defined and information on the type of data set should be included in the data set description for each dataset uploaded to the Open Data catalog as defined by the Regulations; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: Open Data made available by the City is provided solely for informational purposes. The City does not warrant the completeness, accuracy, content or fitness for any particular purpose or use of any Open Data set made available, nor are any such warranties to be implied or inferred with respect to the data sets furnished therein; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: The City is not liable for any deficiencies in the completeness, accuracy, content or fitness for any particular purpose or use of any Open Data, or application utilizing such data, provided by any third party; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: This policy shall not be construed to create a private right of action to enforce its provisions. Failure to comply with this policy shall not result in any liability to the City of Oakland; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED: That the City Administrator or his/her designee's disclosure of any data sets shall be consistent with applicable laws and best practices, including those related to privacy and security.

IN COUNCIL, OAKLAND, CALIFORNIA, _____, 2013

PASSED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

A Y E S - BROOKS, GALLO, GIBSON MCELHANEY, KALB, KAPLAN, REID, SCHAAF, AND PRESIDENT KERNIGHAN

NOES-

ABSENT-

ABSTENTION -

ATTEST:

LaTonda Simmons
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council
of the City of Oakland, California

