

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

The following comments were submitted via GSA's GitHub platform (<https://github.com/GSA/participate-nap4/issues>) between September 5, 2017, and June 25, 2018, as part of the co-creation process for the Fourth U.S. Open Government National Action Plan (NAP 4). To enhance usability, inactive website links have been updated or removed, formatting has been improved for readability, and personal contact information provided by individual commenters has been omitted to protect their privacy.

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You can use the links below to jump to the NAP 4 comments collected during four distinct co-creation events:

[Created as part of the NAP 4 Working Session on 6/14](#)

[Created as part of the NAP 4 Working Session on 6/21](#)

[Round 1 Submissions from 2017](#)

[Working Group at the Emerging Tech Open Government workshop 9/8](#)

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### Created as part of the NAP 4 Working Session on 6/14

**Title:** A common framework for public feedback and dialogue on government services

**Number:** 176

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2018-06-21T17:22:22Z

**Comment:** Building on the President's Management Agenda, including Cross Agency Priority Goal 4, [Improving Customer Experience with Federal Services](#), let us develop and implement a common framework to receive, understand, and respond to feedback from the public on the delivery of government services. This may also build on potential legislation, such as the [Federal Customer Experience Act](#) or the [Government Customer Service Accountability and Improvement Act](#). While these policies focus specifically on "customer experience," a common framework for public feedback may also facilitate broader feedback on other operational or governance concepts associated with a government service, but this scope should be further defined and refined.

Such a framework will provide a simpler and more consistent way for the public to know how to provide feedback around a particular government service, whether online, in-person, over the phone, or by other means. This framework will allow for both common quantitative measures and more qualitative descriptions which can feed into long term assessments and ongoing dialogue for iterative improvements.

Currently, there already appears to be some consensus and will power across a wide range of stakeholders to improve mechanisms for public feedback on government service delivery, however there continue to be a number of barriers that hinder wider use. This framework will aim to better identify those issues (seeking additional consultations to do so) and will develop solutions to address each barrier. Potential barriers may include:

- Both real and perceived challenges with the Paperwork Reduction Act clearance process
- Lack of a highly visible well-branded initiative that both frontline staff and members of the public are aware of

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- Limited human resources or budget allocation to implement, analyze, and respond to feedback
- Lack of readily available, low cost, and pre-approved technical solutions to receive, process, and respond to feedback
- Limited senior level awareness or support for such efforts
- Limited public trust based on prior government interactions or unresponsive public feedback engagements

### ## Measurable Metrics

This portion still needs some additional thought and development

**Title:** 500 million White House records of NARA, 0 accessibility to civil society

**Number:** 173

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:50:53Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

### ## Topline Description

Your one sentence “elevator pitch” goes here

### ## Key Objective(s)

Describe how this initiative creates a more transparent, participatory, or collaborative government

### ## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Leverage technology to improve engagement and ensure inclusiveness

**Number:** 172

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:50:38Z

**Comment:** Dashboard - allow interested parties to sign up for notices

Local groups host outside meetings

Early engagement

Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Increase search-ability of federal records

**Number:** 171

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:50:10Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Apps to share opps for public meetings based on public notices

**Number:** 170

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:48:51Z

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### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Yelp rating in real time for government events or interactions

**Number:** 169

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:48:36Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Release and implement “release to one, release to all” FOIA policy and CAPSTONE goal

**Number:** 168

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:48:18Z

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## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

government

### ## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Simplified Hiring

**Number:** 167

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:47:57Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Fiscal Transparency

**Number:** 166

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:47:31Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** CIO Gov/IT Dashboard - no mention of OGP

**Number:** 165

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:46:58Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** 2019 deadline in Archivist’s Managing Government Records Directive

**Number:** 164

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:46:00Z

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**Title:** Extension or update of Goal 13, Survey/Literature review of Capstone Agencies and Impact on FOIA - some agencies are unable to access email archives for FOIA

**Number:** 163

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:44:21Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Government access to more data: transportation (e.g. ride hailing)

**Number:** 162

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:43:58Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Host workshops outside of DC, on the record with press invited for Q&A

**Number:** 161

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:43:29Z

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### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Make all court records available to the public through modernization or funding of PACER

**Number:** 160

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:43:09Z

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### ## Measurable Metrics

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Grants, transparency, & tracking

**Number:** 159

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:42:46Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Local workforce accounting

**Number:** 158

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:42:28Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Who will do it? - Milestones, metrics, communities

**Number:** 157

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:42:13Z

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## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Commentor ID transparency related to FCC issue with automated captioning

**Number:** 156

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:41:56Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Elimination of paper records

**Number:** 155

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-18T19:40:51Z

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## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** 6/14 National Action Plan 4 Working Session

**Number:** 153

**User/Login:** alyciayozzi

**Created At:** 2018-06-14T23:49:36Z

**Comment:** Photos of all the ideas that participants brainstormed - <https://github.com/GSA/participate-nap4/files/2104353/drive-download-20180614T234701Z-001.zip>

Photos of information that came out of small group discussions on 4 possible commitments - <https://github.com/GSA/participate-nap4/files/2104356/drive-download-20180614T234823Z-001.zip>

**Title:** Expand the effort to make federally funded scientific research and it’s associated data publicly available

**Number:** 152

**User/Login:** alyciayozzi

**Created At:** 2018-06-14T23:45:12Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

## Key Objective(s)

- Responding to findings of GAO report on Holdren Memo Deployment
- Commit funds to support the work

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Paragraph Description

- For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

### ## Measurable Metrics

- GAO releases report or require some evaluation prior to NAP
- Conduct evaluation of memo's deployment and possible deficiencies
- Two public meetings held
- Recs for improvements inform next steps

**Title:** Engage Legislative Branch in open Government Reform Agenda - pass 3 bills that codify reform

**Number:** 151

**User/Login:** alyciayozzi

**Created At:** 2018-06-14T23:43:36Z

**Comment:** @mattbailey0 - I'm not sure I've captured this accurately. Can you please edit since you were part of this discussion.

### ## Topline Description

#### ## Key Objective(s)

- Pass open government data act
- Beneficial ownership
- Title Act
- Corporate transportation
- Honest Ads
- FARA Reform

### ## Paragraph Description

- For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Issue SAP
- Post legislative agenda on wh.gov/open
- find House sponsor for OGPA
- Search for more co-sponsors for each bill
- Engage public
- Press releases, agency press lists
- Hold press conference on benefits and reforms
- Engage public via social media, blogs
- Congressional hearing on OGP

**Title:** The U.S. government shall adopt the Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) as the universal ID for business ethics

**Number:** 150

**User/Login:** alyciayozzi

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Created At:** 2018-06-14T23:34:49Z

**Comment:**

**##** Topline Description

There are 110 examples of entity identification systems (such as the census and information on government contracts) using various distinct systems. Government should transition existing entity identification systems to the LEI.

**##** Key Objective(s)

- Transparency for the public and investors into business identities and ownership, achieved through interoperable identification
- Efficiency for businesses in business to government and business to business interactions, achieved through interoperable identification
- More effective regulation, statistical analysis and procurement oversight by federal agencies, achieved through interoperable identification
- Replace existing fragmentary, specialized or proprietary entity identification systems with a universal, flexible and non proprietary entity identification system

**##** Paragraph Description

- For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

**##** Measurable Metrics

- 2018 OMB shall issue a statement of government wide policy that the government intends to transition existing entity identification systems to the LEI
- 2018 OMB shall convene an Entity Identification Workgroup involving all agencies managing significant entity reporting regimes to prioritize entity reporting regimes for (1) initial mapping to the LEI and (2) ultimate conversion to the LEI
- 2020 Agencies shall adopt the LEI alongside or in place of their existing entity identification systems following guidance issued by OMB, advised by the Workgroup.
- 2020 The General Services Administration shall establish an entity identification system based on the LEI to assist other agencies

### Created as part of the NAP 4 Working Session on 6/21

**Title:** Natural language process

**Number:** 190

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:06:53Z

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**##** Topline Description

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### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Simplifying agency understanding and respond to shifting public opinion

**Number:** 189

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:06:31Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Adapting to growing public interest in anti-corruption data (pulling public)

**Number:** 188

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:06:04Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Federal government ingest transparency data and share to inform infrastructure projects

**Number:** 187

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:04:20Z

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### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Engage Legislative Branch

**Number:** 186

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:02:13Z

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### ## Measurable Metrics

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**Title:** FOIA CAPSTONE goal and API's for FOIA.gov

**Number:** 185

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:01:42Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Commit to press freedom - FOIA, SHIELD, Agency Press Conference

**Number:** 184

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:01:16Z

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How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Sharing open contract data for public consumption

**Number:** 183

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T16:00:10Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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**Title:** Eliminate barriers to federal agency transparency (but balance privacy)

**Number:** 182

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T15:59:42Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

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**Title:** More multilingual resources (and more language)

**Number:** 181

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T15:59:09Z

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**Title:** VA Engagement

**Number:** 180

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T15:58:26Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

## Topline Description

Your one sentence “elevator pitch” goes here

## Key Objective(s)

Describe how this initiative creates a more transparent, participatory, or collaborative government

## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Electronic records - balancing openness with burden/privacy

**Number:** 179

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T15:56:26Z

**Comment:** Please use this template in accordance with our guidance on contributing suggestions. You can delete this introductory text as well as the instructions below, but please keep the headings in place (the lines that begin with ##) and use them to organize your submission.

## Topline Description

Your one sentence “elevator pitch” goes here

## Key Objective(s)

Describe how this initiative creates a more transparent, participatory, or collaborative government

## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Create platform for the release of open data on constituent services

**Number:** 178

**User/Login:** brookescialdone

**Created At:** 2018-06-25T15:44:04Z

**Comment:**

## Create platform for the release of open data on constituent services

## Key Objective(s)

- Improve transparency of citizen services  
Collaborate with Congress to increase understanding of issues and oversight

## Measurable Metrics

- X agencies participating
- Brief x caucuses - committees on use of data
- Data used in oversight hearings to determine topics for hearing or who should testify
- Number of members linking or sharing platform on websites/social media

**Title:** Assurance.gov - A United States Government Effort to Educate Citizens on Data Privacy and a Registry for Agency-Specific Information Assurance Practices.

**Number:** 177

**User/Login:** Akerman

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Created At:** 2018-06-22T03:21:40Z

**Comment:**

**## Topline Description**

SPECIAL THANKS TO: Doc McConnell (OMB - Cyber and National Security Unit), Michael Thomas (ODNI - Office of Civil Liberties, Privacy and Transparency) and Carlton Pettway (The Big Word Corp. UK) for coming up with this concept as a team at the NAP4 June 21st event at GSA.

Every citizen is generating data with or without their knowledge. While some people do not fully understand the impact of data on their lives, recent cyber threats and data breaches have put most on high alert and with doubts around their freedom to pursue daily activities on the web. The US Government plays a unique role in ensuring that the American people are able to live in a safe and secure environment. Many corporations have reached out individually to their customers to provide assurances around their information (for example: Facebook, Apple, Amazon). The US Government can help create a safer and more robust enabling environment for sharing information by educating the public, establishing common assurance reporting standards, providing avenues for civic engagement, and establishing a government-wide data privacy framework for the use of federal, state and local government as well as the private sector (similar to the cyber threat framework but dedicated to data privacy and information assurance).

**## Key Objective(s)**

This initiative creates the foundation for a more transparent, participatory, and collaborative government - Assurance.

**Objective 1 - Increase the data IQ of the American public**

- Outreach campaign to highlight the importance of Information Assurance and what the US Government is doing to help safeguard the American public from cyber threats and data breaches.
- Easy-to-use information about data privacy, how data can be both empowering and dangerous and why it is important for individuals to play an active role in combating cyber threats and data breaches.
- A how-to guide for establishing data protections in general.

**Objective 2 - Ensure that all agencies are able to communicate which datasets have a potential impact on the American public in a common open standard.**

- List of agency-specific datasets
- List of Controls the agency employs to ensure citizen data are protected
- Providing information about how individuals can help safeguard their data within that agency
- Direct links to agency-specific policy around information assurance

**Objective 3 - Create an avenue for the American public to voice concerns around data and information assurance so that issues can be addressed at both the Federal and Agency level in a participatory manner.**

**Objective 4 - Establishing a government-wide data privacy framework for the use of federal, state and local government as well as the private sector (similar to the cyber threat framework but dedicated to data privacy and information assurance).**

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- Possible partnership with GAO and OIG
- In close collaboration with the National Defense University's College of Information and Cyberspace
- Consulting a scientific body like NIST to leverage their expertise in Special Publications
- Create and publish a maturity score and index for agencies in the area of information assurance and create a healthy competition while establishing a sense of urgency
- Empower the private sector to provide similar assurances in the course of doing business with the American people

### ## Paragraph Description

Every citizen is generating data with or without their knowledge. While some people do not fully understand the impact of data on their lives, recent cyber threats and data breaches have put most on high alert and with doubts around their freedom to pursue daily activities on the web. The US Government can help create a safer and more robust enabling environment for sharing information by educating the public, establishing common assurance reporting standards, providing avenues for civic engagement, and establishing a government-wide data privacy framework for the use of federal, state and local government as well as the private sector

### ## Measurable Metrics

Metric 1 - Number of visitors to the Assurance.gov website (plus other web metrics)

Metric 2 - Percentage of total agencies registered and publishing updated information regarding their data and controls according to the framework and in the open data standard

Metric 3 - Overall maturity score of all agencies that are publishing data

Metric 4 - Time to address public feedback

Metric 5 - Number of downloads and academic references of the data privacy framework

## Round 1 Submissions from 2017

**Title:** Coordinate NAPs Across DotGov Domains

**Number:** 149

**User/Login:** jalbertbowden

**Created At:** 2017-10-10T16:00:01Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Connect current/ongoing/future NAPs with each other for cross-pollination and other benefits.

## Key Objective(s)

- Connecting NAPs through links for users to follow;
- Cross-pollinating ideas from one silo, to all silos;
- Enabling/empowering federal employees to stand on the shoulders of giants (crowd sourcing);
- Enabling/empowering federal agencies to build off one another/not reinvent the government wheel;

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Paragraph Description

I came across the National Archives NAP last night:

<https://github.com/usnationalarchives/opengovplan> and sadly it doesn't have any activity in its issues like this repository does. I'm assuming that is because users are not aware it is there; In fact, I was surprised to come across it myself.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- See which federal agencies are involved/engaged in NAP (ideally all);
- Have some form of welcoming informative event, even if it is in the form of a blog post, where all agencies/agendas/NAPs are outlined and linked to;
- Provide forum for facilitating cross-pollination/crowd sourcing/etc;

**Title:** Require All Candidates For National Elected And Appointed Office To Provide 4 Years Of Tax Returns

**Number:** 148

**User/Login:** brianxlong

**Created At:** 2017-10-09T12:01:06Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Seems like there's been some confusion of late on this topic. Let's make a rule.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Creates transparency regarding conflict of interest

### ## Paragraph Description

Whatever you want here is fine... as long as anybody in any of the three branches of government at the national level is required to show their tax returns.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Pretty easy. Should be searchable on irs.gov.

**Title:** Machine-Readable Plans & Reports

**Number:** 147

**User/Login:** OwenAmbur

**Created At:** 2017-10-06T16:11:59Z

**Comment:**

### ## Brief Description

Publish strategic and performance plans (including NAP4) and reports in open, standard, machine-readable format.

### ## Objective(s)

- Comply with the spirit of section 10 of the GPRA Modernization Act (GPRAMA)
- Comply with related requirements set forth in subsections 202(b)(4) & (5) and 207(d) of the eGov Act
- Comply with guidance set forth in OMB Circular A-130 to use open, machine-readable data standards
- Lead by example

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- Walk the open gov talk
- Move beyond rhetorical support for participation & collaboration
- Move beyond transparency as a theoretical concept
- Focus effort and funding on practical, clearly documented, achievable, and measurable objectives
- Facilitate the sharing of strategic and performance plan and report data
- Facilitate the establishment of benchmarks & the pursuit of continuous improvement
- Enable taxpayers to see what they are getting for their money
- Enable policymakers to make more informed, evidence-based decisions about public programs and projects

### ## Description

Agencies will comply not only with the letter but also the spirit of the law by publishing in open, standard, machine-readable format (ISO 17469-1 & ANSI/AIIM 22:2017) not only their GPRA plans but also their program and project plans and reports.

As a byproduct of doing so, they will also comply with the GPRAMA requirement to compile a program inventory as well as related provisions of the eGov Act, which require agencies to:

- Work together to link their performance goals to key groups, including citizens, businesses, and other governments, as well as internal Federal Government operations; and
- Adopt open standards (e.g., StratML) enabling the organization and categorization of Government information in a way that is searchable electronically and interoperably across agencies.

### ## Performance Indicators

- Publication of agency GPRA plan updates in open, standard, machine-readable format by February 2018, as required by GPRAMA
- Development by nongovernmental organizations of sites and services leveraging .gov performance data to inform and engage various stakeholder groups
- Compliance with the requirement set forth in the eGov Act to link agency objectives to stakeholder groups
- Ease with which citizens and policymakers - including members and committees of Congress - can find, understand, compare, and use performance data of interest to them, such as in considering inherently governmental functions, agency reorganization proposals, and budgetary priorities
- Degree to which agencies use such data to improve their performance
- Ability of members of the public to see and comprehend timely and up-to-date metrics on implementation of the objectives ("commitments") set forth in the NAP itself
- Degree to which other OGP nations apply the good practice set forth in section 10 of GPRAMA

**Title:** Software collaboration and reuse for government

**Number:** 146

**User/Login:** philipashlock

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Created At:** 2017-10-05T17:44:33Z

**Comment:** \*This was originally submitted as a [\[comment\]](#) by @Atomahawk\*

### ## Topline Description

With government as a platform for innovation and services, leveraging the pool of developers in all levels of government to build and share tools by & for civil servants.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Create the infrastructure by which developers could share, support, and collaborate around their tools. (There's no appstore for government is there? 😞 )
- Create a SDK for civic technologists

### ## Paragraph Description

Code for America is an excellent example. With all their builds and deployments, it would allow other municipalities, state agencies, and federal agencies to browse and iterate on tools. Having government as a platform for civil servants to more efficiently interact with citizenry would dramatically reduce the costs of modernizing infrastructure and hiring developer talent. Achieving this would \*not\* solve the problem of system and infrastructure maintenance, but it would reduce time spent on new implementations and decrease time spent 'reinventing the wheel.'

**Title:** Promote and Use FOSS Alternatives

**Number:** 145

**User/Login:** jalbertbowden

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T04:44:37Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Promote and use FOSS alternatives for citizens to utilize when engaging with government as a platform.

### ## Key Objective(s)

This will make government more participatory and collaborative because no citizen will be barred access to government services because of proprietary/licensing issues.

This will make government more participatory and collaborative because the software can be tailored for different use cases by gov agency/agencies crowd sourcing/civic hackers/etc.

This makes government actions more transparent because the source code is open.

This makes society (gov + civilians) more aware of FOSS, empowering them to be more digitally literate, and moving us towards becoming a digital society.

Going even further, massive adoption of FOSS technologies in .gov will bring about massive savings in licensing fees annually.

### ## Paragraph Description

Promoting FOSS technologies on .gov domains that offer data/documents/software for download/use reinforces the concepts of Open Government and Open Source that these action plans champion. Currently, .gov domains almost exclusively offer proprietary, limited access/release versions as options to users, effectively giving Microsoft, Adobe, and WinZip

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

a monopoly on free advertising (and advertising in general) on .gov sites. This illusion of choice also typically limits users to a certain operating system, and in certain cases, to a certain browser/software on a particular os. WinZip, which has also proven to be a bad actor in the consumer arena, offers .zip compression, on a limited basis without a license. 7-zip offers a far superior compression algorithm, with zero limits. Why isn't the government encouraging its citizens to use a tool that works better, doesn't cost anything to use, and uses less data (saves money on data plans)?

This promotion will also empower/enable citizens and dotgov employees with new concepts/ideas behind the tools we all use. A very distinct and important step to becoming digitally literate and a digital society.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Crawl .gov domains and see where they offer Silicon Valley's wares.
- Roll out alternative with FOSS technologies for .gov domains to adopt/fork/edit/etc.
- Crawl .gov domains after given timeline and compare.

**Title:** Hold OpenGov official Accountable by providing Points-of-Contact in NAP 4.0 (or elsewhere)

**Number:** 144

**User/Login:** OpenGovMetrics

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:58:39Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

Hold OpenGov official Accountable by providing Points-of-Contact in NAP 4.0 (or elsewhere)

#### ## Key Objective(s)

Describe how this initiative creates a more transparent, participatory, or collaborative government

Self-evident. They used to be provided on U.S. OpenGov website in first year or two. Then there were removed in 2010. There is no way to report non-compliance with OpenGov plans or federal laws for public involvement (NEPA, etc.).

#### ## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

#### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Evaluate the U.S. Public Participation Playbook (issued 2015) as per NAP 3.0 commitment

**Number:** 143

**User/Login:** OpenGovMetrics

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:47:46Z

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### Comment:

#### ## Topline Description

The U.S. government not kept its previous NAP commitment to evaluate its initial attempt at "best practices and metrics" by federal agencies in Public Participation, as embodied in its "Public Participation Playbook" (2015).

#### ## Paragraph Description

The U.S. committed, in its NAP 2.0, to develop "best practices and metrics" for Public Participation. Their result, in February 2015, was the "[The Public Participation Playbook - Open Beta](#)". It has never been finalized as an official "version 1.0" document.

Then, two years later, the U.S. committed in its [NAP 3.0](#) (see page 12 of 21) to:

- Improve and Report on Implementation of the U.S. Public Participation Playbook. In 2015, the Administration launched the U.S. Public Participation Playbook, a template providing best practices, resources, and performance metrics to encourage public participation in government decision-making.
- The United States will update and improve the U.S. Public Participation Playbook based on feedback from agencies, civil society, and the public, and begin publicly sharing how the playbook's resources are implemented in order to improve public participation in government.
- There has been no "public sharing" of evidence about how the Playbook is being used by any federal agencies for "best practices and metrics" in Public Participation. There has been no update, nor use of its own "best practices", to engage in an open and public review of its usefulness.

#### ## Key Objective(s)

The objective for NAP 4.0 is to commit to finally complete a commitment from NAP 3.0 to evaluate a commitment from NAP 2.0 that should have been in NAP 1.0, i.e., how can we tell which OpenGov practices are "best" (or mixed or bad)? If you can't figure how to measure for improvement, then you don't really know if you are improving ... at anything!

There has been no objective evaluation as to whether The Public Participation Playbook" (Open Beta) contains anything that would be considered as "best practices and metrics" by the wider community of practitioners in Public Participation (e.g., "legacy" orgs like [IAP2-USA](#)).

And if there have been no objective measures (metrics) for evaluating both the the Quality & Quantity of Public Participation, then any practices can be subjectively and anecdotally judged as passable ... as the last three OpenGov NAPs of the U.S. have exemplified.

#### ## Measurable Metrics

In this search for "better metrics", the best approach would be to follow the new [OGP Participation and Co-Creation Standards](#) that are now required of the U.S. government (and other countries) in order to remain a member of the Open Government Partnership.

A preliminary and fundamental indicator of progress in achieving this commitment would be an open and inclusive process that provides timely information to allow for early and meaningful participation by any interested citizen. Civic technology can increase participation without requiring in-person meetings, and orgs like IAP2-USA should be allowed to show how to do better Public Engagement online.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

The ultimate metric for Public Engagement is the percentage of [people who feel that they "have a say"](#) in what their government is doing. By June 2019, that should be the primary question in a standard survey that offered at every level (federal, state, and local) to allow the public to provide feedback on the government's attempt at Public Participation.

People do not want to wait every four years for an election in order to voice their frustration. This is a golden opportunity for the Trump Administration to involve more people in their government in order to hold it accountable.

Stephen Buckley @OpenGovMetrics

**Title:** Create an alternative to DUNs

**Number:** 139

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:24:36Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Government Operations

## Create an alternative to DUNs

DUNs, the Data Universal Numbering System owned by Dun & Bradstreet, is a copyrighted, proprietary system used by the government and others to uniquely identify businesses. We believe the government must move to a non-proprietary, open system. This will save tremendous amounts of money, avoid lock-in to a particular company, and allow innovative use of this data. Our friends at the Data Transparency Coalition explain this issue in detail.

**Title:** Federal Jobs: Telework and Location Information

**Number:** 138

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:23:38Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Government Operations

## Federal Jobs: Telework and Location Information

The federal jobs website [USAJOBS](#) provides information about employment opportunities. It does not provide some important information.

First, for each job, the location of the job (or the nearest intersection) should be published along with the vacancy announcement. Current practice is to publish the address of the main office. Publishing the job location will allow job seekers to determine whether the commute is for them.

Second, for each job, the nature of telework availability should be published. While USAJOBS already indicates whether telework is possible for a position, it does not say the frequency

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

of telework. This can be an important factor for any job seeker.

Finally, OPM issues an annual report on telework in government. It contains 100 pages of data that unfortunately are printed in a PDF. The underlying data should also be published in a spreadsheet format (like CSV). The report is entitled "Status of Telework in the Federal Government" and can be found [here](#).

**Title:** Form Reform

**Number:** 137

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:22:33Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Government Operations

## Form Reform

OMB's Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) is charged with enforcing the Paperwork Reduction Act, including how agencies promulgate forms. Current agency practice permits and often encourages the use of paper-forms to gather and channel requests for information. This leads to re-keying of data, significant data quality issues, inadvertent disclosure of private information, and significant delays in public access to data. OMB should lead an effort to reform how the government uses forms.

Forms should be electronic and allow for the easy flow of data into databases. (This is consonant with OMB's new data policy that directs that information should be collected electronically by default.) Information should be validated upon input and automatically checked for errors. To the maximum extent possible, unique entity identifiers should be employed, particularly those that are consistent across databases. Forced-choice mechanisms and limited data fields should be employed to restrict the kinds of information that can be input. Data should be automatically segregated as to what is and is not disclosable, so that no further review is necessary for data tagged as disclosable.

In addition, OMB should employ multiple techniques to improve the quality of information submitted. Extensive user testing (including A/B testing) should be performed and monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure forms are as easy to understand and complete as possible. Behavioral economics should be employed to maximize the effect of data collection, including through the development of model forms. Furthermore, to the extent possible, data should be pre-populated to reduce the amount of time required to enter information.

**Title:** Office of Legal Counsel Opinions

**Number:** 136

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:21:22Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Rule of Law

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Office of Legal Counsel Opinions

The Department of Justice should update its policy to require disclosure of all opinions by default, except in certain limited circumstances. A determination to withhold publication should be made at the highest levels within the DOJ and be based upon clearly articulated rules. To the extent a document is withheld in full or in substantial part, a detailed unclassified summary of the opinion should be made available to the public in a timely way that conveys the essence of the opinion. In addition, the OLC should publish and contemporaneously update a complete list of all final opinions, indicating the title, author, subject, and date issued.

**Title:** Tracking FOIA Fees

**Number:** 135

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:20:25Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

### # Financial Transparency

#### ## Tracking FOIA Fees

As part of its annual report on FOIA, the Justice Department's Office of Information Policy should request agencies report on the amount of FOIA fees collected broken down by the basis on which the fees are collected.

**Title:** FOIA Spending at DOJ

**Number:** 134

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:19:38Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

### # Financial Transparency

#### ## FOIA Spending at DOJ

The Office of Information Policy at the Department of Justice responsible for coordinating government-wide FOIA policy as well as addressing DOJ-specific FOIA matters. Unfortunately, it is not possible to know how much money (and resources) OIP is putting towards its government-wide efforts versus internal-facing efforts. In each Congressional Budget Justification, OIP should report the amount of money spent processing FOIA requests for the seven senior management offices within DOJ; the amount of money spent on adjudicating administrative appeals for all units in DOJ; and the amount spent on FOIA policy and compliance.

**Title:** Congressional Budget Justifications

**Number:** 133

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:18:29Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Financial Transparency

## Congressional Budget Justifications

Every year each agency releases a congressional budget justification. This contains useful information about how the agency intends to make use of its funding. Under OMB Circular A-11 22.6(c), each agency is required to make its justification available to the public (including posted on the Internet) within two weeks after transmittal to Congress.

All these budget justifications should be centrally housed on OMB's website [along with all the other budget materials](#). It is often difficult to find agency congressional justifications on their websites. Moreover, many people are unaware of the existence of the justifications in the first place. Even GPO, apparently, is unaware of the justifications (see this), as it does not gather them along with its publication of other budget materials.

Budget justifications should be published in a format in addition to PDF, such as TXT or DOC. PDF format makes it virtually impossible for computers to make use of the underlying information. For example, if you wanted to compare this year's justification against last year's by tracking the changes, you would be unable to do so when dealing with a PDF. OMB already publishes data in alternative formats to facilitate public use (specifically XML and CSV), and it makes sense to publish text in a format that can be analyzed as well. Recent appropriations legislation requires OMB to publish this information in a central location and we look forward to its implementation.

**Title:** Modernize PACER. Make court records open and free to all Americans.

**Number:** 132

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:17:01Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

Modernize PACER. Make court records open and free to all Americans.

**Title:** OIRA Lobbying Transparency

**Number:** 131

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:17:00Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Lobbying and Influence

## OIRA Lobbying Transparency

OIRA plays a central role in reviewing regulations. Executive Order 12866 and Disclosure Memo-B (2001) instantiate requirements to show how OIRA has affected a rulemaking and

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

how OIRA has been lobbied by those seeking to alter the course of its deliberations. Multiple GAO and CRS reports, however, indicate that OIRA has not fully complied with its transparency requirements.

We believe that OMB should address the following concerns raised in GAO reports by:

- Defining the transparency requirements applicable to the agencies and OIRA in Executive Order 12866 in such a way that they include not only the formal review period, but also the informal review period when OIRA says it can have its most important impact on agencies' rules.
- Reexamining OIRA's current policy that only documents exchanged by OIRA branch chiefs and above need to be disclosed because most of the documents that are exchanged while rules are under review at OIRA are exchanged between agency staff and OIRA desk officers.
- Establishing procedures whereby either OIRA or the agencies disclose the reason why rules are withdrawn from OIRA review.
- Defining the types of "substantive" changes during the OIRA review process that agencies should disclose as including not only changes made to the regulatory text but also other, non-editorial changes that could ultimately affect the rules' application (for example, explanations supporting the choice of one alternative over another and solicitations of comments on the estimated benefits and costs of regulatory options).
- Instructing agencies to put information about changes made in a rule after submission for OIRA's review and those made at OIRA's suggestion or recommendation in the agencies' public rulemaking dockets, and to do so within a reasonable period after the rules have been published.
- Encouraging agencies to use "best practice" methods of documentation that clearly describe those changes.

We welcome OIRA's recent effort to electronically publish information about lobbying activities. We hope OIRA will move to make this information available in bulk, or at a minimum, through an API.

We also agree with some recommendations made in a [Center for Progressive Reform report](#), issued after reviewing all OIRA meetings between October 2001 and June 2011. In particular:

- That a rule proposed by an agency, both prior and after OIRA review, should be publicly posted and in such a format as to permit a determination of what has changed.
- If OIRA asks for a 30-day extension, its request and the agency head's approval should be in writing and made public as soon as they are released.
- When OIRA examines non-economically significant rules, it should explain in writing how the proposal fits under the exceptions set forth in EO 12,866 and post that information online.

**Title:** Modernize Foreign Agents Registration Act Data Collections and Reporting

**Number:** 130

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:12:06Z

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Lobbying and Influence

## Modernize Foreign Agents Registration Act Data Collections and Reporting

Reporting practices for lobbyists for foreign entities desperately needs modernization, as we have described [in this letter](#) and has been the subject of congressional hearings. The [FARA database](#) still permits registrants to submit paper documents and it publishes those documents as PDFs. This obscures the useful information contained in the reports. Transparency advocates spend an inordinate amount of effort trying to transform these paper files into a searchable, sortable, downloadable database.

As part of its [third Open Government Plan](#), the Department of Justice committed “to review the FARA website and electronic filing system, while soliciting reasonable and concrete suggestions and feedback from the public, and will work to make feasible and appropriate modifications to the database. Throughout this process, the Department will specifically investigate collecting and publishing registration information as structured data in a machine-readable format.”

It is time to require collection and publication of registration information as structured data. The Department of Justice should require all filings be made in an electronic format where the information can easily flow into a machine-processable digital format. In turn, that information should be released to the public in bulk as structured data so that the data it contains may be searched and sorted. To the extent the Justice Department has already transformed the information contained in the filings into an electronic database, that information should be published as well. Until filings are required in electronic formats, the Justice Department should publish data from all future FARA filings in bulk in a searchable, sortable, downloadable format. (We know [it is possible](#).)

**Number:** 128

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:09:36Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Access to Information

## FOIA and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

There is significant confusion around the extent to which Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act prohibits agencies from posting information online. A memorandum or other document that details how the law is intended to work should be released to the public. In addition, DOJ should investigate the extent to which Section 508 is preventing the online publication of documents, what steps are necessary to remove roadblocks, and how agencies may collaborate with the public to meet the needs of full disclosure as well as the legal requirements.

**Title:** Unified FOIA Regulations

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Number:** 126

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:08:48Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Access to Information

## Unified FOIA Regulations

In the [Second National Action Plan](#) (page 6), the United States committed to developing common FOIA regulations and practices for federal agencies. While some initial work was done last year, the Justice Department-led effort of creating a set of common FOIA regulations and practices appears to have stalled. A coalition of organizations released draft recommendations on what those regulations should look. DOJ's Office of Information Policy should restart the process and issue the common regulations.

**Title:** Better Disclosure of Agency Reports to Congress

**Number:** 124

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:06:27Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Access to Information

## Better Disclosure of Agency Reports to Congress

Federal agencies are required to provide thousands of reports to Congress. Many of those reports are required to be published online; many other are available through FOIA. However, there is no central location for these reports—whether by agency or across the government. Each agency should have a dedicated webpage where all reports are published chronologically in a searchable, sortable, downloadable format. In addition, OMB should gather all executive branch reports and publish them on one central website—ideally the [White House budget page](#). This will facilitate information discovery about executive branch activities, encourage the sharing of best practices, aid the creation of dashboards, and lead to a reduction in redundant reports. There is legislation, called the Access to Congressionally Mandated Reports Act, that would accomplish this goal, but the White House should act first.

**Title:** Public Disclosure Playbook—Issue Guidelines on Proactive Disclosure

**Number:** 121

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:04:28Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

# Access to Information

## Public Disclosure Playbook—Issue Guidelines on Proactive Disclosure

Just as OMB created a [public participation playbook](#), it should create a public disclosure

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playbook containing recommendations on processes agencies should follow to determine how to better proactive disclosure information. Agencies should be consulted on setting up the process. To help prioritize, agencies should look at requests made through the Freedom of Information Act, via other request-based systems (i.e., specialized forms for a particular dataset or document), and information regularly disclosed by public affairs and congressional relations offices.

Categories of information to consider for proactive release include: commercial (business-related), current events (relevant to journalists), ethics (relevant to government watchdogs, such as lobbying, ethics waivers, etc.), agency operations, and datasets (paper versions are disclosed to the public but the underlying dataset must be FOIA'd).

**Title:** Commentary on the 2017 National Action Plan

**Number:** 118

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:01:42Z

**Comment:** \*This suggestion was forwarded here in reference to this [blog post](#).\*

Starting in 2011 and every two years afterward, the White House has drawn up an open government national action plan that is intended to contain specific, measurable open government commitments. The planning process is an outgrowth of the Obama administration's open government initiative, which kicked off in 2009 when agencies were first required to create open government plans, but takes place on an international scale.

The Trump administration said it will continue this process and is [collecting recommendations](#) for the [2017 plan](#). (More explanation via the [Sunlight Foundation](#)).

While we were heartened to see the Obama administration adopt one of our recommendations—a machine readable government organization chart—most of the other ideas were not put into action. We reiterate and update them here and call on Congress to require the administration to put them into effect. In summary, they are:

### ## Access to Information

- Create a proactive disclosure playbook, which provides guidance to agencies on how to identify datasets and other information ready for immediate online publication.
- Follow through on the commitment to create a standard set of agency regulations governing the FOIA process.
- Improve public disclosure of agency reports to Congress.
- Examine how Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act often impedes online publication of FOIA requests.

### ## Lobbying and Influence

- Use modern methods to collect and publish data about foreign lobbyists.
- Significantly improve disclosure around lobbying efforts aimed at OIRA, which oversees major agency rulemakings.

### ## Financial Transparency

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- Public agency Congressional Budget Justifications, which describe agency plans in plain language at a high level of detail, on the White House's budget page in modern formats.
- Improve disclosure of funding information for the Justice Department's Office of Information Policy, which coordinates FOIA policy.
- Gather better data on which FOIA fees are collected.

### ## Rule of Law

- Proactive disclosure of more opinions by the Justice Department's Office of Legal Counsel, which often are *\_de facto\_* law for agencies.

### ## Government Operations

- Improve how the government creates and collects data through forms.
- Provide better information on USAJobs, the federal employment website, including greater detail about telework and the actual employment location.
- Create a free alternative to DUNs.

This is not a complete list. The White House should also publish its visitor logs, release financial conflict of interest forms online, and so on.

**Title:** Modern, distributed source control for legislation.

**Number:** 114

**User/Login:** cromulus

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T02:46:54Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Git for Legislation: which lawmaker added or removed each individual element of legislation, as well as an up to date repository for the current law.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Make it clear which legislators are responsible for each element of legislation
- Hold legislators accountable to their constituents for their actions at a far more granular level
- Ensure that additions and subtractions to Law are both human and machine readable.

### ## Paragraph Description

Simply put, convert the US federal laws and regulations to a git repository, such that it is apparent who is responsible for each individual word and phrase of law. Additionally, as move through the legislative process, members of congress and the president would, in effect, review and approve each bill, as if it were a pull request, such that a record of their approval would be part of the legislative history of the bill in question.

Essentially, if we are to truly hold legislators accountable, we must know not only who voted for what bill, but also who is responsible for each alteration to a given bill.

### ## Measurable Metrics

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Simply put, every single alteration to a bill must have a legislator responsible for that alteration, not just a few legislators who will "sponsor" a bill, or said sponsors will be responsible for all language in a bill. Measurement and quantification will be quite straightforward: utilization.

In terms of long term goals, we should evaluate the degree to which legislators hide their edits, refuse to be held accountable and have their changes become a part of the permanent record of a bill. The degree of compliance will determine the success or failure. Ideally, we should be able to achieve full compliance in a few years, 2020 at the latest.

**Title:** Central Bank Issued Digital Currency

**Number:** 109

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:05:10Z

**Comment:** Recommendation to the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System to conduct research into and develop a plan to put the US Dollar on the blockchain to complement currency, checking accounts, savings deposits, money market securities, mutual funds and other time deposits.

The Chamber would be pleased to offer additional level of specificity in each of these proposals. In addition, the Chamber has other policy recommendations to promote America's continued leadership in the most promising area of technical innovation currently emerging.

**Title:** Apprenticeship For American Innovation

**Number:** 104

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:54:14Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Use growth in IOT & Smart Cities as an apparatus to make transparent solutions for 2 administration goals:

- Apprenticeships that create job ready skills
- Infrastructure development for job creation & security

## Key Objective(s)

- Use analytics to develop smart city workforce requirements
- Use existing datasets & machine learning to baseline smart city infrastructure
- Incentivize development of the smart city workforce (At the local level)
- Make IOT data transparent & machine readable

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

The promise of new jobs is diminished around AI & machine learning while we can build new job markets through the use of smart city tech & data sets

Gain of jobs, income level increases

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**Title:** OpenAI.Gov

**Number:** 103

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:52:14Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Open AI framework / Repository / Standards to support architecture for chatbots & citizen services

## Key Objective(s)

- Provide AI Collaboration / Asset sharing
- Central entry point federated AI services to assist citizens
- Provide contextually relevant answers to citizens

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

- citizens interacting with openai.gov
- responses marked “useful” appropriate
- federal services connected
- AI projects shared and used by others
- Productivity & savings due to tech / info sharing (e.g. costs, time, etc.)

**Title:** Federal Skill Finder Service (FSFS)

**Number:** 102

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:49:18Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Transparently matching biggest needs with best skills

## Key Objective(s)

- To more quickly and more effectively match Federal workforce and applicants to opportunities and needs.
- To provide transparency to those seeking opportunities

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

- Reduced time-to-hire
- Improved EVS scores
- Improved ability to mobilize resources & respond to crisis

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**Title:** Smarter Marketplace

**Number:** 101

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:47:07Z

**Comment:** ## Topline Description

An easier way to do business with government

## Key Objective(s)

A Market Concierge to identify the right acquisition vehicle for you

To match you with similar buyers / sellers and make the whole process far easier

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

- Decreases Procurement cycle → less money & overhead to buy / sell
- Standardizes risk from C.O. perspective
- Increases Transparency in procurement process

**Title:** Open Data on-ramp to blockchain

**Number:** 100

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:42:06Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Accelerate current and future open data initiatives through building open API'S and leveraging key blockchain capabilities

## Key Objective(s)

- Allow for data to be more actionable
- Get to (near) real-time data delivery through open API's
- Control security & privacy and selective sharing of data based on defined rules
- Allow for bidirectional interaction among members
- Enhance delivery and quality of government provided data

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

N/A

**Title:** Blockchain Toolkit & Primer

**Number:** 99

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:38:37Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

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Information and tools to help federal decision makers determine whether blockchain technology may be a solution to their needs, and if so, how to get started.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Blockchain increases accountability
- Increases transparency
- Increases participation

### ## Paragraph Description

N/A

### ## Measurable Metrics

Actionable guidance within six months, and then number of uses and distributions.

**Title:** DLT Supply

**Number:** 98

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:36:55Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

We are working on the concept of food / consumer goods on the blockchain from where food is grown, picked, distributed and sold. This would help with food sickness, emergency distribution

### ## Key Objective(s)

- This would improve trust, traceability and centralize our distribution. Government would have accountability over products and help with fraud & safety / cost management.
- Citizens could see where & what was spent over emergencies and over events We can verify that food / medicine was picked up and delivered & distributed. This would assist with natural disasters.

### ## Paragraph Description

N/A

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Improve food waste and security

**Title:** Improve Reporting of Police Use of Force

**Number:** 97

**User/Login:** joshua-new

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:36:35Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

The Department of Justice should develop standards and best practices for reporting data about police use of force and officer-involved shootings, and tie compliance with these standards to local police department's eligibility to receive material support from the

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federal government.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Developing standards for reporting police use of force and officer-involved shootings and incentivizing adherence to these standards would provide an authoritative source for this data so policymakers and the public can better understand what is working and not working in the criminal justice system and build trust between citizens and police.

### ## Paragraph Description

The federal government does not require local police departments to report incidents of police use of force or officer-involved shootings, despite the value this data would provide the criminal justice system. The Department of Justice has previously announced its intention to collect this data, but police departments have no requirement or incentive to provide this data. The Bureau of Justice Statistics should develop clear standards for collecting and reporting data on police use of force and officer-involved shootings, and the Department of Justice should stipulate that if police departments want to continue receiving the hundreds of millions of dollars of funding and equipment that the Department of Justice, the Department of Homeland Security, and other agencies award to state and local police agencies every year, they have to adopt these standards and practices and report their data to demonstrate their commitments transparency and accountability. Given how substantial this funding is—New York City received \$179 million in 2014 from just one Department of Homeland Security program—police departments would likely be much more proactive about sharing their data.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- By January 1, 2018, the Bureau of Justice Statistics should request public comments about best practices and standards for reporting data about use of force and officer-involved shootings to ensure that this data can be as accessible and useful as possible.
- By January 1, 2019, and on a rolling basis thereafter, the Department of Justice should include requirements to adopt these reporting standards in all funding opportunities and equipment donations made available to local police departments.

**Title:** Make Trade Advisory Committees more broadly inclusive

**Number:** 96

**User/Login:** qirtaiba

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:30:39Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Make Trade Advisory Committees more broadly inclusive

### ## Key Objective(s)

If proposed U.S. texts and draft texts from negotiations are made publicly available, the main official advantage of the Trade Advisory Committee system – access to that information – would disappear. However, if Trade Advisory Committees are to be retained in addition to public notice and comment and public hearing processes, then resources must be devoted to making membership and effective participation in these committees more accessible to all affected stakeholder groups, including non-industry groups.

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### ## Paragraph Description

Because participation in the existing Industry Trade Advisory Committees (ITAC) is slanted towards certain legacy industries, and strict confidentiality rules ensure that most public interest groups cannot participate. For example, there are no public interest representatives on ITAC 8 on Information and Communications Technologies, Services, and Electronic Commerce.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- By January 2018, the USTR should publish for comment a new set of more permissive confidentiality rules applicable to Trade Advisory Committees, that would authorize committee members to consult on proposed rules with their members, constituents, and external experts.
- By April 2018, public comments on those new rules should have been received and the rules finalized and published.
- By April 2018, reinstitute the proposed Public Interest Trade Advisory Committee that the USTR announced in 2014, but which was never convened.

**Title:** Open up textual proposals in ongoing international trade negotiations to a notice and comment and public hearing process

**Number:** 92

**User/Login:** qirtaiba

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:25:17Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Open up textual proposals in ongoing international trade negotiations to a notice and comment and public hearing process

### ## Key Objective(s)

USTR should initiate on-the-record public notice and comment and public hearing processes—at least equivalent to that normally required for other public rulemaking processes—at relevant points during the generation of government positions.

### ## Paragraph Description

The USTR, and even the Trade Advisory Committees, currently lack the broad perspective needed to catch potential problems with proposed trade rules. For example, their recommendations on keeping software source code secret completely disregarded the contrary views of 260 U.S. and international cybersecurity experts.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- By April 2018, initiate a new policy at the USTR for the publication of textual proposals in ongoing international trade negotiations on an online platform allowing for public notice and comment.
- By June 2018, post each of the renegotiated chapters of NAFTA that have then been presented to the negotiating partners of the United States for public comment on the new platform.

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- By August 2018, hold at least two public hearings, including at least one on the East Coast and one on the West Coast, on each of the renegotiated chapters of NAFTA that have then been posted for public comment.

**Title:** Appoint a "transparency officer" to the USTR who does not have structural conflicts of interest in promoting transparency at the agency

**Number:** 91

**User/Login:** qirtaiba

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:20:51Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Appoint a "transparency officer" to the USTR who does not have structural conflicts of interest in promoting transparency at the agency

## Key Objective(s)

USTR should immediately appoint a transparency officer who does not have any structural conflicts of interest in promoting transparency at the agency.

## Paragraph Description

No Transparency Officer has been appointed at the USTR under the current administration. The previous Transparency Officer was the USTR's own General Counsel. He was expected to defend the office's current practices around transparency, at the same time as reforming those practices. This is an impossible ask, which points to the need for an independent officeholder.

## Measurable Metrics

- New, independent Transparency Officer appointed to the USTR by January 2018

**Title:** U.S. Citizen Services

**Number:** 90

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:20:23Z

**Comment:** Submitted through the Emerging Technology and Open Data for a More Accountable, Open Government workshop with civil society groups, federal agencies, businesses, researchers and policy-makers.

## Topline Description

Connecting the people to the answers

## Key Objective(s)

- To improve quality, consistency, and accuracy of federal services
- Connecting across agencies and providing a standard interface

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

- Reduction of inconsistent Q&A interfaces

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- Better insights into what the people want from government
- Reduced number of calls and help desk costs

**Title:** Publish consolidated texts after each round of ongoing trade negotiations

**Number:** 89

**User/Login:** qirtaiba

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:18:17Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Publish consolidated texts after each round of ongoing trade negotiations

## Key Objective(s)

USTR should impose as a prerequisite to any new or continuing trade negotiations that all parties agree to publish consolidated draft texts on rules after each negotiating round, including negotiations conducted on the entire agreement or a specific element or chapter and among trade ministers or other officials of every party to such negotiations or of a subgroup of the parties to such negotiations.

## Paragraph Description

It's good practice, and many similar international negotiating bodies already do it. For example, copyright rules are dealt with both in trade negotiations, and at the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO). But only at WIPO are the texts open to public review. By no coincidence, the last successfully concluded copyright treaties were WIPO's.

## Measurable Metrics

- By December 2018, a new agreement should be signed by the NAFTA negotiating parties authorizing the publication of consolidated texts after each round of ongoing negotiations.
- The first release of text pursuant to that new agreement should take place at the next negotiation round following the conclusion of the new agreement.

**Title:** Publish U.S. textual proposals on rules in ongoing international trade negotiations

**Number:** 88

**User/Login:** qirtaiba

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:15:57Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Publish U.S. textual proposals on rules in ongoing international trade negotiations

## Key Objective(s)

USTR should immediately make available on its website the textual proposals related to rules that it has already tabled to its negotiating partners in the context of the NAFTA, TTIP, TiSA, and any other bilateral, regional, or multilateral trade and investment negotiations it undertakes.

## Paragraph Description

This is already a global best practice, adopted by the European Commission for its trade negotiations since 2014, and it's what citizens expect. Failing to publish text also fuels leaks,

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which allows the leaker to control the media narrative.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- By January 2018, a new USTR policy should be put in place by its Transparency Officer requiring that the USTR publish its textual proposals in ongoing international trade negotiations, commencing with NAFTA.
- The first release of text pursuant to that new policy should take place at the next negotiation round following the institution of the new policy.

**Title:** Support a Legislative Mandate for Open Data

**Number:** 87

**User/Login:** joshua-new

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T20:52:17Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

The White House should work with Congress to pass legislation codifying federal open data requirements.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Codifying federal open data requirements would guarantee to businesses and the public that open data will be a permanently available resource, and signal that the government will maintain its commitment to transparency.

### ## Paragraph Description

Federal open data policy in the United States is built on executive actions, particularly President Obama's May 2013 executive order, "Making Open and Machine Readable the New Default for Government Information." However, these policies are simply operating procedures for the executive branch and not law, meaning that federal agencies have no legal responsibility to publish open data. The lack of legally defined open data requirements creates uncertainty about the extent to which the federal government will remain committed to and responsible for opening its data to the public or refining and improving open-data efforts over time. Bipartisan members of Congress already recognized the importance of codifying federal open data requirements and have introduced legislation to do so.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Engage with members of Congress to foster support for federal open data legislation.
- By January 1, 2018, sign federal open data legislation into law.

**Title:** Increase the Usability of Census Data

**Number:** 86

**User/Login:** joshua-new

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T20:51:30Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

The Census Bureau should improve the usability of its data so that members of the public can more easily access and analyze it.

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### ## Key Objective(s)

Developing new and better data exploration tools for Census data will enable businesses, researchers, policymakers, and the public to make more-informed decisions based on insights from this data.

### ## Paragraph Description

The Census Bureau's economic and population data is an invaluable public resource that enables data-driven decision-making at all levels of the public and private sectors. This data is publicly available in open and machine-readable formats, and the Census Bureau maintains a suite of data analysis and visualization tools, however it can nonetheless be difficult for even moderately sophisticated users to access and interpret the data.

Uncovering specific data points in Census data often requires a user to have considerable expertise to manipulate a raw dataset to identify relevant data. The Census Bureau has previously recognized the importance of making its data more useful to members of the public, launching the Opportunity Project to serve as a platform for crowdsourced, easy-to-use data analysis and visualization tools focusing on economic opportunity. The Census Bureau should expand on this concept by developing user-friendly data exploration tools for more of its most popular datasets.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- By June 2018, the Census Bureau should conduct focus groups of data users and solicit public feedback about the usability of Census data to identify significant obstacles.
- By the end of 2018, based on this feedback, the Census Bureau should deploy new or improve existing data analysis and visualization tools addressing the criticisms raised.
- By the end of 2018, launch an open platform for data analysis and visualization tools for Census data that emphasize usability.

**Title:** Identify and publish large, high-quality datasets across all fields for use in machine learning to support advances in artificial intelligence.

**Number:** 83

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T20:42:08Z

### **Comment:**

## Identify and publish large, high-quality datasets across all fields for use in machine learning to support advances in artificial intelligence.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), in partnership with Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA), should review feedback from the recent IARPA solicitation on artificial intelligence (AI) to identify key government datasets that can be opened up for use in machine learning to support AI development across all fields
- The NSTC should work with IARPA to develop a prioritized list of datasets for release.
- The NSTC should then convene members of the AI community to provide input on these priorities, finalize a plan for releasing datasets, and develop a timeline and resources to do so.

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### ## Paragraph Description

Artificial intelligence (AI) is already playing a significant role in the daily lives of Americans, including voice activated personal assistants in smartphones, website translation, and automated driving features. Additional AI advances are around the corner, and the technology industry is planning for the next wave.

Researchers believe AI will have a great impact on the future economy, including public benefits in the medical field, transportation, public safety, and more. Eventually AI could help doctors diagnose patients and suggest treatments tailored to the individual or serve as a tool for teachers to customize lesson plans for each student's personal needs. AI could also help to efficiently allocate government funds.

Machine learning—a process in which computers continually improve analytic capacity as they work with more and more data—drives AI. Machine learning requires large, unbiased datasets to create accurate models within the domain of interest. For example, developers used ImageNet, an annotated database of over 14 million pictures, to “train” computers to properly classify images. Other datasets may be valuable for geospatial analysis, language analysis, or other aspects of machine learning.

The National Science and Technology Council (NSTC), in partnership with Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA) and other interested agencies, should launch a project to ensure that relevant, government owned “training datasets,” as identified by AI researchers and other stakeholders, are made readily available. This would address a current bottleneck in AI development: the relatively small amount of public data available to train AI systems and enable them to reach their full potential.

As a first step, the Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence subcommittee of the NSTC should work with IARPA, which should have strong indicators of demand from responses to a recent solicitation on overarching questions in AI. The NSTC subcommittee and IARPA should draft recommendations for prioritizing datasets for use in AI training. The NSTC should then convene a group of government and industry AI specialists to determine the datasets in greatest demand, analyze the barriers to opening those datasets, and develop plans to open them.

If privacy concerns restrict data opening, the NSTC should develop a data enclave similar to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services data enclave within the Department of Health and Human Services or the National Renewable Energy Laboratory's Secure Transportation Data Center. Research and industry partners would have to submit an application detailing their use case before being granted access to the enclave and would take legal liability for protecting the sensitive information.

Opening “training datasets” will be an important step toward encouraging scientists to open the data generated through AI research. The AI community should consider this topic as the field advances. This discussion should address developing open AI benchmarks, open learned representations, open learned parameters, and even open code when the research is publicly funded.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Published list of key datasets for use in machine learning
- Number of these key datasets published

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- Case studies of use of key datasets published

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Partner with the automated vehicle industry to give open data a central role in creating national safety standards

**Number:** 82

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T20:19:40Z

**Comment:**

## Partner with the automated vehicle industry to give open data a central role in creating national safety standards

## Key Objective(s)

- The Department of Transportation National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) should support industry efforts to share automated vehicle data that could lead to safer vehicle development, such as testing data or challenging scenarios that have led to crashes or near misses.
- In releasing templates and additional guidance for the Safety Assessments described in the Federal Automated Vehicles Policy over the next several months, the NHTSA should ensure these assessments are born digital. Rather than collecting PDFs or documents, NHTSA should collect key data fields in a format that enables automated analysis.
- As the technology moves toward large-scale deployment, the NHTSA should partner with industry and the research community to work toward developing an open set of criteria for an “automated driver’s test” that will eventually enable automated vehicles to self-qualify for operating on public roads.

## Paragraph Description

In early 2016, Secretary of Transportation Anthony Foxx declared that “we are on the cusp of a new era in automotive technology” as fully automated vehicles transform from a distant vision to a near-term reality. At least 33 companies are researching and/or developing automated vehicle technologies, with some claiming they will deploy automated fleets broadly in the next three to five years. A small number of automated vehicles are already on the road (with a human at the wheel to seize control if necessary) in California, Texas, Washington, Arizona, Pennsylvania, and several large urban areas abroad. Automated vehicles can usher in a new era of transportation efficiency and safety while providing mobility to millions of additional Americans. Open data can help ensure that both the technology and the public are ready for the road ahead.

The Department of Transportation is already preparing for this shift. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) released the Federal Automated Vehicles Policy, which provides safety guidance for the development of automated vehicles, in September 2016. The policy offers vehicle performance guidance that gives industry a flexible approach to pursue the technology, summarizes the need for a consistent national framework for operating automated vehicles, outlines the current regulatory tools available to the NHTSA, and examines potential future tools and authorities. NHTSA is continuing to

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solicit feedback on the policy and plans to release additional guidance or updates in the future.

As NHTSA continues its research to examine the unique opportunities and risks provided by automated vehicles, such as cybersecurity and performance metric development, the administration should lay the foundation for a robust open data ecosystem to support the automated vehicle industry in the future. They can support this vision by:

- Fostering data sharing across the autonomous vehicle industry and government. The NHTSA Policy outlines a plan to establish a mechanism to “facilitate autonomous data sharing,” which is a critical next step to support safer vehicle development. The shared data should include testing environments and scenarios as well as data on accidents or near-misses, which would help the field of developers to address known weaknesses in the technology. Several industry leaders are already voluntarily sharing information with the public, such as monthly reports, that include much of this information but not the datasets themselves.
- Ensuring automated vehicle system safety assessments are born digital. The NHTSA Policy already requests that manufacturers provide 15-point safety assessments as well as collect and share data on incidents, crashes, and near-misses. NHTSA plans to release templates for these assessments in the near future and eventually make them mandatory. NHTSA should ensure these templates collect data in a structured and reusable format that is readily available for analysis and potential future sharing in machine-readable formats. Rather than collecting information in PDF or separate documents, NHTSA should embrace best practices in electronic data collection and replace forms and reports with data fields.

As the technology continues to develop, NHTSA should work with industry to develop a standard automated driver’s test based on open data that will enable future vehicles to self-qualify for market entry. Developing this standard in an open format will support a level playing field for industry, enable the research community to participate, and ensure the public has a voice in this epic shift in modern transportation. This role of public participation aligns with the Department of Transportation’s view that “larger questions [concerning automated vehicles] will require longer and more thorough dialogue with government, industry, academia and, most importantly, the public.”

NHTSA should then work with companies to open their autonomous driver’s test data, including videos and quantitative data. It would function similarly to open crash data from the Insurance Institute of Highway Safety. Opening this data would simultaneously make manufacturers accountable for ensuring vehicle safety, and would give the public confidence in the vehicles. Several surveys show a majority of Americans have safety concerns with automated vehicles. By developing an automated driver test and publishing the results, NHTSA and the automotive industry could help make the public more receptive to automated vehicles’ safety benefits.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Templates and guidance released for safety assessments, including formats for digital data collection
- Convening with industry and research community to set automated vehicle criteria

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration

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with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Launch a Standard Business Reporting Program that will ultimately help businesses lower reporting burdens and costs

**Number:** 79

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T19:50:06Z

**Comment:**

## Launch a Standard Business Reporting Program that will ultimately help businesses lower reporting burdens and costs

## Key Objective(s)

- Set the goal of establishing Standard Business Reporting (SBR) across the federal government as a means of streamlining regulatory reporting requirements to reduce the burden on industry. SBR can also ease administrative and compliance oversight by the government while increasing transparency. The President should direct the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) to lead an SBR program, in partnership with the National Economic Council (NEC). This could be done in the form of an Executive Order issued by the President.
- Direct OIRA and the NEC to develop an SBR roadmap for the federal government by mid-2017 that will lay out a plan for implementation and adoption, including conducting a cost-benefit analysis that evaluates the potential savings to government and industry; developing an initial taxonomy; testing the taxonomy; piloting the program; and setting a date to begin voluntary submissions through SBR. Industry and software companies should play a leading role in developing the taxonomy and refining the program through all stages of implementation.
- Task the NEC with convening an SBR Council composed of federal agencies, industry representatives, and the software industry that will support development of the roadmap and implementation of the broader SBR program. The Council should work directly with industry leaders in auditing, accounting, and human resources.
- Request OIRA to develop biannual progress reports to keep the public informed of SBR's progress.

## Paragraph Description

The federal government has a responsibility to balance the need for appropriate business regulation with the potential burden on businesses to comply. While the cost of regulatory reporting is difficult to gauge, it is significant by any estimate. A 2014 Office of Management and Budget Congressional Report calculated the annual cost of federal rules and paperwork at \$70.2 to \$104.7 billion, while the Small Business Administration (SBA) determined the cost at close to \$2 trillion in 2010. The SBA also found that regulations have a disproportionately large impact on small businesses, which spend 36 percent more per employee than larger firms.

Concern about regulatory burden led both Presidents Clinton and Obama to issue executive orders placing reasonable constraints on developing new government regulations. President Clinton's Executive Order 12866, signed in 1993, requires that agencies submit regulatory actions that have an impact of more than \$100 million to the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) for review. In 2011 President Obama signed Executive Order 13563, which directs agencies to analyze and "modify, streamline, expand,

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or repeal” existing rules “that may be outmoded, ineffective, insufficient, or excessively burdensome.”

While finding the right level of regulation for any industry is a complex calculation, the effort required for regulatory reporting compliance is to some extent a data problem. Using shared, standardized, and open data, the federal government can make it easier for businesses to collect and submit regulatory data across the board.

Standard Business Reporting (SBR) is a proven approach to reducing businesses’ reporting burden. When fully implemented, SBR will enable companies to realize business efficiencies by automatically compiling reporting requirements through regular business functions. For example, the software used for payroll will automatically calculate tax obligations and package the data in a format that can be submitted directly to the government. SBR creates a standard approach across government that can lead to additional efficiencies, such as enabling companies to provide information only once and allowing multiple government agencies to access the same data. This allows all companies, regardless of size, to streamline their work processes and records management.

On the government side, as business data becomes more comparable, it becomes easier for government regulators to ensure transparency and compliance. Regulatory agencies can compare results across offices, helping keep pace with the complexity of the modern economy and predict risks with greater accuracy. Some legislators are already promoting the benefits of this kind of approach: The proposed Financial Transparency Act would follow many of these same principles for the financial industry.

The President should set an ambitious agenda requesting a roadmap and implementation plan. The roadmap should clearly lay out the quantified benefits to the American economy, major milestones for developing and implementing an SBR program, and key roles and responsibilities inside and outside of government. It must allow flexibility to support an agile approach to prioritization, decision making, and exploring alternative solutions. The implementation plan should include an SBR Council, composed of public and private sector leaders, that will examine best practices from SBR implementation around the world and lean on the software industry to detail lessons learned from previous efforts abroad. The plan should require OIRA to submit a public progress report every six months to ensure transparency and that the government stays on track to roll out SBR standards for businesses to use voluntarily in the near future.

Several countries have already demonstrated the value of SBR. The Netherlands Government pioneered SBR with the adoption of the Nederlandse Taxonomie Project (or Dutch Taxonomy Project) in 2004. The Netherlands has since expanded the project with full SBR as the exclusive channel for corporate income tax filings and continued expansion into other reporting requirements, including pilot programs for educational institutions and housing corporations. Australia has implemented a major transition to SBR in recent years. Brazil and New Zealand are drawing on Australia’s SBR program to develop a project for intra-government reporting, and Singapore is in the process of developing a business case for SBR.

The Australian experience also shows how to implement SBR efficiently and effectively. In Australia’s Standard Business Reporting program, the government is partnering with the software industry to automatically collect information during regular business activities, so

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companies can simply review the data and submit it to the government without additional data entry or calculations. Australia is now asking businesses to participate voluntarily, and will make SBR mandatory for many government forms beginning in 2018. The Australian government estimates that businesses saved over \$1 billion in the 2015-2016 fiscal year and projects nearly \$5 billion in cumulative savings by 2017-18.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Announcement of plan to adopt SBR across the federal government
- Establishment of an SBR Council
- Publication of a roadmap laying out plan for implementation and adoption

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Coordinate agency efforts to transition to cloud storage and analytics, enabling more research with government data

**Number:** 78

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T19:41:41Z

**Comment:**

## Coordinate agency efforts to transition to cloud storage and analytics, enabling more research with government data

### ## Key Objective(s)

- The General Services Administration (GSA) and 18F can coordinate across agencies to identify and prioritize open government research datasets that would benefit the research community through enhanced availability through data cloud storage.
- GSA should use bulk purchasing power to obtain cloud storage at discount prices and have 18F support other agencies to open up research data on the cloud through cloud.gov.
- For large datasets, the government should pursue individual contracts for cloud storage and prioritize high-value research datasets.

### ## Paragraph Description

The federal government has been slowly shifting data storage from agency-owned data centers to cloud-based services since 2009, but many high-value research government datasets are not yet available on the cloud. Putting data on the cloud makes it more easily accessible for researchers and facilitates a variety of analyses. This is particularly useful for large datasets, which would previously require researchers to buy storage, download the dataset or request it via CDs, and then obtain enough processing power to analyze it—a process that could take weeks or months. With cloud storage, researchers can analyze data and develop new products without downloading and storing the data locally.

Although both the General Services Administration (GSA) and 18F provide services to support agencies moving data to the cloud, each agency determines its own path toward cloud-based services while complying with requirements of the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) and National Institute of Standards and

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Technology guidance. The process has led to a fragmented demand for cloud resources, duplicative systems across and within agencies, and management challenges. Agencies reported that they planned to spend \$2 billion on unique cloud computing systems in fiscal year 2016.

By working across the government, GSA and 18F can be more strategic about obtaining cloud storage solutions at discount prices and prioritizing datasets for the cloud. GSA should leverage its purchasing power to bulk purchase cloud storage and 18F should use the cloud.gov platform to help distribute it across the government.

GSA and 18F should also prioritize efforts to open large datasets to support research. Examples of existing datasets that would directly support research initiatives include NEXRAD data, which contains weather radar data from the National Weather Service; NAIP imagery, which is orthophotography that depicts agriculture growth patterns around the country; and LIDAR data, a method for surveying that uses laser light to measure distance to a target, as well as many others. Making this data more easily accessible through the cloud, eliminates the lengthy logistical hurdles that currently exist for researchers to use these datasets.

By collectively assessing needs across the federal government and making bulk purchases for cloud storage and processing power, GSA can hasten efforts to move key datasets to the cloud while reducing costs. Cloud storage has already proved extremely valuable for research efforts involving key datasets. For example, the U.S. Geological Survey and NASA partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to host Landsat data, spatial imagery and information on the Earth's composition, in the cloud. The data is available to anyone for free with daily updates, often within hours of production. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) partnered with AWS, Google Cloud Platform, IBM, Microsoft, and the Open Cloud Consortium to put vast amounts of data in the cloud as well. Similarly, the Broad Institute of MIT and Google collaborated to host Broad's massive genomic dataset (Broad DNA sequencers produce more than 20 terabytes of data each day) on the cloud. After implementing optimizations, the Broad-Google collaboration reduced costs while improving processing time eight-fold. These initiatives have demonstrated that the public-private partnership model is effective for cloud storage of large, high-value datasets.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Publication of list of high-priority datasets that could benefit from enhanced availability through cloud storage
- Evaluation of bulk purchasing option for cloud storage and data processing completed

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Help communities address opioid addiction by opening up data on drug treatment facilities

**Number:** 77

**User/Login:** audrey-a

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T19:11:44Z

**Comment:**

## Help communities address opioid addiction by opening up data on drug treatment facilities

## Key Objective(s)

- The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) should develop an online portal with information on drug treatment centers, including quality metrics and cost.
- Working with state health agencies and the research community, SAMHSA should establish a list of data elements to collect electronically from drug treatment facilities, including both cost and performance data. SAMHSA should ensure the performance data collected is based on criteria grounded in research and empirical studies.
- The federal government should collect this data, either directly or through the states, and provide data to the public through an online portal similar to the Department of Health and Human Services' Hospital Compare program.
- Once the portal is established, SAMHSA should consider adding a confidential, universal patient survey to its data collection.

## Paragraph Description

Substance abuse is a longstanding epidemic in America, but the recent surge in opioid addiction and related deaths brings new urgency to addressing the problem. Since 2000, drug overdose deaths have increased 137 percent, with opioid-overdose related deaths at the forefront. In 2014, overdoses claimed more than 47,000 American lives, including nearly 30,000 due to opioid overdose. These alarming statistics demand national action.

Data analysis is now playing an important role in combating opioid addiction. State medical boards and health officials are monitoring prescribing patterns to identify doctors who may be overprescribing opioid drugs. The Department of Justice is also developing new methods to share real-time data between public health and public safety officials nationwide. In addition to these initiatives, which focus on the use of data by government officials, there is an opportunity to use a different kind of data—open data about treatment facilities—to help people affected by opioid abuse.

Opioid addicts and their families often have difficulty accessing treatment. According to the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), in 2014 only about 12 percent of the 21.2 million Americans who needed treatment for an illegal drug or alcohol problem obtained it. While the cost and limited availability of treatment are factors, even people who are committed to getting help have difficulty finding effective treatment: There is no centralized resource they can use to evaluate different options to make an informed choice.

SAMHSA should work with treatment facilities, state health agencies, and the research community to develop a plan to build such a resource. As a first step of the plan, SAMHSA should develop a taxonomy for collecting data from treatment facilities, including performance data and other factors such as treatment availability, services provided, cost, accepted insurance, and any restrictions on treatment (e.g., some facilities do not treat minors or individuals with prior convictions). The nonprofit Treatment Research Institute has developed quality effectiveness ratings for treatment facilities that are based on

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scientific research. SAMHSA should leverage this effort or similar projects to ensure the performance data is based on empirical principles for what constitutes sound, effective care.

The second step should focus on data collection. SAMHSA should develop a method for reliably and consistently collecting this information from treatment centers around the country. SAMHSA should explore ways to ensure unbiased reporting at regular intervals, including collecting data through state health agencies or partnering with nonprofits, such as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

The final step of the plan should lead to an open, easy-to-use online portal that displays this information for the public. SAMHSA should consider basing this portal on the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Hospital Compare program. Hospital Compare is a consumer-oriented website that provides information on hospital quality. Similarly, the treatment facility comparison portal will provide details on treatment center quality and other basic information that may influence decision making, with similar features such as search by zip code.

In addition to helping opioid abusers and their families, this portal would be valuable for the wide network of individuals working to help addicted people, including police officers, social workers, public defenders, and community leaders. Many communities have embraced a public health solution to the opioid epidemic through medication-assisted treatment and are working to help individuals fight their addiction and avoid incarceration.

Researchers and policymakers can combine data on treatment facilities with existing datasets from the Centers for Disease Control, the Drug Enforcement Agency, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and other data from the Department of Justice and HHS, to identify high-priority areas that are in need of clinics, doctors and treatment centers. They can then use that data analysis to make concrete recommendations to shift federal resources to communities that need them to address the opioid epidemic.

Data on treatment facilities can ultimately serve to improve those facilities themselves. Analysts can review the data collected for this portal to show which kinds of treatment are most effective for specific patient populations, to identify trends in treatment approaches, and to identify facilities that may be providing substandard care. Once the portal is established, SAMHSA should consider developing a confidential, universal patient survey that would support these goals by adding data about patients' experience with these facilities.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- SAMHSA releases plan to implement the online portal on drug treatment centers
- List of data elements to collect electronically from drug treatment facilities established, including both cost and performance data.
- Online portal with information on drug treatment centers established, including quality metrics and cost.

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Standardize and update the government's public data on occupations and required skills to help Americans find jobs

**Number:** 76

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T19:05:41Z

**Comment:**

## Standardize and update the government's public data on occupations and required skills to help Americans find jobs

## Key Objective(s)

- The Department of Labor (DOL) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) should work together to standardize job skills data and make that data easily available to improve information for job-seekers, job skills trainers, and employers. DOL and NIST should convene key public and private sector stakeholders to develop a Skills Data Standard for the Occupational Information Network (O\*NET), the government's centralized resource on occupational and skills data. DOL and NIST should develop a Skills Network Protocol for applying those standards together with key metadata.
- DOL should then use these standards to incorporate new data into O\*NET, including enabling the O\*NET database to automatically incorporate jobs posted online using these standards.
- DOL should revamp the O\*NET website and O\*NET data services with an improved user interface, a more scalable API, and better developer documentation, developed with 18F, USDS, or other government resources.
- The President's budget should include funding for O\*NET improvement.
- DOL, together with the White House, should explore opportunities for public-private collaboration to fund and implement the continued improvement of jobs-related data.

## Paragraph Description

Despite improvement in the unemployment rate over the past several years, too many Americans still struggle to find good jobs to provide for themselves and their families. As of August 2016, 7.8 million Americans were unemployed, including nearly half a million veterans. Finding a job is challenging: The Bureau of Labor Statistics reports unemployed Americans spend a median of 11 weeks between jobs, and job-hunting is especially difficult for the 2 million Americans who have been unemployed for more than 6 months. High-quality, timely open data can help job seekers and reduce the unemployment rate.

The federal government's Occupational Information Network (O\*NET) is a centralized resource for employers, job-seekers, and job skills trainers to help the unemployed find work and plan their careers. O\*NET's database includes annually updated information on 974 occupations, including associated skills, trainings, and experiences. Job seekers can explore the occupational data and then link to one of the 2,500 American Job Centers to identify specific opportunities.

An Open Data Roundtable held by the Department of Labor (DOL) and the Center for Open Data Enterprise examined O\*NET's current use and opportunities for improvement. While job seekers, academics, and others who interact with O\*NET consider it the definitive source for jobs information, they also believe it should incorporate new information from additional sources. DOL updates O\*NET through an annual survey that cannot capture rapid

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changes in job definitions and skills requirements. For this reason, DOL, the White House, and others have been exploring ways to update O\*NET regularly with jobs and skills data from the private sector and other sources.

To make it possible to update O\*NET with data from diverse sources, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) should work with DOL, and with key public and private sector stakeholders, to develop a Skills Data Standard for O\*NET. NIST should also detail a mechanism for quarterly updates and a set of standard, minimum metadata and language for job postings that link to those skills. The data and metadata standards, and guidelines for using them, can then be applied widely through a Skills Network Protocol developed by NIST and DOL. By clearly defining and standardizing the skills that O\*NET uses to describe occupations and providing consistent metadata with job postings through a Skills Network Protocol, DOL can more easily update the skills associated with occupations.

DOL should also revamp the O\*NET website and O\*NET data services with an improved user interface, a more scalable API, and better developer documentation. O\*NET is currently underutilized: The O\*NET site has only 4 million visits per month, compared to 180 million unique visitors to Indeed, a job posting company, and 100 million active monthly users for LinkedIn, a private sector professional networking website. Work to improve O\*NET could be supported by 18F, the U.S. Digital Service, or other government resources.

DOL has recognized O\*NET's current limitations and requested \$5 million in fiscal year 2017 to modernize the system. Congress did not authorize this budget request. Given the potential economic value of improving O\*NET, the President's budget should include funding for O\*NET improvement going forward.

The White House and DOL should also convene industry and philanthropic leaders to establish a public-private commitment to develop and use the Skills Data Standards and the Skills Network Protocol. As employers, business leaders have a vested interest in improving jobs and skills information that can help the hiring process. The private sector can play several important roles, including:

- Helping to fund the technical work of standards development and O\*NET improvement.
- Contributing data using those standards from employment-related websites.
- Collaborating with DOL or federal research agencies to support research on automatically extracting skills data from text in job postings.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Stakeholder engagement convening held to gather input on O\*NET Skills Data Standard for O\*NET

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Enable data users to voluntarily provide direct feedback that will improve data quality

**Number:** 75

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T18:57:38Z

**Comment:**

## Enable data users to voluntarily provide direct feedback that will improve data quality

## Key Objective(s)

- Use federally sponsored challenges and extensive user feedback to improve data quality.
- Provide guidance for all agencies to use direct feedback mechanisms, including crowdsourcing, to improve data quality, and request that agencies engage with their data to identify errors and clean datasets.
- Implement various methods for successfully eliciting and incorporating user feedback, including circumstances in which user participation would be limited to recognized subject-matter experts to ensure data accuracy.
- Agencies and departments providing federal data resources, such as data.gov and other, agency-specific portals, should develop effective online feedback channels for users to suggest improvements to data quality on those portals.

## Paragraph Description

Open government data is most useful when it is accurate, timely, and of high quality—but many federal datasets fall short. The Government Accountability Office (GAO) has issued hundreds of reports with recommendations on improving data quality across dozens of federal agencies, such as the Census Bureau and Internal Revenue Service. The federal government can improve data quality by applying a concept that has been demonstrated as an effective practice across the tech community: direct user participation.

Similar to citizen coders addressing bugs in open source software, data users can help identify and fix government data quality problems. OSTP should draft a memo encouraging all agencies administering major open data portals, including data.gov, to provide channels for feedback and proactively invite the public to evaluate and improve data according to basic quality requirements. These channels would go well beyond the “report a bug” option that is currently available on many websites but seldom used. More effective feedback channels can give government data stewards input ranging from simple data corrections (for example, correcting an address or name in a database) to expert insights on addressing deeper quality issues. The memo should include methods for successfully accomplishing this goal. Several government agencies and initiatives have developed effective models for using public input to improve data quality.

One such model is the Department of Health and Human Services’ (HHS) Demand-Driven Open Data project. This project provides users a pathway to tell HHS what data they need and creates a transparent feedback loop that ensures follow-up and follow-through. This ongoing project has had a range of positive effects on HHS data quality, including improving machine-readability, helping identify and eliminate manual mistakes, and surfacing opportunities for standardization.

Streetwyze, a tool built through the White House’s Opportunity Project, provides another useful engagement model. Streetwyze collects local neighborhood information from residents and pairs that data with existing government datasets to form open maps and actionable recommendations—allowing citizens to re-engage to make corrections. For example, citizen input can clarify that a building marked as a grocery store is actually a

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liquor store.

The USAID Loan Guarantee Map used a third model, convening a crowd of experienced geospatial data volunteers in the Standby Task Force and GIS Corps to review 117,000 loan records and clarify 10,000 difficult-to-identify data points. The volunteers accomplished this task in only 16 hours. Working in partnership with the private sector, USAID customized the event to share data with a community of experts before opening the data to the public.

The private sector has already embraced user feedback initiatives, including crowdsourcing, to improve data quality. Google's mapmaker program allows any Google Maps user to share information about places he or she knows, identifying errors and thus boosting the quality of Google map data. The platform gives increased moderation and editing authority to users who have regularly submitted accurate information. This two-tiered system allows average users to build expertise, rewards power users, supports engagement, and results in timely, accurate data.

The challenge model, in which government agencies hold competitions inviting the public to solve problems, can also improve data quality.

The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) launched a public competition to provide solutions for data disambiguation, addressing the "ambiguous" instances where the identities of inventors or organizations are not clear. This problem results from repetition or overlap when a single inventor or organization appears in the database under slightly different names, or, conversely, when different inventors share the same name (there are several different inventors registered as "Steve Jobs" and "Steven Jobs," for example). The winning team created a solution that "uses discriminative hierarchical core reference as a new approach to increase the quality of PatentsView data." The USPTO publishes the improved data on PatentsView, a prototype platform to open and visualize U.S. patent data.

The USPTO has also developed a channel and tools for ongoing feedback on its data resources. The USPTO's Developer Hub tool, which provides access to USPTO's extensive data collection and APIs to improve accessibility, includes an online community to gain demand-driven requirements from its users, as well as resources for data visualization. Another project, the USPTO Open Data and Mobility program, is advancing how the USPTO provides data, promotes transparency, and empowers data-driven decision making.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Publication of guidance for agencies on direct feedback mechanisms
- Number of agencies with direct data feedback mechanisms

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Standardize reporting data for federal grants to help make that data more accessible and useful.

**Number:** 74

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T18:32:51Z

**Comment:**

## Standardize reporting data for federal grants to help make that data more accessible and useful.

## Key Objective(s)

- In August 2017 the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) expected to finish testing the Common Data Element Repository Library (CDER) to evaluate its effectiveness in reducing the burden of grantee reporting. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should build on this foundation to standardize the data structure of all grantee reports, across the federal government.
- If HHS' testing shows that the CDER Library can reduce grantees' reporting burden through automating their compliance operations, then OMB should exercise its existing authority under the DATA Act to require all agencies to adopt the CDER Library as the official data structure for grant reporting.
- OMB should convene representatives from grant-awarding agencies and grant recipients to determine how to best implement a national roll-out.
- OMB should update requirements for the single audit to ensure it aligns with the CDER Library and eliminate the redundant data fields collected during regular reporting requirements.

## Paragraph Description

The federal government supports state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as domestic private and nonprofit organizations, through a suite of nearly 2,300 grants and other financial assistance. These grants, totaling \$624.4 billion in fiscal year 2015, help fund nearly every facet of public services, including economic support, research, infrastructure, and many other programs. Yet the federal government has difficulty tracking and accounting for this spending, in part because the more than 28 federal departments and agencies administering grants do not collect information from grantees in a standardized way.

These differences also substantially increase the reporting burden for grantees, primarily state and local governments, who must complete a multitude of forms and reports, each asking for information in its own way. Local governments are under continuous pressure to do more with less, and onerous reporting requirements can be an obstacle in applying for federal grants. The difficulty of complying with reporting requirements and restrictive spend-down timelines has left many cities and towns unable to use the grant money they need.

The Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2014 (DATA Act) took a step toward addressing this challenge. The DATA Act directed the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to develop a standardized electronic version of all federal grant reporting requirements. OMB delegated this task to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), which developed a data dictionary of more than 11,000 data elements used in grant reports, known as the Common Data Element Repository Library. HHS is currently testing whether this taxonomy will enable grantees to reduce administrative effort and costs by submitting their grant reports electronically. HHS plans to evaluate the taxonomy's effectiveness by August 2017.

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If the Common Data Element Repository Library reduces reporting burden, OMB should mandate its use across the federal government for grant reporting beginning in fiscal year 2019. To accomplish this goal, all grant-awarding federal agencies, along with key actors from state, local, and tribal governments, will need to participate in developing a plan for national implementation. They should produce this implementation plan by January 2018. The plan should include full government-wide implementation, including a necessary adjustment period. Additional efforts to reduce burden could include using the same collection mechanism for the single audit program, a largely duplicative review required for larger grantees.

By replacing document-based grant reporting with standardized, open data, the government can improve the management, transparency, and outcomes of all grants. Implementing the Common Data Element Repository Library across the federal government is the first step toward making this transformation. Additional standardization across grant reporting, particularly with respect to the tracking and reporting of unspent funds, will also be necessary. Even more importantly, streamlined grant procedures across all federal agencies could make the federal grant process much simpler for grantees and can serve as a cornerstone for engendering greater transparency—opening federal grant data for citizens and other stakeholders in expanded and meaningful ways.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Agencies required to adopt the CDER Library as official data structure for grant reporting (if shown to reduce reporting burden)
- Updated requirements to the single audit for alignment with CDER Library

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Fully implement the DATA Act to provide financial transparency and accountability through open data.

**Number:** 73

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T18:28:42Z

**Comment:**

## Fully implement the DATA Act to provide financial transparency and accountability through open data.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should continue building on the DATA Act's momentum by announcing a plan to eliminate duplicative legacy reporting systems, such as Treasury systems, the Federal Assistance Award Data System, and the Federal Procurement Data System, once DATA Act reporting is underway.
- OMB should provide guidance for all federal agency Chief Financial Officers to use the DATA Act data to analyze the performance of their programs.
- The President should direct OMB and the federal agencies to use the DATA Act Information Model Schema to create, report, and publish all spending-related information, including payment requests. To ensure checkbook-level spending information is captured, the administration should develop its budget using a

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format consistent with the Schema; and the President should encourage Congress to do the same with appropriations bills.

### ## Paragraph Description

The DATA Act was a monumental step forward for open government data, but passing the legislation itself did not ensure the government will accomplish its goals. Realizing the widespread benefits of the DATA Act will require years of effort and broad cooperation across government. Looking beyond 2017, OMB should continue to pursue additional gains in opening federal spending data.

Although the DATA Act strengthens and standardizes federal spending data, the law does not relieve federal agencies of their legacy reporting requirements, so agencies will have to simultaneously report the same information twice. The Department of the Treasury and OMB should announce their intentions to remove legacy reporting requirements as the DATA Act reporting structure comes to fruition. This announcement will further underscore the importance of all agencies making the switch to the DATA Act Information Model Schema and reduce the future reporting burden for all federal agencies.

The DATA Act does not apply to every stage of the federal spending lifecycle. Notably, the President's annual budget proposals and Congressional appropriations reside outside the requirement. In support of the DATA Act and open data initiatives, the President should develop the administration's budget using the DATA Act Schema and request that Congress follow suit. Similarly, the DATA Act Information Model Schema does not cover agencies' payment information, the granular, checkbook-level records of each transaction. The President should direct OMB and the federal agencies to extend the Schema to cover payments.

Full implementation of the DATA Act will make it dramatically easier to understand federal government spending. Federal agencies will have better data to support management decisions and will be able to link to performance data to assess and improve their operations. Researchers and nonprofits will be able to explore trends and identify opportunities to reduce costs. Citizens will have the opportunity to understand the programs their tax dollars support. The DATA Act has the potential to enhance government performance, reduce expenditures, and increase accountability—but only if the federal government continues to strongly support its implementation.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Plan to eliminate duplicative legacy reporting systems developed
- Publication of guidance to Agency CFOs
- Use of the DATA Act Information Model Schema by Congress and Administration

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Ensure government data is born digital to help agencies analyze and open the data efficiently.

**Number:** 72

**User/Login:** audrey-a

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T18:23:47Z

**Comment:**

## Ensure government data is born digital to help agencies analyze and open the data efficiently.

## Key Objective(s)

- The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should update implementation guidance for the Government Paperwork Elimination Act to support electronic filing (e-filing). OMB should incentivize end-users to use e-filing for all forms for which an agency anticipates more than 50,000 annual submissions.
- All federal agencies should take steps to require or nudge end-users to use e-filing options, such as making e-filing the default, putting several forms together online to provide a single portal, or adding disincentives for paper filing.
- The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs should ensure that agencies digitally collect and release regulatory datasets of high interest
- The President's budget should include requirements for digital data collection and publication, where appropriate, and should provide funds to support the transition to a digital approach.

## Paragraph Description

For almost two decades, statutory, judicial, and regulatory actions have required or advised federal agencies to collect information electronically whenever feasible. The 1998 Government Paperwork Elimination Act required federal agencies to begin accepting electronic information by 2003, and further stipulated "if [an] agency anticipates receiving 50,000 or more electronic submittals of a particular form, multiple methods of submitting such forms electronically must be in place." More recently, the 2013 Open Data Policy stipulated that agencies should default to electronic filing (e-filing) and that they "must use machine-readable and open formats for information as it is collected or created." By ensuring that data is born digital, e-filing can greatly increase the accuracy and accessibility of government data.

Despite these mandates, the federal government's electronic data collection includes significant gaps. Even when an agency offers the option to submit forms electronically, many users still elect to provide information on paper, especially if the electronic option is cumbersome. For example, although the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) met its longstanding goal of achieving an 80 percent electronic rate for individual tax returns, only 36 percent of users e-filed their employment tax forms in the Form 94x series for 2015. Employers looking to use the electronic version of the 94x series must clear several hurdles, including waiting up to 45 days to receive an electronic filing number and using specialty software. The Electronic Tax Administration Advisory Committee has said the IRS is unlikely to meet its 80 percent goal for this series until it implements a new electronic signature process for these forms.

When data is not born digital, it becomes costly and time consuming to transform it into a structured dataset that can be accessed and reused. Accordingly, many key datasets are never digitized. During the second quarter of 2015, 13 percent of open government data downloads were in PDF format. The Small Business Administration and the Department of State had the highest rates of PDF datasets, at 87 percent and 58 percent, respectively.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) should update implementation guidance for

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

the Government Paperwork Elimination Act to incentivize end-users to use e-filing for all forms for which an agency anticipates more than 50,000 annual submissions. Agencies have several tools at their disposal to increase the likelihood of end-users choosing e-filing. Making the e-filing option the default, and presenting it in a way that is easy to use, can drive up its use. The Free Application for Federal Student Aid, for example, has made online submissions the default and now receives more than 95 percent of submissions online. Putting several required forms together online can provide a “one-stop-shop” that makes it easy to use electronic filing for all of them. At the same time, disincentives for using paper forms can drive users to e-filing: The Electronic Filing Incentive for the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, which charges between \$200 - \$400 for paper applications, has produced a 93 percent e-filing rate.

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs should ensure that electronic filing facilitates rapid, accurate open data in areas of high public interest. Recent rulemakings have shown the importance of changing from paper forms to making information electronically available in key regulatory areas. Over the past several years, the Federal Communications Commission has required television and radio stations to electronically upload their records of political ad buys online. This replaced the previous practice of keeping paper records, which made it impossible to survey broad patterns of political ad spending. In May 2016, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration similarly ruled that large employers will have to file reports on injuries and illnesses electronically so that the data can easily be made public.

E-filing allows for electronic data protection and pre-submission validation (e.g., a phone number field can be set to only allow the entry of ten numerals) rather than the unrestricted way information is collected on paper. It also eliminates the substantial risk of introducing inaccuracies when moving data from paper-based to electronic forms.

Ensuring government data is born digital makes data collection faster, reduces errors in the data, and enables agencies to open the data more easily and rapidly. More specifically, uniform electronic filing will save taxpayers money and improve data accuracy. Many agencies have had to print, copy, and store paper forms, incurring costs that can be eliminated by switching to electronic data collection. For example, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office’s Electronic Filing System has saved an estimated \$5,243,440 in paper costs alone in twelve years of electronic data submission.

The President’s budget should specify e-filing where it is appropriate and can make a significant difference, both to realize the potential savings from e-filing and to ensure that funds are available to make the transition from paper to electronic formats. For example, President Obama’s 2017 budget requests that all tax-exempt organizations required to file Form 990 series returns must do so electronically. That proposal, which would also require the IRS to release Form 990 data electronically, would let organizations apply for a waiver to submit their forms on paper and would allow a transition of up to three years to comply with the new rule. The President’s budget should continue to include this initiative and use similar language to support e-filing across the federal government.

Overall, e-filing makes it more efficient for businesses to submit data and for agencies to publish it, saving time and labor costs. Ultimately, adopting e-filing across government will enable businesses to input key information only once and have it applied across all the

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

forms they are required to submit to federal agencies. This approach has the potential to greatly improve efficiency and reduce the regulatory burden on business.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Updated implementation guidance for the Government Paperwork Elimination Act to support electronic filing (e-filing)
- Number of federal agencies using e-filing options

This recommendation was initially made as part of the [Open Data Transition Report](#). This nonpartisan Report was developed by the Center for Open Data Enterprise in collaboration with over 60 subject-matter experts. For more information

**Title:** Develop an Open Data Standard for Government Program Eligibility

**Number:** 71

**User/Login:** anthonygarvan

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T23:17:36Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Government information and processes are organized around programs. With so many departments and types of government, it makes it nearly impossible for a citizen to answer the simple question, "what benefits am I eligible for?" I propose an open data standard for describing government a program that includes the fundamental information of what it is, who is eligible, and how they can apply.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Developing this standard will require participation from many levels of government, since program eligibility is a nuanced topic. By promoting an open standard for this information, it can greatly amplify the ability of mid-sized and smaller programs to reach their intended audience.

### ## Paragraph Description

Government services face a fundamental marketing problem: in order to provide services, government is organized around `_programs_`. Yet, as a citizen, you have little knowledge of government programs, what you have instead is knowledge about `_your own needs & identity_`. For example, what I know about myself is that I'm a middle-aged man living in Chicago. But how could I figure out what services I'm eligible for? I'd have to have a deep knowledge of the various layers of local, state, and federal programs that would apply to my demographic, my life circumstances, etc. Few people have that knowledge. Instead, I'd like to be able to go to a website, put in information I know about myself and my circumstances, and be provided a list of government services across local, and state, and federal, that I am eligible for. To enable this, I propose a new open data initiative to make a standardized data format describing government programs & eligibility that could support applications which provide a Q&A format and in return provide a list of services I'm eligible for along with basic information such as a name and description of the services, advantages of enrolling, directions on how to apply, where to go if I have questions, etc..

Some critical aspects of the proposed killer which would drive adoption of this standard:

- It should be able to show results as I fill out information, not wait until the end

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- It should be smart about what questions to ask next, based on probabilities that it applies to me (think of a decision-tree model, where at each new question you ask a user you are trying to maximize the value of the results they get back). So, for example, "Are you over 65?" might be a reasonable first question while "Are you a tribal small business owner?" would not be, but the latter question would be more likely to be asked next if I have already answered that I am a member of a tribe.
- It should not depend on a centralized submission source. This is a little technical and might not belong in this issue, but ideally the standard would support a federated model and not rely on a single point of aggregation.
- Ideally, stats like program budget, headcount, and number of citizens served per year would be included
- Ideally, it should be easily extensible, or flexible enough that if I have exotic eligibility requirements (which, of course, many programs do!), I would still be able to publish a valid structured data file (eg., a "programs.json") to my website without having to go through a committee, and have that data be consumed and integrated seamlessly with existing applications.
- Although I have the Q&A format in mind as the primary use case, it should be possible to slice & dice the data in all sorts of ways, for example to compile that participating programs into topic-specific lists that might be more search engine friendly (eg., with this data you could also easily compile a series of static websites listing resources for homelessness in every city).
- Optionally, it would be nice to also support programs for which you benefit, but do not apply to (e.g., the FDA, benefiting from defense programs, roads, etc) so that a citizen could ask not just "what am I eligible for" but also "what do I benefit from?" This might not be as urgent a question for citizens, but would greatly help government program managers to understand how various programs are overlapping & interacting locally.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- 01/18-06/18 -> Identify beta group of departments / programs to help define the initial draft of the standard. Start initial discussions.
- 12/18 -> Release draft of Standards
- 03/19 -> Initial Departments publish eligibility data (a federated model makes sense to me, but up to implementers), simple public-facing beta site setup for citizens to enter in information about themselves and get a list of programs. At least 5 programs participating in the standards.
- 06/19 -> At least 50 programs implementing new standards.

**Title:** Transparency of Investigative Technologies

**Number:** 70

**User/Login:** rebeccawilliams

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T20:24:20Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

The government will commit to disclosing information on the use of investigative technologies

## Key Objective(s)

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Increase transparency for law enforcement use of investigative technologies

### ## Paragraph Description

As law enforcement and homeland security agencies have harnessed the use of new technologies, such as cell-site simulators, the Administration has recognized that these technologies, must be used in a manner that protects the privacy and civil liberties of the public. Law enforcement agencies will develop and make publicly available a privacy analysis for advanced technologies and undertake periodic privacy review of their use. Per [NAP 3](#)

### ## Measurable Metrics

- 3-6 months: all federal agencies will publish information about the number of cell-site simulators used by each agency.
- 6-12 months: publish machine readable budget information of DOJ grants to all law enforcement agencies for investigative technologies.
- 12 months: publish an annual report of all transfers of investigative technologies through the Pentagon's 1033 program.
- 12 months: publish an annual report of all DHS and DOJ transfers of investigative technology equipment or training to law enforcement.

Contributors: PEN American, Sunlight Foundation, OpenTheGovernment, American Library Association.

**Title:** Expand the scope of machine readable data beyond tabular formats

**Number:** 69

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T20:23:30Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Machine readability is often only used to describe requirements for tabular data, but we should review the opportunity to expand the scope to include other types of information including reports, policy (including memos) , visual diagrams (including org charts), and other formats that have historically only been presented as printed documents or graphics.

### ## Key Objective(s)

### ## Paragraph Description

### ## Measurable Metrics

From co-creation workshop on Sep 29th

#cocreation

**Title:** Co-Create a Framework to Solve Specific Problems with Open Data

**Number:** 68

**User/Login:** KTsteen27

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T20:23:26Z

**Comment:**

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Topline Description

Create a framework through task forces to solve open data use-cases that are cross-agency and cross-sector.

### ## Key Objective(s)

1. Convene stakeholders across agencies and civil society to discuss data-use challenges
2. Produce a framework for solving specific data-use problems

### ## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

### ## Measurable Metrics

- U.S will develop working groups that are cross-sector and cross-agency. Success can be measured by the number of working groups established with framework to solve specific and complex problems.

#cocreation

**Title:** Open data standardization and interoperability

**Number:** 67

**User/Login:** kgbtech

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T20:23:22Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Restore American technological leadership to its rightful place through data standardization and interoperability driven by public private collaborations.

### ## Paragraph Description

Use public private collaborations that use smarter marketplaces and open idea exchanges to benefit from the power of the crowds.

### ## Measurable Metrics:

Data standards commitments:

- 12 month process employing user-centered agile/iterative spirits with industry and the public that make use of Commerce, NSIT JV program that would result in a concrete strategic plan with public milestones.
- Improvements to federation.data.gov through distributed standards that reflect a pulse on society
- Agile co-creation of standards that iteratively lift what's working and best practices from all sectors.
- Evolve data standards through data governance.

**Title:** Making AI in the Justice System open and accountable

**Number:** 66

**User/Login:** calebwatney

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T20:21:22Z

**Comment:**

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Topline Description

Risk assessment algorithms and other forms of AI have enormous potential to reform our justice system, but we need to make sure they are open and accountable to the public to ensure due process.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Require that all risk assessment algorithms and datasets used to inform judicial decisions in the federal criminal justice system are built on free and open source software to allow audits and suggested improvements from civil society groups.
- The Department of Justice should issue a task-force to report on the use of risk assessment software in state criminal justice systems and work to make public-record criminal datasets accessible in a bulk-downloadable, machine-readable format. They should also promote the development of open source case management and translation services to be freely available for State and county-level legal systems.

### ## Paragraph Description

To ensure transparency and due process for the use of innovative risk assessment algorithms in the criminal justice system, the executive branch should require that all risk assessment algorithms used to inform judicial decisions in the federal criminal justice system are built on free and open source software to allow audits and suggested improvements from civil society groups. This would include public access to the anonymized training data, methods of machine learning (if applicable), and final weighing of the variables. Furthermore, the Department of Justice should issue a task-force to report on the use of risk assessment software in state criminal justice systems and work to make public-record criminal datasets accessible in a bulk-downloadable, machine-readable format. They should also promote the development of open source case management and translation services to be freely available for State and county-level legal systems. Progress in this area would be measured based on an increase in the use of transparent risk assessment software in pretrial, sentencing, and parole hearings decreased jail and prison populations, and the resulting taxpayer savings.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Progress in this area would be measured based on:

- An increase in the use of transparent risk assessment software in pretrial, sentencing, and parole hearings
- Decreased jail and prison populations
- The resulting taxpayer savings

#cocreation

**Title:** Open and Accountable Government Use of Data & Methodology

**Number:** 65

**User/Login:** EricBolinder

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T20:09:35Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Create universal standards for government use and dissemination of quality data, and methodology.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Key Objective(s)

This will allow civil society the ability to analyze and reproduce government use of data and methodology. This is essential to holding agencies accountable in the rule making process.

### # ## Paragraph Description

Government agencies are required to comply with the Information Quality Act and the ensuing OMB guidelines mandating overall quality, objectivity, integrity, and utility of data. Often it is difficult to access the source data and methodology used by agencies in pursuit of policymaking and rule making. The only way to ensure that agencies are not using junk methodology or science to come to pre-determined policy outcomes is to have a transparent process where the agency is forced to release all source data and methodology it has relied on to come to its determinations.

### ## Measurable Metrics

By June 2019:

- All agencies should have guidelines in place to mandate release of agency data and methodology within 30 days of any agency scientific dissemination or published study.
- OMB should have guidelines and enforcement mechanisms in place to hold agencies accountable to this process.
- Congress should consider legislation making a failure to release this data judicially reviewable.
- OGIS (or a similar agency) should highlight the agencies that are doing the best job in being transparent with study data.

#CoCreation

**Title:** Develop Guidelines for Storing Federal-Funded Research

**Number:** 64

**User/Login:** KTsteen27

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T19:53:49Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

OMB should host a workshop with stakeholders (civil society, agency staff, legislators) to develop agency wide guidelines to make the data underlying federally-funded research articles available to the public at the same time, for purposes of validating and reproducing these results, as well as encouraging new, original research.

### ## Key Objective(s)

1. Host workshop with key stakeholders in the research community.
2. Produce guidelines for agency staff on making data underlying federally-funded research articles available to the public.

### ## Paragraph Description-

Many agencies have made commitments to make both articles and data resulting from federally-funded research easily accessible by the public on open platforms (such the NIH's PubMed Central). However, in most cases, the underlying data needed to validate and reproduce results, and to conduct additional original research, is not readily accessible

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

along with the article. Coordination is needed between agencies to establish guidelines to make this underlying data available to provide transparency and to increase the value of taxpayer-funded research.

### ## Measurable Metrics

OMB will host a workshop by April 2018 and publish guidelines for the storing of federally-funded research.

#cocreation

**Title:** Open Procurement

**Number:** 63

**User/Login:** atrain440

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T19:33:07Z

**Comment:** Topline: All have access to procurement related docs from initial draft through award

### ## Topline Description

Increase transparency of government procurement to make it easier for all businesses including small businesses to participate in the contracting process and allow the public and government to better track the value of the products and services received.

To make it easier for all americans to bid for government contracts. Increasing market. Procurement focus right now are on price not on quality.

### ## Key Objective(s)

This increases transparency of government agency purchasing and allows for greater accountability around government procurement decisions. It would also increase efficiency around procurement disputes by providing a public accounting of the process from start to finish. Draft all docs in the open. Within / Outside government improves procurements via "pull requests"

Open procurement processes level increase access to procurement processes for the general public and increase competition for government tenders. This in turn increases demands on incumbent contractors and increases market access for small and medium businesses. This also contributes to anti-corruption efforts, increasing the capacity of government to target and diagnose corruption risks in the procurement process, while reducing the costs and increasing efficiency.

### ## Paragraph Description

Building on the best practices developed by projects within OMB and GSA, the United States will [launch procurement.gov or expand USAspending.gov] to capture and post government contracts from planning to awards to implementation. Agencies participating in the Acquisition Innovation Advocate Council will support an open contracting pilot within [X TBD] agencies based on the Open Contracting Data Standards to make it easier for all businesses including small businesses to participate in the contracting process and allow the public and government to better track the value of the products and services received. These agencies will comply with the Open Government Partnership's C5 Open Data

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Contracting standards (Planning, Initiation (Tender) (or Licenses, Awards, Contract Publication, Implementation). (The team that developed this is here in DC). INcorporate lessons learned from the 18F Blanket Purchase Agreement and USDS Standards/Lessons Learned from procurement.

### ## Measurable Metrics

1. operational website open to public presenting procurement data according to the OCDS
2. website piloted by at least two specific agencies (for example FBI, DHS, NGA)
3. Increase competition and the diversity of proposals through process.
4. Money spent through open procurements

**Title:** Implement Open Contracting Data Standard to link information across the contracting chain and increase competition for public contracts

**Number:** 62

**User/Login:** careyklutz

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T18:39:33Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

To increase understanding of how government is spending public money, and ensure government can improve data quality to unlock cost savings and provide a fair marketplace for businesses.

#### ## Key Objective(s)

The United States Government is the world's largest buyer of goods and services, with approximately \$500 billion contracts awarded each year. Lack of rich, connected and open data on procurement hinders efficiency savings and deters suppliers, especially small businesses, from bidding on government contracts. Public access to richer, more user-friendly and connected data sets will establish a fair contracting environment for businesses and allow both citizens and government to benefit from open source tools and resources.

#### ## Paragraph Description

In 2016, the United States committed to promoting the Open Contracting Data Standard ([OCDS](#)), which enables disclosure of data and documents at all stages of the contracting process - from planning through implementation - by defining a common data model. By making data publicly accessible throughout the procurement process, OCDS levels the playing field for businesses, including those that may not generally bid on public contracts.

OCDS also allows for linking pre-award information (including solicitation documents) to post award spending data, increasing understanding of what and how government buys, especially for new businesses interested in selling to the government. Increased competitiveness, fairer markets and more efficient life spans from contracting planning through closure creates a rich environment for innovation - especially for small and medium-sized businesses, which are the foundation of a strong American economy. As federal agencies have a mandate to conduct 23% of procurement with small businesses, we suggest to expand the current commitment to engage with the Small Business Administrations to ensure the right data is opened up to incentivize businesses.

By fully implementing the Open Contracting Data Standard, interconnected data sets would

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

improve efficiency across Federal agencies, create more opportunities for small and medium sized businesses, increase cost savings, and offer more transparency to citizens around service delivery.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- 3 months: Work with vendors, civil society, and government agencies to define the data and documents to be published (“open contracting records”), specify the platform where the records will be published (USAspending.gov or a successor site), and redefine the small business goal and penalties for noncompliance. Identify key use cases or objectives (for example increasing competition or internal efficiency) and related indicators (for example number of average bidders per agency, number of winners disaggregated by women/minority-owned, etc) and take baselines.
- 6 months: Publish a plan on OCDS implementation, integrating open contracting records to be published as well as the platform.
- Year 1: One cabinet-level agency pilots the platform and releases the integrated open contracting records according to the Standard, and obtains feedback from vendors and civil society. Indicators measured.
- Year 2: Publication of open contracting records on the platform goes government-wide. Indicators measured.

**Title:** Collaborate with Citizen and Global Cartographers in Open Mapping

**Number:** 61

**User/Login:** amckenna01

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T18:05:05Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

U.S. Government agencies, focused both internationally and domestically, will build programs with, contribute data to, and share success stories of, digital mapping in the commons of OpenStreetMap.

#### ## Key Objective(s)

OpenStreetMap is a free and open map of the entire world. Creating data and a community of practice with OpenStreetMap ensures the widest possible benefit of geographic data, for use in programs impacting US and global citizens. In this global mapping commons, U.S. Government agencies collaborate and participate directly with other governments, the private sector, academic institutions, civil society, non-government organizations, and ordinary citizens.

#### ## Paragraph Description

Engaging communities to use open mapping platforms ensures the widest possible benefit of geographic data and improved public services for individuals and communities using that data. U.S. Government agencies will expand interagency collaboration and coordination with the open mapping community to promote the use of open mapping data in both domestic and international applications. Specifically, the State Department will continue and expand its public diplomacy initiative for open mapping, MapGive, which supports the creation of open geographic data in under-mapped areas and engages new communities in open mapping projects focused on public health and humanitarian response. The U.S. Agency for International Development will promote the creation of and use of open geographic data in programs through youth engagement and Mapping for Resilience

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

initiatives. The U.S. Geological Survey and National Park Service will also continue crowdsourcing mapping efforts and make this and other data freely available to the public.

### ## Current Status of Initiative

As a multi-agency initiative, the specific status of the initiative varies by agency. On the whole these efforts are in the works and approved, but looking to expand under the NAP commitments. At the State Department, MapGive remains a flagship project of the agency's Open Government plan, and is expanding collaboration internally across bureaus and with posts to engage new communities in localized open mapping initiatives, specifically focusing on youth engagement and mobilization. At USAID open mapping data is being used across several offices to provide ground level information to better inform programmatic decisions.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Use OSM in programs, specifically public health and humanitarian response, and general education initiatives (e.g. YouthMappers), with a specific focus on youth engagement.

- Use OSM base map data in online products and analysis
- Contribute to OSM in programs and share open data in OSM.
- Consider OSM as part of Open Data strategy and protocol.
- Collaborate across institutions in pilot projects and share success stories.

Milestones vary by agency. USAID's goal is to strengthen development activities through the use of OSM in its Mapping for Resilience program. MapGive aims to more systematically engage youth in open mapping projects through events and education, while increasing bureau and post participation in OSM-related initiatives and programs.

In terms of multi-agency collaboration, milestones include increased collaboration on well-documented and widely shared pilot projects in order to demonstrate the tangible benefits of U.S. Government involvement with OSM. Agencies also aim to establish OpenStreetMap as an official and key component of open data policies and initiatives.

### ## Lead Agencies

US Department of State, US Agency for International Development

### ## Civil Society Collaborators

YouthMappers; Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team; Missing Maps; Young African Leaders Initiative; Mapbox

### ## Does this expand on a previous NAP commitment?

This submission expands on the following commitment from NAP 3: Commitment 4 under "Public Participation": Collaborate with Citizen and Global Cartographers in Open Mapping.

**Title:** Congress and the White House should support and defend freedom of the press in the USA & abroad

**Number:** 60

**User/Login:** digiphile

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T17:48:21Z

**Comment:** [Congress and the White House should support and defend freedom of the press in the USA & abroad](#)

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Journalism and the people who produce it act as the immune system of democracy, speaking truth to power and informing the public of what is being done in our name, with our tax dollars. If sunlight is the best disinfectant, journalists are often the ones who direct that light upon corruption and secrecy.

The White House and Congress should invest in State Department programs and diplomacy focused on protecting journalists reporting domestically and abroad, disclosing any surveillance of journalists or publishers to relevant groups, conduct mandatory whistleblowing and FOIA trainings, and cease attacks media outlets as "fake news."

**Title:** Mandate online disclosure of Cabinet secretary calendars, meetings and travel expenses

**Number:** 59

**User/Login:** digiphile

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T17:43:19Z

**Comment:** Mandate online disclosure of Cabinet secretary calendars, meetings and travel expenses.

The public should be able to see how secretaries are conducting public business, when, where and with whom. The people should be able to confirm that the men and women who lead agencies are being good stewards of taxpayers dollars and the public trust.

Every member of the Cabinet should have updated machine-readable calendars, meeting record and expenses disclosed at [agency.gov/open](http://agency.gov/open) pages by June 2019.

**Title:** Congress should mandate online disclosure of visitor logs to the White House and agencies at Ethics.gov

**Number:** 58

**User/Login:** digiphile

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T17:39:43Z

**Comment:** [Congress should mandate online disclosure of visitor logs to the White House and agencies.](#)

Visitor logs offer a meaningful window into what is happening at the White House and federal agencies, enabling journalists and the public to see who is visiting our government.

Agencies and the White House should publish regularly updated files as machine-readable data on a rebuilt Ethics.gov.

**Title:** Congress should mandate tax return disclosure for Presidents and presidential candidates

**Number:** 57

**User/Login:** digiphile

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T17:35:25Z

**Comment:** [Congress should mandate tax return disclosure for Presidents and presidential candidates](#)

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Learning about the businesses, business partners and the state of those activities of candidates can help understand how their judgment might be affected by their financial transactions and debts.

Unlike Congress, presidents are exempt from conflict-of-interest laws. This makes disclosure of income tax returns especially important to shed light on areas of possible conflicts of interest. Yearly salaries are often reported in the news but tax returns reveal so much more about the character of the candidate. Their debts give us a broader sense of the state of their finances, and perhaps more importantly an idea to whom they could feel beholden. We learn how much (or little) they paid in taxes, and whether they utilized loopholes in tax law to avoid paying those taxes. It sheds light on whether they conducted activity that they have criticized on the campaign trail.

<https://sunlightfoundation.com/2016/07/27/why-is-the-tax-return-a-big-deal-and-what-information-can-you-learn-from-it>

Annual tax returns of every presidential candidate and President disclosed in machine-readable format on FEC.gov.

**Title:** Declassify Information About Lethal Strikes Overseas, and the Legal Authorities Governing the Overseas Use of Force

**Number:** 56

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-29T14:52:27Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Declassify Information About Lethal Strikes Overseas, and the Legal Authorities Governing the Overseas Use of Force

## Key Objective(s)

Thousands of people, including an unknown number of civilians and seven U.S. citizens, have been killed in covert airstrikes by the CIA and Joint Special Operations Command in Pakistan, Yemen, and Somalia. The program has been common knowledge for years, and President Obama has periodically released information about individual strikes and acknowledged the need for transparency—but these disclosures have been slow and inconsistent. In 2014 the Justice Department declined to appeal the court-ordered release of an Office of Legal Counsel memo that acknowledged the CIA's operational role in the drone program—but the Executive Branch still maintains the CIA's role is still secret. A number of related OLC memoranda, on both the drone program and the legal basis for the use of military force against the Islamic State, have been withheld from both the public and Congress. This ongoing secrecy leaves the American people and the legislature without access to basic facts about their country's foreign policy, or the legal basis for the wars their country is fighting.

## Paragraph Description

Commitment: Declassify and release sufficient information about the drone program, and other uses of lethal force against suspected terrorists overseas, to allow meaningful democratic debate and oversight. More specifically, the following documents should be reviewed for declassification, and released with minimal redactions.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

1. The Office of Legal Counsel memoranda, or other authoritative statements of the Executive Branch’s view of the controlling law, on:
  - a. the CIA’s legal authority to conduct targeted killing operations overseas (including “signature strikes”).
  - b. the scope of the September 2001 Authorization for the Use of Military Force, and the legal authority for the United States’ use of military force against the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.
2. Records of any before-the-fact assessments of potential civilian harm, as well as “after-action” investigations or casualty assessments following individual strikes, with particular priority given to release of information about strikes in which independent reporting by journalists or human rights organizations found credible evidence of civilian casualties.
3. Information on the number and identities of individuals killed or injured; their legal status as civilians or combatants; and the methodology for determining civilian or combatant

**Title:** Allow 'User-Agent: ia-archiver' By Default

**Number:** 55

**User/Login:** jalbertbowden

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T21:37:37Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Require all dotgov domains to allow the Internet Archive's Wayback Machine bot 'ia-archiver' to access/crawl their domains by passing legislation requiring this and penalizing those in non-compliance.

## Key Objective(s)

The ## Key Objective is to allow the Wayback Machine to complete its mission or archiving the web while simultaneously allowing the government to partially complete its mission of providing access to public documents instead of actively working to block them.

## Paragraph Description

Disallowing the Wayback Machine to crawl public documents and preserve them is at the very least a disservice to taxpayers and at worst a technical government decision to block transparency/FOIA.

Government domains publish public documents by default while also not archiving them whatsoever. The Wayback Machine provides a valuable service and offers it to the public for free. Government domains preventing preservation of public documents while also not providing access to said public documents are working against transparency, open government, and open linked data. Creating a law that enforces this/penalizes those in non-compliance is the ideal vehicle in this system.

## Measurable Metrics

Set a date for all domains to have this implemented via robots.txt.

Crawl said domains after the date and see if they have implemented:

- `User-agent: ia\_archiver`
- `Disallow: /`

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- If any robots.txt files have the above declaration implemented, they are in violation and should be held accountable.

**Title:** Archiving DotGov Domains Playbook

**Number:** 54

**User/Login:** jalbertbowden

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T21:13:44Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

I highly recommend that the US Government's 2017 Open Government Partnership National Action Plan includes a commitment to archiving government domains by default.

## Key Objective(s)

Archiving government domains empowers users to find the data they seek, reduces open records requests workloads, supports open by default, and encourages a culture of digital literacy within the government.

## Paragraph Description

Implementing an archiving system across dotgov domains would provide a plethora of benefits for all stakeholders, like these:

- Archiving government domains reinforces/supports open by default, a position already supported by the federal government.
- Archiving government domains helps to prevent linkrot, enabling users to find what they want.
- Archiving government domains helps to fill open records requests by preserving documents proactively.
- Archived government domains provide publically accessible documents that help reduce open records resquests response and wait times.
- Archiving government domains provides a legacy for the organization(s) behind the domain; "institutional knowledge", if you will, that tells stories backed by historical evidence, combined with intimate details of the people/groups involved.
- Archiving government domains helps encourage a culture of digital literacy in the government, through its implementations directly, and amongst those interested indirectly (organically).

## Measurable Metrics

- Create an archiving playbook documentating exactly how domains should go about archiving themselves.
- Provide the tools for archiving domains as open source so there are zero (software) cost barriers to entry for archiving, as well as allowing the future archivers opportunities to tailor/update/collaborate on them.
- Include plain english explanations regarding what is/isn't a public record; include further plain english instructions regarding how to publish/archive public records simultaneously.
- Post publishing, set a date for all government domains to have an archiving solution in place; get them to prove compliance by submitting examples set up in production on the domain.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Surveillance Transparency

**Number:** 53

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T21:08:50Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Goal: Increase Transparency of Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Authorities

## Key Objective(s)

Too much information about how the United States conducts electronic surveillance remains classified. This impedes democratic debate, Congressional oversight, and independent judicial review of fundamental First Amendment and Fourth Amendment issues and policy questions.

## Paragraph Description

Commitments:

1. Report on the number of individuals/unique accounts, and the number of Americans whose communications are collected under section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA). The original version of the USA Freedom Act required the intelligence community to annually release the number of individuals or unique accounts whose communications are collected under section 702 of FISA. This requirement was omitted from the version of the Act that was signed into law—but the Executive Branch clearly has the authority to report that information absent a Congressional mandate.

In addition, the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) should abide by the government's commitment to disclose an estimate of the number of Americans whose communications are collected under section 702. The DNI has claimed that such an endeavor would violate the privacy of the Americans whose communications were sampled. Yet privacy advocates uniformly believe this exercise would be a net gain for privacy. Moreover, privacy concerns could be addressed by promptly destroying any records reviewed as part of the sampling.

2. Track and report on “back door searches” using U.S. person identifiers by the FBI.

ODNI has provided public reports on the number of queries carried out by the FBI using U.S. person identifiers (popularly known as “back door searches”) of information collected under section 702 of FISA. These reports, however, do not provide the total number of queries by the FBI. They did note that “the FBI believes the number of queries is substantial,” and that the FBI “routinely conducts queries across its databases ...when it opens new national security investigations and assessments.” The Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board similarly reported that the Bureau conducts back door searches “whenever the FBI opens a new national security investigation or assessment,” and sometimes “in the course of criminal investigations and assessments that are unrelated to national security efforts.”

The FBI conducts tens of thousands of assessments a year, without any requirement that there be any objective evidentiary basis to suspect the target of an assessment

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

of any crime. The FBI's warrantless queries of Americans' communications collected under section 702 thus raise very serious privacy and civil liberties concerns, and there is no justification for exempting the agency from reporting on the number of such back door searches. To the extent the FBI is using U.S. person identifiers to search databases in which 702 data and non-702 data are commingled, it should report the number of times a USP identifier was used to query such a database and the number of times 702 data (which must be labeled as such) was returned.

3. Declassify information about the use of Executive Order 12333 to conduct electronic surveillance.
  - a. Cooperate promptly with any requests for declassification about Executive Order 12333 information from the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board and from members of Congress, or from any member(s) of the Congressional oversight committees.
  - b. Report annually on (1) the number of Americans and unique accounts whose information is collected under EO 12333 authority, and (2) the number of searches of EO 12333 data using identifiers associated with U.S. persons with and without a warrant.
  - c. Commit to releasing additional information necessary for informed public debate about the use of Executive Order 12333 to conduct electronic surveillance, particularly any forms of bulk collection or widescale surveillance. Consult regularly with non-governmental stakeholders to set priorities for declassification.
  
4. End the use of "parallel construction" to avoid giving notice of surveillance-derived evidence to criminal defendants, their counsel, and judges. The U.S. government does not disclose to defendants or their attorneys when its criminal cases rely on information derived from national security letters, bulk collection by the intelligence community under Executive Order 12333, or the Drug Enforcement Agency's bulk telephone metadata program. For years, the government also failed to inform defendants when it used evidence derived from surveillance under section 702, despite the statute's notice requirement. This not only jeopardizes defendants' rights, but prevents independent judicial review of most major surveillance programs despite serious questions about their legality and constitutionality—particularly when combined with the government's frequent, successful use of standing and state secrets doctrine to dismiss civil cases challenging surveillance. The U.S. government should disclose to defendants any use of evidence derived either directly or indirectly from surveillance under these authorities.

In addition, the government should notify individuals if information obtained or derived from surveillance under these authorities is used in in any other trial, hearing, or other proceeding in or before any court, grand jury, department, officer, agency, regulatory body, legislative committee, or other authority of the United States, a State, or a political subdivision thereof.

5. Release information on how the United States shares intelligence derived from surveillance with foreign partners. In order to ensure that there are adequate safeguards to prevent data gathered under surveillance authorities from being shared among governments in a way that threatens individual rights, the government should declassify and publicly disclose:

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- a. standards and procedures, if any, that limit U.S. sharing of intelligence information with foreign partners, and
- b. nature and scope of the assurances, if any, the U.S. requires from countries with which it shares raw data or intelligence reports, in relation to its use and possible subsequent dissemination to third countries, and
- c. existing intelligence sharing agreements under which the US shares or receives intelligence information.

### ## Measurable Metrics

**Title:** Secret Law

**Number:** 52

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T21:01:23Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Curb "Secret Law"

### ## Key Objective(s)

The public must have access to controlling executive and judicial interpretations of the legal rules under which our government operates in order to have an informed debate about the government's legal authorities and policies, and to build a shared understanding of the rule of law.

### ## Paragraph Description

Commitment 1- Authoritative Legal Interpretations and Administrative Opinions:  
The President will direct the Attorney General to make publicly available copies of documents setting forth the authoritative legal interpretations of the Executive Branch, including operative Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) memos, opinions, papers, etc., that show the extent of executive branch authorities and the rules governing executive branch actions. These documents will be made available with redactions for appropriately classified material as needed. If redacted versions of the documents cannot be made available, then unclassified summaries will be made available.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Timeline and Benchmarks:

- 3 months – The administration will make publicly available a list of complete list of documents setting forth the authoritative legal interpretations and administrative opinions of the Executive Branch. The list must clearly indicate the topics of the documents, and what they are in reference to.
- 4 months – The administration will have met with stakeholders, including civil society organizations, to prioritize the release of materials in the public interest. Using the input of stakeholders, the administration will develop a timeline for release of materials to reach the 15 month deadline.
- 6 months – The administration will have completed the release of documents in priority categories. The government will also make publicly available all the documents detailing legal authorities and administrative opinions (with the proper limitations outlined above) created above within the last ten years.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- 15 months – The administration will have completed the public dissemination of copies of documents setting forth the authoritative legal interpretations and administrative opinions of the Executive Branch, including operative Office of Legal Counsel (OLC) memos, opinions, papers, etc., that show the extent of executive branch authorities and the rules governing executive branch actions

### ## Paragraph Description

#### Commitment 2 – FISC and other Secret Judicial Decisions and Opinions:

The administration will make publicly available copies of existing Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC) and other secret judicial decisions and opinions, with redactions for appropriately classified material as needed. If redacted versions of the opinions cannot be made available, the administration will urge the FISC to prepare and make available summaries of the opinions. Other judicial decisions or opinions that include or reflect significant interpretations of the law, such as Electronic Communications Privacy Act (ECPA), will also unsealed and be made available with redactions as needed. If redacted versions of the documents cannot be made available, then unclassified summaries will be made available. The administration will also make unredacted versions of FISC and other secret judicial decisions opinions and pleadings available to all committees of jurisdiction in Congress. The administration will support legislation to require the Courts to prepare unclassified versions of their opinions on a going-forward basis.

### ## Measurable Metrics

#### Timeline and Benchmarks:

- 1 month – The administration will make publicly available a list of FISC opinion titles and other now secret judicial decisions and opinions that include or reflect significant interpretations of the law.
- 6 months – The administration will complete the release of redacted opinions or unclassified summaries.
- 12 months – All opinions are made publicly available, with redactions for appropriately classified material as needed. If redacted versions of the opinions cannot be made available, unclassified summaries will be drafted and disseminated.

### ## Paragraph Description

#### Commitment 3 – Presidential Policy Directives (PPDs):

The administration will make publicly available unclassified Presidential Policy Directives (PPDs). The Administration will also make publicly available redacted or summarized versions of classified PPDs that set forth the operative rules and legal guidance for government programs. The administration also will promptly inform the public about, and make publicly available in unclassified or (where necessary) redacted/summarized form, any changes to previously published, PPDs. This should include any revocations or modifications, whether express or through practice, of an existing PPD.

### ## Measurable Metrics

#### Timeline and Benchmarks:

- 1 month – The administration will make publicly available a list, with sufficient titles indicating the topic and action, of operative PPDs, including any revocations or modifications.
- 3 months – The administration will make publicly available unclassified versions of PPDs.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- 12 months –The administration will make publicly available redacted or summarized versions of classified all remaining operative Presidential Policy Directives.

### Anticipated Effect:

When implemented, these commitments will increase public integrity (OGP Grand Challenge 2) and trust in government. The public will have a better understanding of the legal rules under which our government operates and be able to have an informed debate about the government’s legal authorities and policies

**Title:** FOIA Requests and Released Documents

**Number:** 51

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T20:57:30Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

Each agency should post key documents from its FOIA process, namely:

- Its log of FOIA requests received by the agency and their status in processing
- Documents released by the agency in response to a FOIA request

#### ## Key Objective(s)

Rationale: The Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) is a vital tool for government transparency and accountability. For maximum effectiveness and efficiency, a modern FOIA request should be digital and public. Posting released FOIA documents makes the information more accessible and reduces duplicative requests. In addition, FOIA logs provide useful information about agency performance at FOIA implementation, in greater detail than is available in annual agency reports. These reforms would advance the spirit of FOIA while updating its practice for the 21st century.

#### ## Paragraph Description

Examples of Good Practice:

- FOIAonline, the new multi-agency FOIA portal, provides this functionality for all participating agencies.[1] The module was developed by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Department of Commerce, and National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), and launched in October 2012.
- Under the Electronic Freedom of Information Act Amendments of 1996[2], agencies are required to post disclosed records likely to be the subject of multiple requests. This effort would take that process to the next level by posting disclosed records for all public requests.
- State and local governments have implemented this practice as well. For instance, Chicago has posted its FOIA logs beginning in 2010.[3]

Implementation Suggestions: Not all records released under FOIA are appropriate for publication. Agencies could exclude from posting records containing personal information about the requester (e.g., requests filed jointly under the Privacy Act).

1. <http://foiaonline.regulations.gov/>
2. P.L. 104-231.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

3. <https://data.cityofchicago.org/browse?category=FOIA>

**Title:** Coherence and accountability in DOD-funded security sector assistance

**Number:** 50

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T20:55:27Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Starting with the “war on drugs” in the early 1990s and increasing yearly since 9/11, Congress has authorized DOD to establish multiple new channels for direct assistance to foreign forces. As a result, the Pentagon now funds more assistance to foreign police, military and other armed forces than the State Department.

Accountability and public oversight has not kept pace; while the State Department provides detailed country-by-country information on past, present and projected foreign aid as part of its annual budget submission, DOD is not required to do so.

## Key Objective(s)

## Paragraph Description

DOD should produce an annual budget justification document for all DOD-funded military assistance that spells out country-by-country and DOD program-by-program what the DOD is proposing to do/provide in the coming fiscal year and why, as the State Department does for foreign assistance. This document would also report on DOD expenditures in the current FY, and report back actual expenditures for the preceding FY.

Regular reporting of this information would allow other parts of the USG, Congress and the public (here and abroad) to be better informed and to help gauge effectiveness of the aid against stated goals and help avoid redundancy, waste and fraud.

## Measurable Metrics

**Title:** Transparency International Defense Index

**Number:** 49

**User/Login:** katherinedixon

**Created At:** 2017-09-28T06:04:56Z

**Comment:**

The US should participate in TI's Government Defence Index and aim to get an A

Objective: The index is a recognised international benchmark measuring the transparency and accountability of a nations institutions. By participating in the index the US would be ensuring that it's prepared to be open about defence institutions are run, and if it aimed to get an A on the index would be meeting international best practice.

NATO has adopted TI's methodology as part of their Building Integrity Programme. But the US is one of only a small number of NATO countries not to engage with the Index by reviewing and contributing to the assessment process.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

The US currently scores a B on the index, on a rating from A-F. The methodology is realistic and there should be no national security impediments to the US improving the score. A B is not a bad score but the US should be demonstrating leadership on this issues and other partners, like the UK manage to achieve an A for example..

**Title:** Homogeneous digital file formats for preservation and metadata standards to assist searching

**Number:** 48

**User/Login:** slevenson

**Created At:** 2017-09-27T21:27:55Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Most government information is in a digital format. Each agency selects the lowest bid software without regard to long term reuse and accessibility

## Key Objective(s)

Data heaped into a digital junkyard and discarded when migration is impracticable is not creating an environment assisting documentation of decision making.

## Paragraph Description

OMB, NARA NIST or someone should proscribe homogeneous file formats like ISO standardized formats to create preferable data. These formats should be self describing using standard metadata to assist search. This should record creation data, dates and author traceability.

## Measurable Metrics

Create a list of acceptable formats for text, geospatial, CAD etc. Require agencies to specify in contract solicitations and justify not picking off the list. Metadata should be sufficient to allow a citizen to understand the agency originating, their authority and status of the current file.

**Title:** Update Outdated Office of Management and Budget Freedom of Information Act Fee Guidance

**Number:** 47

**User/Login:** NatebJones

**Created At:** 2017-09-27T17:43:13Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

The National Security Archive recommends that the United States Government's 2017 Open Government Partnership National Action Plan include a commitment to follow the unanimous recommendation made by the 2015 federal Freedom of Information Act Advisory Committee to revise the Office of Management and Budget's out-dated and confusing FOIA fee guidance as it drafts its 2017 Open Government Partnership National Action Plan.

## Key Objective(s)

Updating the OMB FOIA Fee Guidance would reduce the current ambiguity surrounding the antiquated 1987 guidance. The revisions are necessary to account for technological changes

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

over the last thirty years, as well as to explain and correct vague aspects of the OMB's fee structure. In making these changes, both agencies and requesters will benefit from increased clarity and more relevant contemporary practices regarding FOIA fees.

### ## Paragraph Description

Pull from attached justification document.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Have OMB state when it expects guidance will be published. Track goals. Ultimately the guidance will be updated, or it won't.

[NAP 4 Update OMB FOIA Fee Guidance.docx](#)

**Title:** IAP2 Foundations as Guide to Improved Public Participation

**Number:** 46

**User/Login:** mylesalexander

**Created At:** 2017-09-26T20:50:46Z

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

The IAP2 Core Values guide organizations and decision makers to develop participation cultures.

#### ## Key Objective(s)

- + People affected by a decision participate in the decision-making process.
- + The public's contribution will influence the decision.
- + Recognize and communicate the needs and interests of all participants, including decision makers.
- + Seek input from participants in designing how they participate.
- + Provide participants with the information they need to participate in a meaningful way.
- Communicate to participants how their input affected the decision.

#### ## Paragraph Description

Public participation is two-way communication. Good public participation often requires decision makers, their organizations and the public to increase their skills and capacity. The IAP2 Core Values, Code of Ethics and Public Participation Spectrum provide guidance for wise public participation.

#### ## Measurable Metrics

- + number of government unit that adopt the IAP2 Core Values and Code of Ethics
  - + number of government employees that complete the IAP2 Foundations Training
  - + change in participation rates by project type and government unit after employees are trained and implement the IAP2 Core Values and Code of Ethics
  - + reduction in law suits by dissatisfied public representatives
  - + amount (decrease) and intensity of conflict in public engagement efforts
- Foundations.pdf

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Standardize Program Descriptions Across Federal Agencies

**Number:** 45

**User/Login:** bsweger

**Created At:** 2017-09-24T19:12:07Z

**Comment:**

This is related to #14 but has wider ramifications, so am opening a separate issue for it.

## Topline Description

Create standard program identifiers for use across the federal government that will enable the public to understand spending, performance, and other program-related information across agencies.

## Key Objective(s)

- Enable comparison of program activity spending across the federal government.
- Enable federal-wide comparison of budget proposals at the program level.
- Enable federal-wide comparison of program performance/outcomes

## Paragraph Description

In the public budget database, the DATA Act (and presumably elsewhere), spending amounts are reported at the program level using a `_program activity code_`. Each agency defines its own set of codes, and there is no publicly-available insight into how codes are assigned.

Thanks to the DATA Act, these program activity codes and their corresponding spending activity are now available in machine-readable format on a publicly-accessible website. However, the lack of standardized codes means that it's not possible to compare program spending across the entire government.

Standardizing program codes is a good next step for building on recent public spending data successes. This could take the form of tags, a new set of codes that agencies crosswalk to their current codes, or a wholesale replacement of the legacy codes.

## Measurable Metrics

- An open, machine-readable program taxonomy is created that covers `_n_%` of federal spending
- All agencies produce an open, machine-readable crosswalk that maps their existing program activity codes to the new taxonomy
- The DATA Act schema is updated to accommodate the new taxonomy

**Title:** Create a Blockchain-based Identification System

**Number:** 44

**User/Login:** akarides

**Created At:** 2017-09-23T17:59:30Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

The government currently lacks a reliable system for identifying and identifying immigrants, refugees, and social welfare recipients. A blockchain-based identification system

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Create a digital 'badge' for individuals by integrating current record-keeping identification data sources
- Configure these badges as block data that lives on a decentralized blockchain ledger that can be accessed at anytime

### ## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments)

### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Leverage Artificial Intelligence to Facilitate Government Hiring Process

**Number:** 43

**User/Login:** akarides

**Created At:** 2017-09-23T17:35:09Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Hiring Managers spend countless hours sifting through job applications, many of which do not satisfy the desired requirements for consideration. Artificial intelligence can assist this process by eliminating applicants that do not meet these minimum requirements.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Objective: Automate the elimination of unqualified job applicants

- Establish baseline hiring criteria
- Train machine learning systems to recognize shortfalls in applications
- Configure these systems to automatically remove these applicants from the hiring process

End Result: Hiring Managers only spend time reviewing applications that qualify for the desired position

### ## Paragraph Description

For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan](#) commitments

### ## Measurable Metrics

How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

**Title:** Make Ethics Data Usable, Interoperable, and More Accessible

**Number:** 42

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T21:20:18Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### Improve Usability and Interoperability of Ethics Information

#### ## Key Objective(s)

Issue Statement: There are numerous types of information intended to shed light on special interest influence which are disclosed by various federal agencies. Disclosure is most effective when it makes information easy to access and use. However, many websites for accessing ethics disclosures are difficult to use and offer limited functionality.[1] In addition, data is not always available in open formats, which impedes research and hinders the development of new tools for accessing the information. Finally, the multitude of data sources are not always interoperable; without common identifiers and standardized data formats, making connections between datasets – such as between lobbying and campaign contributions – can be challenging and laborious.

#### ## Paragraph Description

##### Commitment:

1. Establish a working group to coordinate disclosure of ethics information. The Administration will establish an inter-agency working group to coordinate technical issues related to access to ethics information. The working group will invite participation from all offices handling information about lobbying, political financing, and personal financial disclosures. The administration will also appoint representatives to the working group with expertise in usability, open data, and information policy. The working group will solicit feedback from stakeholders and the public. The working group will particularly address interoperability of data sources managed by the participating agencies and will seek to facilitate research and reuse across multiple datasets.
2. Ensure compliance with federal data policy. The Administration will direct agencies managing disclosure of ethics information to ensure that ethics data sources comply with the principles of openness and interoperability of Executive Order 13642, OMB Memorandum M-13-13, and the Digital Government Strategy.
3. Review usability of ethics websites. The Administration will direct agencies managing disclosure of ethics information to review the usability of their websites for members of the public seeking to access ethics information. The review will include usability analyses and seek feedback from frequent users of ethics information, including NGOs and journalists. The Administration will direct agencies managing disclosure of ethics information to adopt ongoing customer experience and usability measurement tools, such as those called for in the Digital Government Strategy, if they have not done so already.
4. Implement lessons learned. The Administration will direct agencies to implement lessons learned from these reviews into updates, revisions, and future planning for ethics information disclosure.

#### ## Measurable Metrics

##### Timelines and Benchmarks:

- 2 months – Administration issues guide to agencies on openness, usability, and interoperability of ethics information
- 3 months – Issue charter for working group; appoint administration representatives and invite agency participation
- 4 months – Working group identifies initial topics of interest and begins seeking public and stakeholder feedback

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- 6 months – Working group members begin conducting peer reviews of ethics data sources to offer suggestions to improve usability and interoperability

See OMB Watch, [Upholding the Public's Trust: Key Features for Effective State Accountability Websites](#), March 2012.

**Title:** Build Support for Reforming the Lobbying Disclosure Act

**Number:** 41

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T21:19:12Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

To convene a bipartisan working group of diverse stakeholders to meet and draft model lobbying reform legislation that, if enacted, would make Lobbying Disclosure Act disclosure requirements more comprehensive and effective.

## Key Objective(s)

The US Supreme Court in *US v. Harriss* outlined the need for comprehensive lobbying disclosure, stating:

Present-day legislative complexities are such that individual members of Congress cannot be expected to explore the myriad pressures to which they are regularly subjected. Yet full realization of the American ideal of government by elected representatives depends to no small extent on their ability to properly evaluate such pressures. Otherwise the voice of the people may all too easily be drowned out by the voice of special interest groups seeking favored treatment while masquerading as proponents of the public weal. This is the evil which the Lobbying Act was designed to help prevent.

In order for elected representatives and citizens to be able to “properly evaluate the pressures” imposed by lobbying, the Lobbying Disclosure Act must be amended to provide for more comprehensive disclosure.

Expand Lobbying Disclosure Act Coverage. The LDA should mandate that those who are paid to lobby register and report their actions. The threshold for disclosure should be lowered, some exemptions eliminated, and contingent fee arrangements should be reported to ensure comprehensive reporting.

Identify Targets of Lobbying. Currently, LDA reports must only indicate which House of Congress or federal agency a lobbyist contacted during the reporting period. To be meaningful, lobbying disclosure reports should more specifically identify the targets of a lobbying effort which, for example, might include congressional committees and agency sub-entities contacted by the lobbying firm.

Disclose Grassroots Lobbying. Lobbying and other organizations often make large expenditures to exhort groups or the general public to communicate with decision-makers in order to sway their opinions (e.g., communications that urge constituents to “write your congressman”). Public reporting of expenditures or receipts for grassroots lobbying efforts should be required.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Disclose Campaign-related Activities. The LD-203 already requires disclosure of lobbyists' campaign contributions and related contributions by each individual lobbyist. This should be extended to reporting of the lobbyist's sponsorship/hosting of fundraising events, bundling, positions held in a campaign organization, participation on the board of a PAC or super-PAC, and solicitation of contributions by the lobbyist from persons outside her immediate family.

Publish Unique Identifiers. To ensure the accuracy of reports and to enable better tracking of lobbyists' activities, the unique identifier for each federally registered lobbyist should be publicly available in downloadable format.

### ## Paragraph Description

Commitment: The administration will advocate for improved lobbying disclosure to more accurately reflect the scope and influence of lobbying activities.

As a first step, the administration will convene a working group to develop recommendations for amendments to the Lobbying Disclosure Act that will provide for more timely, accurate, complete and robust disclosure.

The administration recognizes that any disclosure requirements will require congressional action to amend the LDA. Therefore, the administration will encourage Congress to pass legislation that will improve disclosure and close loopholes in the currently inadequate lobbyist reporting regime.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- 3-6 months: Name participants for Working Group, which would include people outside of government, to refine proposals to amend the LDA.
- 6-18 months: Convene regular working group meetings to examine disclosure requirements with the goal of amending the current LDA in order to more fully disclose influence; engage representatives of Congress in this process.
- 18-24 months: Release draft LDA amendments and begin to advocate for enactment of legislation that would strengthen lobbyist disclosures.

**Title:** Require Publicly Held Companies Disclose Their Direct and Indirect Political Contributions

**Number:** 40

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T21:17:05Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

To provide investors the information they need to assess and respond to corporate political spending.

### ## Key Objective(s)

In August, 2011, the Committee on Disclosure of Corporate Political Spending – comprised of 10 law professors – filed a petition with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) asking the agency to initiate a rule requiring public companies to disclose to shareholders the use of corporate resources for political activities.[1] The petition has drawn more comments than any other in SEC's history, with over 500,000 comments, the vast majority

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

in support of the rulemaking petition.

In 2006, polls indicated that 85% of company shareholders believed there was a lack of transparency surrounding corporate political activity.[2] Nearly six in ten shareholders (57%) strongly agreed that there was too little transparency with respect to corporate spending on politics. Recognizing that these shareholder concerns have persisted, some of the largest companies have started voluntarily disclosing their direct and indirect political contributions. A recent report notes that the percentage of S&P 500 companies that have adopted disclosure policies has increased from a trivial level in 2003 to nearly 60% in 2012.[3]

Despite increasing disclosure to shareholders, nine in ten Americans say there is too much corporate money in politics.[4] Moreover, 81% agree that the “dark money” from corporate political spending is bad for democracy.[5] Three-quarters of business executives now say that the system of financing elections amounts to a “pay-to-play” system, where companies are expected to give money if they want to have influence over public policy.[6] These business executives, regardless of partisan preference, want more transparency: 95% of Democrats and 88% of Republicans support disclosure reforms.[7]

More to the point, the same 2013 poll of business executives found widespread support (85%) for a SEC rule requiring all publicly traded companies to disclose all political expenditures to shareholders. That support was also bipartisan: 94% of Democrats and 79% of Republicans.

Notwithstanding broad support for the SEC rule – including among business executives – it is not clear what action the SEC will take on the rulemaking petition.

### ## Paragraph Description

Commitment: The administration will encourage the SEC to initiate a rule to require publicly traded companies to disclose all direct and indirect political expenditures.

### ## Measurable Metrics

As soon as can be arranged the president will communicate with the SEC commissioner about the priority of initiating a rulemaking on disclosure of corporate political expenditures.

1. Committee on Disclosure of Corporate Political Spending, Petition for SEC Rulemaking, Aug. 3, 2011, <https://www.sec.gov/files/rules/petitions/2011/petn4-637.pdf>
2. Mason-Dixon Polling & Research, “Corporate Political Spending: A Survey of American Shareholders,” 2006, pg. 6
3. Center for Political Accountability and Zicklin Center For Business Ethics at the Wharton School of the University Of Pennsylvania, “The 2012 CPA - Zicklin Index of Corporate Political Accountability and Disclosure: How Leading Companies Navigate Political Spending in the Wake of Citizens United,” September 25, 2012, pg. 5.
4. Corporate Reform Coalition, “Citizens Actually United: The Overwhelming, Bi-Partisan Opposition to Corporate Political Spending and Support for Achievable Reforms,” Oct., 2012, pg. 1.
5. Ibid, pg. 1.

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6. A bipartisan poll conducted by Hart Research Associates and American Viewpoint for the Committee for Economic Development, "American Business Leaders on Campaign Finance and Reform," July 24, 2013.
7. Ibid.

**Title:** Disclose Campaign Contributions and Independent Expenditures of Federal Contractors

**Number:** 39

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T21:15:02Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

To ensure the integrity of the federal contracting system in order to foster decisions that provide economical and efficient results for the American people.

## Key Objective(s)

Issue Statement: In the wake of Citizens United, there is unlimited spending on elections with far too little disclosure. That secret spending is eroding the quality of our democracy and potentially warping merit-based contracting decisions.

Federal contract spending totaled \$517 billion in fiscal year 2012. Although that amount has declined from a peak of \$541 billion in FY 2008, this is still a considerable amount of money, accounting for 15.5 percent of all outlays. In FY 2012, over \$245 billion in contracts was awarded without full and open competition, and about 70 percent of that amount, \$173 billion, was spent on sole source contracts, which have no competition at all. Moreover, of contracts that were competitively awarded, a full \$144 billion worth of contracts were awarded after the government received only a single bid.

While 2 U.S.C. § 441c prohibits contractors from making political contributions, the law allows contractors to create segregated funds to make such contributions. Furthermore, since Citizens United contractors can make independent expenditures from their general treasury. These loopholes allow contractors an opportunity to gain influence over senior government officials, elections, policies, programs, and projects through various kinds of political contributions.

According to the Center for Responsive Politics, House, Senate, and presidential candidates raised over \$3 billion, and outside entities (groups or individuals independent of, and not coordinated with, candidates' committees) spent an additional \$1 billion on independent expenditures and electioneering in the 2012 election cycle. The defense sector alone was credited with contributing over \$27 million in the 2012 election cycle.

Not surprisingly, small business owners believe that contracting procedures that do not provide for full and open competition fall prey to the influence big companies campaign contributions and makes it difficult for small businesses to compete. Fully 88 percent of small business owners recently surveyed said they had a negative view on the role money plays in politics, with more than two-thirds saying they had a very negative view.[1]

In 2011, President Obama attempted to add transparency and accountability to the system with a draft Executive Order entitled "Disclosure of Political Spending by Government

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Contractors.” The draft Order stated that the “federal Government must ensure that its contracting decisions are merit-based in order to deliver the best value for the taxpayers,” and added that every stage of the contracting process must “be free from the undue influence of factors extraneous to the underlying merits of contracting decisions making, such as political activity or political favoritism.”

Employing a strategy used in many states, the draft Executive Order also included a provision that required federal agencies to “require all entities submitting offers for federal contracts to disclose certain political contributions and expenditures that they have made within two years prior to submission of their offer.” Although there was some support for President Obama’s draft Order, it was swiftly derailed by contracting industry lobbyists and their political allies.

Linking the disclosure to “submitting offers” ignited a firestorm of criticism from contractors and conservatives that such disclosure would increase political favoritism in the contracting process. House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa warned that if “the President’s proposed Executive Order is authorized, political donation information would be readily available to political appointees who are immediately involved in the contracting process.”

In fact, the draft Executive Order was intended to provide a much-needed dose of transparency, so contractors would not be able to influence the awards process via secret political spending. But asking the disclosure of political spending information prior to the bidding process was the fatal error that should have been corrected.

### ## Paragraph Description

Commitment: The Administration should commit to issuing a revised Executive Order that requires any individual or entity receiving federal contracting awards to file semi-annual disclosures of all[2]:

1. Contributions or expenditures to or on behalf of a federal candidate, parties, or party committee made by the bidding individual or entity, its directors or officers, or any affiliates or subsidiaries within its control; and
2. Contributions made to third party entities with the intention or reasonable expectation that parties would use those contributions to make independent expenditures or electioneering communications.

This commitment would honor the Supreme Court’s ruling in Citizens United that was based on the theory that the “First Amendment protects political speech; and disclosure permits citizens and shareholders to react to the speech of corporate entities in a proper way. This transparency enables the electorate to make informed decisions and give proper weight to different speakers and messages.”[3] (Emphasis added.)

### ## Measurable Metrics

Timelines and Benchmarks:

President Obama should revise and sign the draft Executive Order, “Disclosure of Political Spending by Government Contractors. Within 30 days after its release, the Administration should issue guidance for the release of contractor political spending information on Data.gov and insert a clause into federal contracts requiring the political contribution and expenditure reporting.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Implement Executive Branch Procurement Lobbying Disclosure

**Number:** 38

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T21:13:21Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

## Key Objective(s)

The Lobbying Disclosure Act (2 U.S.C. § 1601) requires the provision of information about lobbyist activities targeting Congress and certain high-level executive branch officials: but the statute does not cover most executive branch influence-peddling. The Byrd Amendment (31 U.S.C. § 1352) requires disclosure of executive branch lobbying by government contractors, but compliance and disclosure of this information is inconsistent. In general, collection of information about influence-peddling to obtain funding from the executive branch, such as lobbying by contractors, is limited. Such information should be systematically collected and disclosed.

## Paragraph Description

Current laws governing lobbying disclosure are not effectively capturing major influence peddling within the executive branch. The objective of this commitment is to shine a light on communications from individuals outside of government attempting to influence spending on federal programs, including contracts, grants, cooperative agreements, loans, insurance awards, tax expenditures, or any other financial arrangements. This commitment also implements Section 4(c)(4) of Executive Order 13490 (Ethics EO), which called for steps to improve executive branch procurement lobbying disclosure.

The Byrd Amendment currently prohibits using “appropriated funds” to lobby for federal awards, and requires federal grantees and contractors to disclose their lobbying activities and certify that they are not using federal funds to lobby for a grant, contract or other award.[1] Additionally, the Byrd Amendment requires grantees and contractors to file the Standard Form LLL (SF-LLL) to certify any use of non-federal funds to influence federal awards, and to disclose the names of any paid lobbyists or consultants hired to do so. An SF-LLL form must be filed: (1) with each submission of request for an award of a federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement; (2) upon the receipt of a federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement; and (3) at the end of each calendar quarter in which lobbying occurred.

However, each agency treats the SF-LLL differently, making enforcement of disclosure inconsistent. For example, in some agencies that provide grants, the grant award letters require certification that no federal funds have been used to influence the award. In other agencies, it is not clear if the SF-LLL is collected at all or if reporting is updated regularly.

Even if the SF-LLL has been collected, it is extremely difficult for the public to obtain the information. These inconsistencies are a result of three problems: (a) no central agency collects the SF-LLL; (b) there exists no guidance for agencies governing disclosure of the information; and (c) there is no vehicle for online access to the information. Many agencies require the public to submit a Freedom of Information Request to review SF-LLL forms – and even this, often lengthy process, does not necessarily result in public disclosure.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

In addition to compliance and access concerns, the SF-LLL does not require the breadth of information that leads to meaningful disclosure.

Commitment: The Trump administration should make a commitment to develop a disclosure framework that:

- Captures influence peddling by organizations and individuals representing organizations that are seeking to win or influence any federal award or spending on federal programs above a specified threshold such as \$250,000.
- Includes influence peddling on tax expenditures, non-monetary transfers, and subsequent awards (e.g., sub-contracts or sub-grants) in addition to contracts, grants, and other forms of financial assistance.  
Expands the type of information collected to support meaningful disclosure. This information should provide a full understanding of who is trying to influence government spending, the programs and agencies being influenced, and the amount of money involved (both in terms of influencing the agency and possible awards)
- Establishes electronic reporting of attempts to influence government spending, expanding on SF-LLL.  
Creates a searchable website with information from SF-LLL disclosures that are provided in a timely manner. The website should utilize common identifiers for organizations, federal awards, lobbyists, and other categories of information. The website should adhere to best practices for public access including ability to download data in aggregate, search in multiple formats, and provide web services for various feeds.
- Allows data on the searchable website to be linked to other government information on previously disclosed lobbying and ethics.
- Provides enforcement mechanisms for both governmental and non-governmental entities to ensure compliance. These mechanisms range from remedial actions to penalties.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Timelines and Benchmarks: There should be two phases: the first requires improved compliance and disclosure of the SF-LLL; the second requires expansion of SF-LLL coverage.

#### Phase I: Compliance and Disclosure of SF-LLL

1. Revise the data collected on SF-LLL.
  - Months 1-2: Review data elements currently collected through the SF-LLL and invite input on appropriate information that should be collected.
  - Months 3-4: Propose a revised SF-LLL and invite input on the revised form.
  - Month 5: Submit revised information collection request to OMB under the Paperwork Reduction Act.
  - Month 7: Announce revised SF-LLL to agencies (see OMB memo below).
2. Make SF-LLL available online in a searchable format.
  - Months 5-7: Develop an online interface to complete the SF-LLL obviating the need for a paper version.
  - Months 5-9: Create a searchable website with SF-LLL data.
  - Month 7: OMB issues memorandum to agencies on compliance and disclosure of SF-LLL. The memo includes: (a) description of SF-LLL; (b) who must complete the form; (c) how often the form must be completed; (c)

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- disclosure requirements; (d) enforcement requirements; and (e) plans for future upgrades to the searchable website and compliance requirements.
- Month 11: Searchable website becomes operational.
- 3. Enforce the existing SF-LLL rules.
  - Month 10: Agencies inform recipients of federal awards of plans for the revised SF-LLL changes and penalties for noncompliance.
  - Months 11-23: Provide warnings to federal awardees about non-compliance.
  - Month 24: Begin applying penalties for non-compliance.

### Phase II: Expand Who Reports SF-LLL

- Months 5-11: Explore options for expanding SF-LLL reporting requirements to all organizations and those representing organizations seeking to win or influence any federal award or spending on federal programs above a specified threshold, such as \$250,000.

### Two options that should be considered:

1. Integrate the agency visitor logs into the SF-LLL process, whereupon entering an agency location, visitors would be required to list with whom they will be meeting and the purpose of the meeting;
2. Require government employees to file a brief online report immediately when they are involved in communications with those outside of government who are trying to influence federal spending, which would trigger a notice to the non-governmental participants to complete a more detailed SF-LLL about the communication.

The options should also consider what types of communications – for example, policy, program, legal, technical or background communications knowingly prepared to seek a Federal award – are covered under these requirements.

- Months 12-14: Propose a plan for expanded reporting requirements and invite comments
- Month 15: Finalize plan
- Months 16-24: Implement plan

[1] Title 31, USC Section 1352 entitled, "Limitation on use of appropriated funds to influence certain Federal contracting and financial transactions." This is commonly called the Byrd amendment and was signed into law on Oct. 23, 1989 as part of the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for FY 1990.

OMB published interim final regulations and guidance to implement the Byrd Amendment on Dec. 20, 1989 (54 Fed. Reg. 52306, see Appendix B1), with supplementary guidance in June 1990 (Appendix B2) (55 Fed. Reg. 24540 (June 15, 1990)), Jan. 1992 (57 Fed. Reg. 1772 (Jan. 15, 1992)), and Jan. 1996 (61 Fed. Reg. 1412 (Jan. 19, 1996)). OMB has since mandated a common Byrd rule for all the major federal granting agencies. (See [https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/grants\\_chart/](https://obamawhitehouse.archives.gov/omb/grants_chart/) for the OMB Byrd amendment common rule and cites for agency implementation of the rule.)

**Title:** Ethics Disclosure

**Number:** 37

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T21:10:01Z

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### **Comment:**

#### ## Topline Description

Strengthening Lobbyist Employment Restrictions in Executive Order 13490

#### ## Key Objective(s)

Expand the Obama Administration's efforts to address the problem of the "revolving door" and "special interest" influence in government by significantly expanding the scope of those persons subject to the President's Executive Order 13490 (Ethics EO) so that it covers all persons with pecuniary conflicts of interest whether or not they are "registered lobbyists."

#### ## Paragraph Description

President Obama was the first President in history to seek formal restrictions on the Executive Branch employment of individuals representing "special interests". The initial form of these restrictions adopted in the President's first term was based on a person's status as a "registered lobbyist" under the Lobbying Disclosure Act (LDA). This innovative effort sent a strong message that the Administration intended to reduce the clout of influence peddlers in Washington and it has had many significant consequences.

President Trump should go further by implementing what might be called Ethics Reform 2.0, which would cover all persons with "special interests" in federal decisions as judged by whether or not they would have "pecuniary conflicts of interest" in their new positions. This standard would apply to individuals regardless of whether they are registered lobbyists, corporate executives or high-priced public relations advisors who seek to influence public decisions for private gain. No person could be employed in a job in which their pecuniary conflicts of interest would interfere with their ability to impartially pursue the public interest.

There is a precedent for making just such an adjustment to certain ethics and lobbying restrictions. Having initially applied certain restrictions to "registered lobbyists" seeking stimulus funds, the Administration recognized that the logic of those requirements applied to all persons seeking financial benefits under the stimulus legislation and expanded the restrictions accordingly to cover all persons lobbying to receive stimulus funds whether or not they were "registered" lobbyists under the LDA.[1] This adjustment was met with widespread approval.

In order to implement these expanded provisions in a manner that avoids unintended consequences, the Administration should also return to using the waiver authority built in to EO 13490. It should do so, however, based on clear policies about how waivers will be issued and based on publicly available information about those receiving waivers. The Administration also should articulate clear policies for recusals required for discrete conflicts of interest. Building on current efforts, the Administration should enhance the release and the accessibility of information about its appointees.

#### ## Measurable Metrics

Commitment: The Administration should commit to issuing a revised version of EO 13490 using the expanded pecuniary conflict of interest approach rather than LDA registration status, announce clear procedures for considering and issuing waivers and recusals, and implement new procedures to enhance the disclosure and accessibility of information concerning waivers, recusals and the handling of potential conflicts of interest of its appointees.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Enhance Ethics.gov

**Number:** 36

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T20:59:45Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Enhance Ethics.gov with Increased Disclosure of Special Interest Attempts to Influence Government Decision-making

## Key Objective(s)

The Administration has taken several steps to increase disclosure of lobbying and special interest attempts to influence government decision-making, such as by posting ethics waivers filed by White House personnel and creating Ethics.gov. However, there remains a need to reduce the over-influence of moneyed interests in government by further disclosing information that would reveal special interest activities.

## Paragraph Description

Direct agencies to publish additional information on special interest influence. The Administration will direct agencies to regularly and proactively disclose additional information that could shed light on special interest attempts to influence government decision-making. Specifically, the Administration will direct agencies to post online in searchable, sortable, downloadable format on Ethics.gov, and link from agency websites to, the following information:

- Communications with Congress, including spending requests from members of Congress per E. O. 13457;
- Calendars of Top Agency Officials, including meeting topics and participating personnel;
- Agency Visitor Logs, for agencies which currently keep logs in an electronic format;
- Contractor Lobbying Disclosures, known as Form LLL, filed with federal agencies (Although required by law to be publicly available, members of the public have experienced difficulty accessing these filings. See Byron Tau, "[Contracting lobbying info under wraps](#)," Politico, July 7, 2013.);
- Federal Advisory Committee Information, including information about members (such as any conflict-of-interest waivers) and committee activities (such as meeting agendas, minutes, and transcripts).

Oversee implementation of the new disclosure requirements. The Administration will closely oversee and guide agency implementation of the new disclosure requirements, including requiring agencies to regularly report publicly on implementation and monitoring agency compliance with deadlines.

Provide technical assistance to agencies. The Administration will expand Ethics.gov to allow for postings by agencies under the new disclosure requirements.. The Administration will direct agencies to create and disclose information on Ethics.gov in compliance with the format and interoperability requirements of the new data policy (E.O. 13642 and M-13-13).

Anticipated Effect:

When implemented, this commitment will increase public integrity (OGP Grand Challenge

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2). The public will have a better understanding of who is influencing government policies.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- 1 month – Solicit stakeholder input on establishing disclosure requirements
- 3 months – Issue disclosure requirements; direct Administration to begin preparing implementation guidance and developing Ethics.gov for expanded disclosure
- 3-6 months – Issue implementation guidance on disclosure requirements; publicize implementation resources available to agencies
- 6-12 months – Agencies required to begin disclosure through Ethics.gov, with deadlines staggered by types of information (e.g. begin posting new Form LLL filings after 6 months; begin posting monthly visitor logs after 12 months; etc.)
- 18 months – Agencies are fully compliant with new reporting requirements
- 24 months – Agencies phase out any paper visitor logs in lieu of electronic

**Title:** Detainee Treatment

**Number:** 35

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T20:56:58Z

### **Comment:**

## Topline Description

Goal: Declassify and Release Evidence of the CIA's Torture and Rendition Programs, and Current Detainee Treatment Policies

### ## Key Objective(s)

President Obama ended the CIA's rendition, detention and torture program shortly after he took office, but for many years allowed the CIA to classify crucial evidence about its treatment of prisoners after September 11. The administration not only maintained classification of government documents about torture, but forbade former CIA detainees and their lawyers from disclosing their own memories of what happened in the black sites. The December 2014 release of the Executive Summary of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence's report on the torture program broke through this wall of secrecy, but it should be thoroughly dismantled.

### ## Paragraph Description

Declassify and publicly release crucial evidence regarding the rendition, detention, and interrogation of prisoners, and current policies towards detainee treatment. In particular, the administration should:

1. Release the full, 6700 page SSCI report.
2. Release the Panetta Review
3. End all attempts to classify detainees' memories of their own treatment
4. Declassify the names and information concerning the treatment of the detainees whom the United States "rendered" to foreign custody
5. Declassify the CIA's treatment of prisoners in military custody in Iraq and Afghanistan
6. Declassify the foreign countries that housed black sites or participated in the rendition program, particularly if those countries have acknowledged their own role.

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7. Declassify the full titles and pseudonyms, and (if acknowledged by the individuals in question, or in supervisory positions) names of individuals involved the CIA rendition, detention and interrogation program
8. Declassify and release all CIA Inspector General's reports, investigations and reviews into the CIA's detention and interrogation program, and fully release all versions of the Office of Medical Services Guidelines on Medical and Psychological Support of the program.
9. Release documentation from John Durham's investigations into the CIA torture program, including records of FBI interviews and the reasons that prosecution was declined.
10. Release the report of the Special Task Force on Interrogations and Transfers.
11. Release statistics regarding hunger strikes and force feeding at Guantanamo Bay, and the current Standard Operating Procedures for management of hunger strikes, enteral feeding, and the use of restraints (including restraint chairs).
12. Release, with appropriate redactions for individual privacy, videotapes of force feeding at Guantanamo Bay and photographs of detainee abuse in Iraq and Afghanistan

## Measurable Metrics

**Title:** Raise the NDC's declassification rate

**Number:** 34

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T20:39:28Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Goal: Raise the National Declassification Center's declassification rate by embracing established declassification best practices.

## Key Objective(s)

## Paragraph Description

Commitment: The National Declassification Center should raise its declassification rate by ending "page level review" of documents, and instead conduct a line by line review, as is done with standard Mandatory Declassification Review requests. It should also systematically utilize tools such as Executive Order 13526 3.1 (d) which allows for the declassification of technically classified documents that may be declassified when the need for secrecy is "outweighed by the public interest." Finally, the National Declassification Center should follow the instructions in Executive Order 13526's Implementing Memorandum which states: "In order to promote the efficient and effective utilization of finite resources available for declassification, further referrals of these records are not required except for those containing [information about Weapons of Mass Destruction or confidential sources and methods]."

## Measurable Metrics

**Title:** Expedited MDR review

**Number:** 33

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T20:38:32Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Goal: Provide for Expedited Declassification Review on Subjects of High Public Interest By the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP), and Remove Obstacles to the Mandatory Declassification Review (MDR) Process.

## Key Objective(s)

Issue Statement: Under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), expedited review is available for requests where there is a compelling need. There is no parallel provision for Mandatory Declassification Review (MDR).

## Paragraph Description

Commitment: The MDR process should include an expedited review option, and that obstacles to MDR requests should be removed. In particular, MDR is not available for information contained within an intelligence “operational file”; information that is the subject of pending litigation; or information required to be “submitted for prepublication review or other administrative process pursuant to an approved nondisclosure agreement.” Often, these categories of information are precisely those where the public interest in disclosure is highest.

In cases where there is a particularly compelling interest for disclosure, the administration should develop a process by which members of the public may nominate classified documents or topical areas for direct, expedited declassification review by the Interagency Security Classification Appeals Panel (ISCAP). ISCAP shall conduct such direct, expedited review if it determines that the document or topical area, if declassified, would contribute significantly to an ongoing, important policy debate. In cases of topical reviews, the ISCAP shall evaluate and amend, as appropriate, the relevant agency classification guidance.

## Measurable Metrics

**Title:** Beneficial Ownership Transparency

**Number:** 32

**User/Login:** jblau18

**Created At:** 2017-09-20T19:30:05Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Increase transparency of company ownership and effective control.

## Key Objective(s)

Every year, over two million legal entities are formed in the United States—with many states collecting less information from the individuals forming these entities than from people applying for a driver’s license. This anonymity facilitates domestic and foreign corruption by allowing individuals to hide their identities and their corruptly obtained assets behind the façade of a U.S. corporation. Once a U.S. corporation is formed, it can easily open one or more bank accounts, wire money, buy property like any other company, and engage in activities that launder the tainted funds. Anonymous companies are also

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

used by drug traffickers, arms smugglers and financiers of terrorism to hid and move illicit funds.

The U.S. government has pledged to increase transparency of companies formed in the United States in various fora such as the G8 Action Plan for Transparency of Company Ownership and Control and, most recently, the G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership transparency.

### ## Paragraph Description

#### Commitment:

- The administration should take the following steps to increase beneficial ownership transparency:  
Collect and publish beneficial ownership information for all companies, LLCs, and partnerships upon formation.
- Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) must issue without delay rules proposed in 2014 requiring financial institutions to identify and verify the beneficial owners of legal entity customers. These rules needs to be stronger than those proposed by FinCEN last summer: (i) strengthening the definition of “beneficial owner” and expanding it to include individuals who control the entities through means other than a formal management position, (ii) applying the new rules to existing accounts as well as new accounts, and (iii) requiring financial institutions not only to verify the identity of the (purported) beneficial owner, but to carry out the appropriate due diligence to determine the reasonableness of the information provided to them and further due diligence to determine the money laundering risk posed by that individual.
- FinCEN should repeal the temporary exemption granted in 2002 to persons involved in real estate closings and settlements, from the PATRIOT Act’s requirement for implementation of anti-money laundering programs.
- Collect and publish beneficial ownership information of contractors and subcontractors for all federal procurements.

### ## Measurable Metrics

#### Timeline:

- Work with Congress to collect and publish beneficial ownership information for all newly formed companies, LLCs, and partnerships in the current Congress.
- FinCEN should issue strong final rules relating to legal entity customer due diligence requirements for financial institutions in 2018.
- FinCen should issue a notice of proposed rulemaking to close the loophole that allows individuals to launder money through anonymous real estate transactions in 2018. The rule should be finalized in 2018.
- Amend Federal Acquisition Rules to require beneficial ownership information to be collected and published by the end of 2018.

**Title:** Open Data Project Harmonization

**Number:** 31

**User/Login:** jstclair-HFT

**Created At:** 2017-09-16T17:40:05Z

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Comment:** One sentence "elevator pitch": This project is a "placeholder" for evaluating development under the other 29 issues listed (as of 9/16/17) to examine harmonization of technologies, data, or processes for efficiency

## Key Objective(s) - Review ongoing Open Data commits that allow for consolidation and synchronization. Improve data use and transparency across agencies and processes.

## Paragraph Description - This project will aim to consolidate and optimize ongoing Open Data projects. While many projects are proposed across multiple agencies and lines of business, true optimization is achieved through re-use of systems and data. Where possible, OMB-mandate cloud solutions should be used that deliver DATA Act-compliant solutions leveraging "utility computing" and SaaS.

## Measurable Metrics - Reduction in # of projects, #of agencies integrated into same projects, Use of Cloud, Instances of data re-use, projected cost savings, reduction in # of unique solutions.

**Title:** Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN)

**Number:** 30

**User/Login:** KristenHoney

**Created At:** 2017-09-14T18:29:46Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

## Topline Description

Enabling Food Security through Open Agriculture and Nutrition Data

## Key Objective(s)

[GODAN](#) focuses on building high-level policy and public and private institutional support for open data. GODAN encourages collaboration and cooperation among existing agriculture and open data activities, without duplication, and brings together all stakeholders to solve long-standing global problems.

## Paragraph Description

Global agriculture and nutrition data are critical inputs for strategic decision making, underpinning the financial sustainability of actors within the U.S. agriculture sector – including U.S. farmers and businesses. The U.S. co-founded the Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition (GODAN) initiative in 2013 to make agriculture and nutrition data open: available, accessible, and usable, to address the urgent challenge of ensuring world food security. In just three years, the United States has helped expand the GODAN network to nearly 500 partners (see: <http://www.godan.info/partners>) from government, private and non-government organizations. In 2016 the United States helped lead a highly successful GODAN Summit and the first GODAN High-Level Forum. In 2017, the United States will continue to support the GODAN Secretariat to advance this agenda through additional GODAN High-Level Forums.

## Measurable Metrics

- First GODAN HLF identified for the margins of the Global Forum for Innovation in Agriculture (GFIA) Europe, April 2017

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- Second GODAN HLF TBD second half of 2017

**Title:** Strengthening Cooperation between Records Management and FOIA Programs

**Number:** 29

**User/Login:** KristenHoney

**Created At:** 2017-09-12T19:10:41Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

Emphasizing the critical importance of good records management in order to sustain an effective FOIA program.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Builds relationships and encourages cooperation and coordination between agency FOIA and Records Management personnel
- Improves public understanding of FOIA and Records Management programs and emerging issues

### ## Paragraph Description

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) will ask agencies to answer targeted questions about their FOIA operations in the annual Records Management Self-Assessment (RMSA). Cooperation and coordination between FOIA and Records Management programs is a critical component of open government. This cooperation will be encouraged by including in the RMSA targeted questions about FOIA based on issues identified by the National Archives' Office of Government Information Services through its ongoing government-wide FOIA dispute resolution and compliance work. Public understanding of ongoing issues in FOIA and records management and the link between the two will be enhanced by sharing NARA's analysis of the data.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Proposed actions to be completed annually include:

1. Collect data related to agency FOIA programs from agency RM staff through the annual Records Management Self-Assessment (RMSA);
2. Publish summary results and analysis of agency responses to FOIA questions; and
3. Use data received from agencies about FOIA to determine potential FOIA compliance issues government-wide.

**Title:** Permanent Records to be Transferred in Electronic Format

**Number:** 28

**User/Login:** KristenHoney

**Created At:** 2017-09-11T23:16:23Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

By the end of 2022, archival record keeping for the federal government will be digital. Or more specifically - By December 31, 2022, NARA will no longer accept transfers of permanent or temporary records in analog formats and will accept records only in electronic format and with appropriate metadata.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Key Objective(s)

Access to the permanent records of the federal government is a key part of the mission of our agency. In this century, and for a vast majority of our citizens, access means online, digital access. By requiring records to be transferred to NARA in electronic format, NARA is taking a major step forward in streamlining digital access to the records. Once those records are available to the public in electronic form, collaboration with other agencies and the public becomes much easier as well.

### ## Paragraph Description

NARA will contribute to a 100% digital government by no longer accepting paper records after December 31, 2022. NARA will require agencies to transfer all permanent records in electronic formats. After CY 2022, agencies will have to digitize permanent, paper records before transfer to NARA.

### ## Measurable Metrics

The end of calendar year 2022 is our deadline for full implementation of this initiative. We will develop an array of milestones in order to meet that deadline.

**Title:** Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Advisory Opinions

**Number:** 27

**User/Login:** KristenHoney

**Created At:** 2017-09-11T23:07:54Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

Improve understanding and efficiency of the FOIA process.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Promotes understanding of the FOIA process by educating stakeholders/customers.
- Preserves agency FOIA resources

### ## Paragraph Description

The Office of Government Information Services (OGIS) within the National Archives and Records Administration, will issue advisory opinions which will serve to promote the efficient use of FOIA resources. As the FOIA Ombudsman, OGIS observes a wide range of agency practices and is positioned to identify trends and emerging issues that create inefficiencies in the FOIA process. OGIS's advisory opinions will improve understanding of the FOIA process and encourage the adoption of practices that preserve and maximize agency resources.

### ## Measurable Metrics

OGIS will issue multiple advisory opinions within the plan's two-year time frame. We expect the first opinion(s) to be issued in Fall 2017.

**Title:** Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative

**Number:** 26

**User/Login:** KristenHoney

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Created At:** 2017-09-11T23:02:10Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

Institutionalize EITI at the Department of the Interior by mainstreaming government production and revenue data and promoting public awareness issues on the governance of revenue collection from energy and mineral resources on Federal and Indian lands.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Rather than relying only on the EITI reporting mechanism to bring about transparency, the U.S. Department of the Interior is committing to mainstream government data required by the EITI Standard through the existing data portal.

### ## Paragraph Description

Since the launch of the Open Government Partnership, the U.S. has been committed to implementing the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI), an international standard aimed at increasing transparency and accountability in the payments companies make and the revenues governments receive for their natural resources. The United States worked towards complying with the EITI standard, including publishing the first United States EITI report in 2015, and the Second in 2016. In the long term, extractive industry transparency should not be confined to EITI reporting, rather be recognized an integral part of how Government manages. Therefore, managing to ensure EITI principles of transparency and public awareness, the United States will:

- Publish the third USEITI Report in December 2017; and
- Initiate steps through the Department of the Interior to institutionalize innovation in digital services and mainstreaming Government extractives revenue data pipelines and end-user needs.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Complete the third Annual USEITI Report by December 2017, to include additional contextual narrative on forestry; non-energy minerals; employment by commodity and by State; and an expanded Tribal overview.

**Title:** Open data and federal standards for crisis mapping and responding to citizen needs in real time

**Number:** 25

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-08T21:10:55Z

**Comment:** Open data and federal standards for crisis mapping and responding to citizen needs in real time

### ## Topline Description

There is no widely used national framework or platform for soliciting requests (for help) and coordinating response to citizen needs in a crisis, e.g. sharing open data to help delegate and triage response across state, local, federal, non-profit, and volunteer efforts. In lieu of this people have resorted to using social media and homegrown crisis mapping platforms for communications. We should embrace bottom up solutions and go to where people already are, but institute common standards to aggregate and harmonize these platforms to facilitate more coherent and unified crisis response. Look to examples like the [\[Common](#)

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

[Alerting Protocol](#), [Person Finder Interchange Format](#), [NG911](#), [Open311](#), [OpenReferral](#), etc.

### ## Key Objective(s)

This is not just open data for the purpose of transparency or innovation, it's open data to save lives. This is open data to facilitate collaboration between multiple levels of government, civil society organizations, and citizen volunteers in the most critical time of need.

### ## Paragraph Description

- For examples, please review paragraphs from [past National Action Plan commitments](#) \*

## Measurable Metrics - How can we quantify, verify, monitor, and report progress? Work should be completed by June 2019. Timelines encouraged.

Milestones include:

- Have a summit that brings together the key stakeholders and innovators in this space including social media platforms as well as local leaders (especially from recently impacted areas)
- Survey and highlight existing interoperability initiatives
- Draft MVP proof of concept specification to facilitate integration across multiple stakeholders
- Implement specification in at least two local regions and demonstrate integration across multiple stakeholders

**Title:** Open HUD Data to Benefit Local Communities

**Number:** 22

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:58:43Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

HUD will expand the data in the Community Assessment Reporting Tool (CART), an application that shows how HUD has invested in a community, with additional programmatic data, enhanced reporting capabilities, and additional geographies.

### ## Key Objective(s)

This objective creates more transparency, participation, and collaboration by releasing additional HUD data, via the CART, to fill information gaps at the local level.

### ## Paragraph Description

State and local governments are increasingly using Federal open data to deliver value and improve citizen services at the local level. In December 2016, HUD launched the Community Assessment Reporting Tool (CART). This application contains datasets from HUD programs to help citizens discover the Department's work taking place in their own communities. As part of the eGIS Program, HUD will maintain CART's data to ensure it remains current in order to effectively assist HUD's many stakeholders, including citizens, researchers, and journalists to visualize many of HUD's investments in a single, 508 compliant, application. Pending available resources, HUD will perform additional development on CART to add

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

functionality to fill crucial information gaps at the local level and spur civic innovations that foster economic growth, community resilience, and other opportunities to encourage the healthy development of communities.

### ## Measurable Metrics

Pending contractual actions and availability of IT dollars, HUD intends to add additional programmatic data (i.e., grants to maintain Native American affordable housing), enhance reporting, capabilities, and add additional commonly requested geographies (i.e., HUD Regions, HUD Field Offices).

**Title:** Increasing the Usability and Uptake of Open Foreign Assistance Data

**Number:** 21

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:58:32Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

Increase the use and uptake of open foreign assistance data

### ## Key Objective(s)

Increased foreign assistance transparency has the power to promote effective development by helping recipient governments manage their aid flows and by empowering citizens to hold governments accountable for how foreign assistance is spent in their country. Over the past few years, more foreign assistance data has been available than ever before with over 500 publishers to the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) standard, however, awareness and use of the data is still relatively low.

In order to support data driven decision-making in development, potential users need to be made aware of this data. When provided with open foreign assistance data a variety of stakeholders express interest and potential uses, but to truly increase uptake the US needs to understand if the current formats and functions are what is needed to be truly useful.

Through this commitment the US will invite greater participation and openness with overseas government counterparts as well as with overseas civil society groups. This commitment will invite increased participation, as in order to make the data more useful, the US will need to understand the current limitations and implement change where possible. This leads to collaboration for achieving a common goal which is data-driven decision-making.

### ## Paragraph Description

- Increase the awareness of and the capacity for using open foreign assistance information with stakeholders both domestically and overseas through engagement on current needs and gaps.
- Collaborate with civil society and host country governments to identify uses for open foreign assistance data including local reporting requirements, and support identified implementation tasks.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Measurable Metrics

Data used by Missions in their in-country reporting and operations. Data produced in IATI format used to populate host-country government reporting requirements.

**Title:** Open Data, Open Science

**Number:** 20

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:56:50Z

**Comment:** Suggested Title- Coordinate Agency Staff Training on Openly Licensing Materials

## Topline Description - The U.S. Office of Management and Budget will host trainings for agency staff working to openly license Federal grant-supported materials and identify best practices across agencies.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Training agency staff together on open licensing Federal grant-supported works
- Develop best practices across agencies for staff working on openly licensing materials

## Paragraph Description - As some Federal agencies have moved to openly license Federal grant-supported materials, agency staff require training on types of open licenses and the storage of openly licensed materials for public access and use. To make this process more efficient and productive, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget will convene agency staff working on openly licensed materials in a training and develop best practices across agencies.

## Measurable Metrics - The U.S. Office of Management and Budget will convene two trainings before June 2019 and produce a document of best practices across agencies.

**Title:** Justice, Law Enforcement, and National Security

**Number:** 19

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:56:36Z

**Comment:** Earlier this year, a broad coalition of organizations dedicated to government openness and accountability, privacy, human rights, civil rights, and immigrant rights wrote to the Attorney General and Secretary of Homeland Security expressing concern over these data provisions in E.O. 13780. The coalition letter emphasized that the data collection and reporting requirements in the Executive Order disproportionately target information on foreign nationals and non-U.S. citizens residing or entering the United States, and that once collected, this data will have no frame of reference and, accordingly, will not give policy makers or the public a sense of how it compares to all travelers or all U.S. persons. The problem is exacerbated by the fact that, beyond the mandatory information requirements, Executive Order 13780 gives sweeping authority to DHS and the DOJ to determine which additional categories of information and types of data they choose to collect, without providing clear definitions for such categories. Lastly, the provision of E.O. 13780 that call for the disclosure and dissemination of information related to acts of gender-based violence against women, including “so called ‘honor killings’ committed by foreign nationals raises

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

serious concerns in regard to protecting victims' rights and privacy-protected sensitive information while potentially preventing immigrant women from reporting abuse.

**Title:** Harness the Data Revolution for Business and Jobs

**Number:** 16

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:56:03Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description:

Partnerships for workforce modernization and continuing education of civil servants.

## Key Objective(s)

- Create a digital 'badge' for individuals by integrating current record-keeping identification data sources
- Configure these badges as block data that lives on a decentralized blockchain ledger that can be accessed at anytime

## Paragraph Description:

In an effort to advance transparency, accountability, and tech innovation across government, it's important to invest in civil servants who have championed the processes and procedures that carried us into the age of information. The administration should actively seek out partnerships for workforce modernization and continuing education of civil servants.

Such partnerships could involve post-secondary education 'bootcamps' or university institutions, in much the same way that the GI Bill educated our veterans. The goal primarily being high throughput education at reduced cost. The success of a program should be judged on Growth - NOT proficiency - since a workforce that learns and adapts quickly should be better prepared for an agile government.

## Measurable Metrics

- Number of participating civil servants
- Number of civil servants that completed a program in the past month
- Average program completion time
- Average cost per program per person

**Title:** Blockchain: Building Public Trust in Government Data

**Number:** 15

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:51:21Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Incentivizing Open Government Emerging Tech Innovation Initiative to Improve Emergency Response

## Measurable Metrics

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- Establish decentralized distributed open data on a blockchain containing critical emergency response data
  - Opening data on-ramps through building open API's and open source software
  - Storing datasets in multiple distributed locations
  - Opening federally funded research data conducted by major research organizations, scientific publications, and professional associations to have their data published openly
- Professionalize the Management of Data
  - Declaring emergency response data as a national asset
- Encourage private-public collaboration to improve emergency response through the implementation of open procurement by offering relevant documents on a blockchain

### ## Outcomes

- Agencies, departments, and organizations are incentivized to achieve these goals by receiving capital funds comprised of the money saved by enacting these technologies (see cloud computing incentives in MGT Act)
- Lives are saved through enhanced emergency response

**Title:** Digital Accountability and Transparency Act (DATA Act)

**Number:** 14

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:50:47Z

**Comment:** As a supporter and implementer of the DATA Act, am happy to see it as a suggested part of the NAP once again. I'll take a stab at flushing this out in the suggested format, in hopes that others will weigh in with their insights, hopes, dreams, etc.

### ## Topline Description

Build on the success of the 2017 DATA Act implementation by increasing the scope of reported data to include inter-agency spending and supporting documents such as contracts.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- To provide insight into a large body of federal spending that is not currently surfaced via the DATA Act website (beta.usaspending.gov or API: money that agencies pay to other agencies for services rendered (e.g., Interagency Agreements, Security Work Authorizations).
- To make public the full universe of supporting documentation related to federal spending.

### ## Paragraph Description

- Update the DATA Act schema to include fields that allow the public to track the flow of federal dollars between agencies.
- Update the DATA Act schema to include or link to supporting documentation for interagency spending, contracts, and federal assistance (e.g., grants, loans).

### ## Measurable Metrics

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- Putting a few ideas here...I left the actual percentages open because I'm not sure what's reasonable by 2019.
- n% of total interagency spending is available on the DATA Act website
- The reporting of interagency spending complements the existing spending hierarchy of the DATA Act schema (e.g., treasury accounts-->program activity/object class-->grant/contract) without causing data duplication or otherwise skewing the numbers.
- n% of all new contracts, grants, loans, and interagency spending agreements are accessible via the DATA Act website and API, ideally in a machine-readable way.

**Title:** Increase Transparency of Privacy Programs and Policies on Agency Websites and Digital Services

**Number:** 13

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:50:37Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

## Topline Description

Federal information must be protected and agencies must be transparent about their policies and practices with respect to personally identifiable information (PII).

## Key Objective(s)

Ensure the protection of privacy in Federal information while also promoting transparency of policies and practices related to PII.

## Paragraph Description

The Federal Government creates, collects, uses, processes, stores, maintains, disseminates, discloses, and disposes of PII to carry out missions mandated by Federal statute. Consistent with applicable law, regulations, and government-wide policies, Federal Agencies must ensure the reliability and usability of information on the agencies' public websites and digital services, as well as provide quality information that is readily accessible to all. This requires agencies to provide clear and accessible notice regarding the creation, collection, use, processing, storage, maintenance, dissemination, disclosure, and disposal of PII.

## Measurable Metrics

180 days from publication of M-17-06.

**Title:** Fiscal Transparency and Accountability

**Number:** 12

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:50:25Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Publish agency budget justifications as machine-readable data

## Key Objective(s)

Allow the public to more easily understand agency budget requests by facilitating analysis.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Paragraph Description

Every year, the President releases their annual budget request. Accompanying the President's request, each federal agency publishes a congressional budget justification (CBJ). The CBJ explains in detail why the agency has requested this level of funding and how the agency plans to use the funding requested.

Agencies are required to post their CBJs online per OMB Circular A-11 (Section 22.6(c)). However, each agency posts their CBJ in a different location on their website, in a different format, and typically as a PDF (or occasionally HTML), but not as machine-readable data. This makes it difficult for the public to access this information and to analyze the budget information (e.g., to calculate how the agency's request for a particular program has changed over the past 10 years).

To make this information more usable by the public, the U.S. government should:

- Collect all annual CBJs in a central online location, alongside related budget materials (e.g. on OMB's budget page).
- Collaborate with the Government Publishing Office to include CBJs with their collection of budget materials, if feasible.
- Publish CBJ budget tables in a standard, machine-readable format that facilitates computations (e.g. XML or CSV), alongside the PDF or other format.
- Post CBJ budget table data on Data.gov.

### ## Measurable Metrics

By June 2019:

- OMB should have guidelines in place (incorporated into or in addition to Circular A-11) establishing a standard, machine-readable format for CBJ budget tables and directing agencies to post their CBJs in central locations. OMB should consult with budget information users when developing the guidelines.
- OMB should establish timelines for agency compliance with the guidelines, require agencies to report their compliance status, and report out this information publicly.

**Title:** Improve Government Customer Service with Machine Learning

**Number:** 11

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:50:13Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

The government currently lacks the capacity to address agency applications without bureaucratic delay. Designing a reliable system for improving processing times for the variety of submissions to agencies begins with hiring and embedding the technological talent.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Work to secure the funding to support the talent acquisition efforts.

Coordinate the hiring of embedded data science / machine learning experts and UX designers to work with client-facing civil servants to develop automated processing applications with citizens at the center.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Paragraph Description

Modernizing civil services with machine learning will be ongoing effort. It may involve modernizing infrastructure, and most certainly will involve machine learning deployments to be maintained and updated with new performance information. Such deployments should work to increase efficiency of the work civil servants are already doing (human-in-the-loop), filtering the work to present them with cases that most require their attention.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Technologists embedded per month
- Deployed projects per year
- Time saved per agency worker
- Processing time reduced per case
- Monthly cases processed pre and post implementation
- Monthly number of citizens served

**Title:** Blockchain: Next-Gen Reporting to Reduce Agency Reporting Burden

**Number:** 10

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:50:04Z

**Comment:**

### ## Topline Description

Blockchain: Next-Gen Reporting to Reduce Agency Reporting Burden

### ## Key Objective(s)

Implement a government-wide blockchain/distributed ledger to satisfy Federal agency reporting requirements

### ## Paragraph Description

While government accountability in agency operations is paramount, The variety and periodicity of agency reports creates a significant burden on agency officials and OMB to compile, complete and submit reports and present them as required to Congress. Worse, Agency pressures and inefficient systems impact the substance and quality of reports, and can make "apples to apples" comparisons of agency operations opaque. A Blockchain may provide a continuous, immutable record of Federal activities that provide real-time and continuously auditable transactions

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Reduce agency reports
- Increase availability of agency information
- Encourage adoption of Robotic Process Automation (RPA) to enhance and augment ledger reporting

**Title:** Improve Government Customer Service with the Chief FOIA Officer Council

**Number:** 8

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:49:42Z

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

Leveraging the new Chief FOIA Officers Council to continue to improve FOIA customer service across the government.

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Improves communication between agencies and requesters and promotes understanding of the FOIA process
- Promotes the efficient use of agency FOIA resources

### ## Paragraph Description

The administration will leverage the Federal Chief FOIA Officers Council to scale the use of agency FOIA Requester Service Centers and FOIA Public Liaisons to provide effective communication and dispute resolution skills that will further improve the customer experience and to the extent possible prevent the need for unnecessary litigation. The Council will also examine the relationship and interplay between requesters and agency FOIA Requester Service Centers and FOIA Public Liaisons, as well as their work with the Office of Government Information Services (OGIS). Through this examination we will ensure that agency practices promote the efficient use of FOIA resources to provide requesters with the best customer experience possible.

### ## Measurable Metrics

The Chief FOIA Officers Council is required to meet at least annually by law. At subsequent meetings, NARA and DOJ will explore dispute resolution best practices as well as other topics impacting FOIA administration.

**Title:** Improve FOIA from the Inside Out

**Number:** 7

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:49:31Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

### ## Topline Description

To further modernize FOIA and assist in meeting demand, the Department of Justice will launch a comprehensive FOIA Self-Assessment Toolkit that will provide agencies a much needed resource to examine their entire FOIA process in order to implement best practices and improved strategies for success.

### ## Key Objective(s)

At the core of government transparency is the Freedom of Information Act. The FOIA is a vital tool for the public to learn more about government and year after year the demand for FOIA continues to increase. Now more than ever it is important that agencies examine each aspect of their FOIA programs to ensure that they have the most effective systems in place to provide good customer services, respond to requests promptly, and to make more information available online. By utilizing the Toolkit agencies can ensure that we are providing the best FOIA service for the American public.

### ## Paragraph Description

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

Every year the public's use of the FOIA increases as a vital tool for ensuring government transparency. Last year alone the United States received nearly 800,000 requests for records. Building on the NAP 2.0 commitment to share best practices through DOJ's FOIA Best Practices Workshops, the Department of Justice will launch a comprehensive FOIA Self-Assessment Toolkit that will assist agencies in meeting this ever-increasing demand and will ensure that we have the most effective and efficient FOIA programs in place. The Toolkit will take a modular approach to self-assessment allowing agencies to focus on specific areas where they would like to see improvement. The modules will focus on all aspects of FOIA administration from the intake process, to processing workflows, to customer service, to FOIA websites.

## Measurable Metrics

To come.

**Title:** Expand Public Participation in the Development of Regulations

**Number:** 6

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:49:22Z

**Comment:** [submitted through Federal interagency process]

## Topline Description

Make it easier for the public to read, respond to, and navigate through regulations, as well as making it easier for agencies to publish, collect comment and organize their regulations and policy documents.

## Key Objective(s)

Expand the open source pilot developed by CFPB to additional agencies throughout the government.

## Paragraph Description

The open source CFPB eRegulations platform has been expanded and is being used by additional government agencies including live instances with the FEC, ATF, a notice and comment pilot project collecting live public comment with the EPA, and now beginning an engagement with OMB using the platform to organize, track and sort policy documents.

## Measurable Metrics

We're currently in talks with ATF about doing a second engagement to add more functionality and policy documents to their eRegulations platform by Sept. 30th, 2018. OMB will launch their policy reader we're building by June 2017, and we will likely have a second engagement with them in 2018 to create a policy writer tool.

**Title:** Streamline and Rescind Outdated Policy

**Number:** 3

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-09-05T22:48:00Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Establish legislative analyses that examine the fiscal and policy impacts to society that

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

result from removal of rules and regulations, and offer justification to reexamine the relevancy of previously enacted policy. Removal of policy is policymaking just as much as drafting and implementing new policy.

### ## Key Objective(s)

Release internal performance analyses championed by the Administration and/or the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) into the public record, citing previous, relevant analyses.

### ## Paragraph Description

Part of expanding the conversation to include public stakeholders and increasing transparency begins with establishing consensus around the performance of policies. Such analyses should be rigorous, objective, and cognizant of the state-by-state performance outcomes as well. This will inevitably open the door to rescind outdated policies.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Monthly reports published per month
- Errata published per month
- Rescinded policy
- Funds secured from policy change
- Reorganization costs & benefits
- Reduced implementation time from time of decision to policy change

## Working Group at the Emerging Tech [Open Government workshop 9/8](#)

**Title:** Promote the use and development of open source software in the criminal justice system

**Number:** 142

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:34:36Z

### **Comment:**

To ensure transparency and due process for the use of innovative risk assessment softwares in the criminal justice system, the executive branch should mandate all risk assessment software used by the federal government should be built on free and open source software platforms to allow audits and suggested improvements from civil society groups. This would include public access to the anonymized training data, methods of machine learning (if applicable), and final weighing of the variables. Furthermore, the DOJ should issue a task-force to report on the use of risk assessment software in state criminal justice systems, examine public record criminal datasets and work to make them accessible in an easily downloadable, machine-readable format, and promote the development of open source case management and translation services to be freely available for State and county-level legal systems. Progress in this area would be measured based on an increase in the use of transparent risk assessment software in pretrial, sentencing, and parole hearings, decreased jail and prison populations, and the resulting taxpayer savings.

**Title:** Both current Open Government initiatives and future initiatives can leverage the standards-based, real-time access of open APIs while taking advantage of trust, accountability, and transparency the blockchain provides.

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Number:** 141

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:27:11Z

**Comment:**

Public Health - Opioid Tracking, Public Health Surveillance, Population Health, Medical/Certification information

- Land Management - Public Lands, Shared infrastructure
- IoT Integration
- Unreachable populations (people and entities)
- Marketplace establishment (Healthcare, Human Resources, etc.)

Increase SLA compliance through Smart Contracts and Incentives!

- Increase data access
- Improve selective and auditable sharing of data
- Improve Data quality metric (auditable, trusted, reduce secondary/manual validation)

**Title:** Accelerate current and future Open Data initiatives through building open APIs that de-silo data and leverage key blockchain capabilities

**Number:** 140

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:26:13Z

**Comment:**

Allows for data to be more actionable and drive accountability (single source of truth) - know where it came from, who provided, provenance, etc.

- Get to near real-time data delivery via Open APIs
- Adds ability to control security and privacy of “selectively sharing”; data based on defined rules - who access what when and why - more data can be shared with more granularity
- Allows for future two-way interaction by allowing business network members to add to/enhance existing government provided information - additional information available

**Title:** Publish open climate data to increase the resiliency of American communities

**Number:** 129

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:10:54Z

**Comment:**

Publish open climate data to increase the resiliency of American communities

**Title:** FOIA and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act

**Title:** Adopt a release-to-one, release to all policy at the Justice Department, where all FOIA responses are disclosed as open data

**Number:** 127

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:09:09Z

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**Comment:**

Adopt a release-to-one, release to all policy at the Justice Department, where all FOIA responses are disclosed as open data

**Title:** Modernize data collection and disclosure at ICE of import/export of goods, including shipping containers, trains and trucks

**Number:** 125

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:08:07Z

**Comment:**

Modernize data collection and disclosure at ICE of import/export of goods, including shipping containers, trains and trucks

**Title:** Mandate that regulators collect consumer complaints about goods and services and publish them as open data

**Number:** 123

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:05:40Z

**Comment:**

Mandate that regulators collect consumer complaints about goods and services and publish them as open data

**Title:** Use the Commerce Data Services model to improve public/private partnerships around data

**Number:** 122

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:04:52Z

**Comment:**

Use the Commerce Data Services model to improve public/private partnerships around data

**Title:** Focus on improving meta data quality at agencies

**Number:** 120

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:03:59Z

**Comment:**

Focus on improving meta data quality at agencies

**Title:** Pass the OPEN Government Data Act

**Number:** 119

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:03:25Z

**Comment:**

Institutionalize the 2013 executive order on machine-readable. Make open government data the default in US government. Mandate creation and publication of enterprise data

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

inventories.

**Title:** Professionalize the management of data as an asset

**Number:** 117

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T03:01:39Z

**Comment:**

By 2019, make 50% of government agencies have a professionalized function: a CDO or similar role. Some of that done with FITARA and DATA Act, but go further.

**Title:** Adopt Semantic Web technology at scientific agencies

**Number:** 116

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T02:59:00Z

**Comment:**

NASA, NIH, EPA, etc

**Title:** Use crowdsourced data to improve wilderness management

**Number:** 115

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-03T02:57:34Z

**Comment:**

Leverage data from the public at Forest Service & USDA. Maybe send drones out to look at trails, map trails, and then send people out. Consider for wild fires. Adopt open formats at RMA to help do risk management from RSC. Make better use of aerial data. Use NOAA weather data.

**Title:** Software Identity tags

**Number:** 113

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:15:08Z

**Comment:**

This effort is low risk, can be accomplished, and would serve as a trust anchor for blockchain acceptance both in the Federal government and elsewhere. With the work by GSA, NIST, DoD, and DHS on ISO 19770 parts 3 and 4 on Software Identity Tags,

Software License Identity (SWID) Tags containing entitlements can be inserted into a block-chain making fully traceable the ownership and use flow of the software license through the life-cycle.

GSA has a mandate through FITARA and OMB M-16-12 to facilitate license reuse across federal agencies. To do so, GSA would require a way to not only collect unused licenses from agencies, but also the terms and conditions around the use and transfer of those licenses and what agencies have received them, as well as the context of how the receiving agency is using them to ensure that the terms and conditions are being met. This tracking must also be of sufficient detail to provide for either the donating or receiving agency to

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

respond to a licensing audit from the software vendor.

The traditional way to accomplish this would be to set up a central database at a central authority such as GSA and funnel all licensing transfers and future audit activities through the central point.

The decentralized ledger capabilities of blockchain may provide a mechanism to distribute much of that workload, as well as provide greater information assurance/chain of custody around questions of compliance with licensing terms and conditions due to inherent features of blockchain around information assurance.

Longer term: Due to its standards based and decentralized nature, it might even be possible to eventually substitute the blockchain ledger for vendor proprietary database tables for license tracking. If leveraged successfully, multiple tools working directly out of a shared blockchain ledger could eliminate data synchronization and conversion issues that plague the integration of disparate systems today (i.e. multiple IT Service Management (ITSM) systems such as CMDB, Inventory, License Management, Financial systems, etc.)

Related technologies: ISO 19770 provides the framework and taxonomy for data consistency within the blockchain

**Title:** Using open data to aid in disaster recovery

**Number:** 112

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:12:51Z

**Comment:**

Release data on rural utilities: what's operable, what can take more burden. ID where cell towers should be. Use open data to leverage 17 sub-agencies within USDA. Show where there is available grazing land. Show high ground.

**Title:** Apply machine-readable requirements to filings to regulatory agencies, like FERC.

**Number:** 111

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:11:34Z

**Comment:**

Systematic interface that collects information. SEC and XBRL example of what we'd like to move towards. Move away from scraping by vendors. Bring in USDS and 18F.

**Title:** Modernize FARA

**Number:** 110

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:09:24Z

**Comment:**

Modernize FARA data collection and proactive disclosure online at FARA.gov. Move from a paper form that scanned to a digital form that's ingested as structured data and published as open data

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**Title:** Refine Classification for Tax Purposes

**Number:** 108

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:04:15Z

**Comment:**

Address tax policy anomalies, and suspend administration of prior policies (and make future enforcement prospective rather than potentially retrospective), until these anomalies are resolved. The IRS determined that convertible virtual currencies should be treated as property, not currency. This approach causes many anomalies, including the effect of any purchases using virtual currencies such as bitcoin requiring a calculation of the tax gain or loss on the purchase. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA), in a detailed 2016 report, criticized the lack of guidance following the IRS's determination. US companies and individuals should be formally relieved from the burdens of the IRS's erroneous determination until a more meaningful and appropriate system of taxing virtual currency transactions is developed. As a general matter, the Chamber proposes that the IRS guidance be revised to reclassify the treatment of convertible virtual assets from property to currency.

**Title:** Uniform Federal Regulation of Exchanges.

**Number:** 107

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:03:19Z

**Comment:**

Develop a federal option for the regulation of digital currency exchanges that would obviate the enormous compliance burden and cost entailed by the patchwork of redundant regulatory regimes in each of the 50 states. Further, the Chamber recommends a federal exemption of non-exchanges from regulation for state money transmitter licensing requirements and a simple, clear and efficient process for federal chartering of exchanges that acknowledges the unique attributes associated with FinTech that is different than the services provided by traditional banks.

**Title:** Inter-agency Blockchain Coordination

**Number:** 106

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:02:32Z

**Comment:**

OMB to provide a directive to all federal regulatory agencies to coordinate, harmonize, and eliminate ambiguities as to respective jurisdictions over blockchain-based technologies to reduce the enforcement environment that the blockchain industry encounters on a daily basis and encourage growth. While appropriate enforcement is necessary for the administration of government and sound public policy, the multiple enforcement regimes are accompanied by a noticeable lack of regulatory support and encouragement of this industry.

**Title:** Research and Development Appropriations

**Number:** 105

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T22:00:38Z

**Comment:**

Allocate \$100M/year, over ten years, of the proposed \$1T federal infrastructure investment to federal agency blockchain infrastructure development for making agencies more economical, efficient, and secure in the delivery of government services with special emphasis on cyber-security, fraud prevention, and administrative cost-reduction.

**Title:** Decentralized distributed open data

**Number:** 95

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:30:26Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Improve visibility of open data by enabling distributed, but linked, copies and derived datasets to be stored in multiple locations.

## Key Objective(s)

- Higher transparency with backups of data
- Higher accountability with more users using data
- Collaboration using blockchain to trace data amount states universities researchers and partners

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

- datasets with checksums & url's linking to copies
- derived or enhanced data linking to data.gov

**Title:** Professionalize the Management of Data

**Number:** 94

**User/Login:** philipashlock

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:29:02Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

By recognizing and investing in the value of data as a national asset, the US Government will increase transparency, accountability, and capacity to inform the public

## Key Objective(s)

- Create standards
- Create Training program & data stewards to release more usable data that the public can apply, re-use and hold government accountable

## Paragraph Description

## Measurable Metrics

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

- % of staff that met standards and goals
- Publication of plan
- Data scorecard
- Self assessment
- Standards

**Title:** Adopt Universal Open Identifier for Legal Entities

**Number:** 93

**User/Login:** JustinHerman

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T21:28:25Z

**Comment:**

## Topline Description

Every single agency that regulates, purchases, or otherwise deals with legal activities should track those entities using ~ common, open identification code, so that legal entities interactions with government are aggregable.

## Key Objective(s)

- Interoperable entity identification
- Open source data set of legal entities to end current monopoly held
- Cross-agency analytics to enforce rules and laws and inform investors
- Necessary prerequisite for semantic web applications and blockchain-based reporting
- Improves AI effectiveness

## Paragraph Description

N/A

## Measurable Metrics

- Number of agencies adopting common identifier
- Whether common identifier is safely used, or alongside legacy identifier, in each regime
- Comparison of data aggregated using common identifier with previously available sources

**Title:** Use artificial intelligence to improve FOIA request reporting.

**Number:** 85

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T20:51:24Z

**Comment:**

## Use artificial intelligence to improve FOIA request reporting.

## Key Objective(s)

- Connect “release to one release to all” policy to a data-driven approach
- Improve the usability of FOIA.gov
- Structure FOIA data and metadata using artificial intelligence
- Reduce administrative burden of FOIA request reporting
- Follow the mandate of the FOIA Improvement Act of 2016

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Paragraph Description

There is no standardized way of reporting FOIA requests across the U.S. federal government. This proposal would require all U.S. federal agencies to provide FOIA data and metadata available in a machine-readable format on a regular basis. Then, using artificial intelligence, this proposal would enable improvements to the datasets currently hosted on FOIA.gov.

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Within one year, all federal agencies must begin quarterly reporting of FOIA records, which will be published on FOIA.gov and Data.gov

**Title:** Legislative Mandate for Open Government Data

**Number:** 84

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T20:47:39Z

**Comment:**

## Legislative Mandate for Open Government Data

### ## Key Objective(s)

- Through a legislative mandate, make open data a permanent responsibility for government and build a foundation for open data initiatives for the future.

### ## Paragraph Description

Existing federal open data policy is built on executive action and executive order which are not legally binding. Because of this, the future of open data is uncertain in the United States, creating a promise that open government data is here to stay. The executive branch should mandate for legislation that ensures the prioritization of open data. Supporting a legislative mandate to enable U.S. federal agencies to pursue open data strategies. Designate a lead for open data initiatives. Publish an open data plan including priorities, high-value data sets. This will promote a culture of transparency and accountability in government, enable government data serve as a platform for innovation, encourage public participation (e.g. hackathons, challenges), and achieves agency mission delivery and serve the public good

### ## Measurable Metrics

- Within 6 months, designate a lead and/or team for open data initiatives and prioritize high-value datasets, which could include CDO
- Within 1 year, publish a report to OMB on how the agency intends to comply
- Within 3 years, direct GAO to publish a report on agency compliance and the value of the datasets

**Title:** Open Up Federally Funded Scientific Research Data

**Number:** 80

**User/Login:** audrey-a

**Created At:** 2017-10-02T19:58:00Z

**Comment:**

## NAP 4 GitHub Co-Creation Comments

### ## Open Up Federally Funded Scientific Research Data

#### ## Key Objective(s)

- OMB and OSTP will work with major research organizations, scientific publications, and professional associations to have all federally-funded researchers publish their data as open data.
- Make it possible for all scientists to participate in the benefits of federally funded data
- Fight “junk science” by making federally funded research more transparent and make researchers more accountable for result
- Facilitate scientific collaboration in an open forum setting

#### ## Paragraph Description

This initiative will realize the goals of open science with federal leadership. Today, there are many perverse incentives that prevent researchers from sharing their data, tied to career goals and recognition, tenure decisions, and the connection between publication and further funding. Through OMB and OSTP, the White House will work with organizations such as the Research Data Alliance, SPARC, and CODATA – as well as with key stakeholders – to develop new strategies to change these incentives and encourage research data publication.

#### ## Measurable Metrics

- Within one year, several White House-led convenings to develop these solutions held
- Within two years, several new tools, such as citation index systems, to provide incentives for research-sharing developed
- Within two years, best practices developed, endorsed by key research organizations and leading research universities
- Within 5 years, 95% open data publication for federally funded research achieved