Federal GIS Conference

February 9-10, 2015 | Washington, DC



Making Open Data Successful: Civic Citizen Engagement

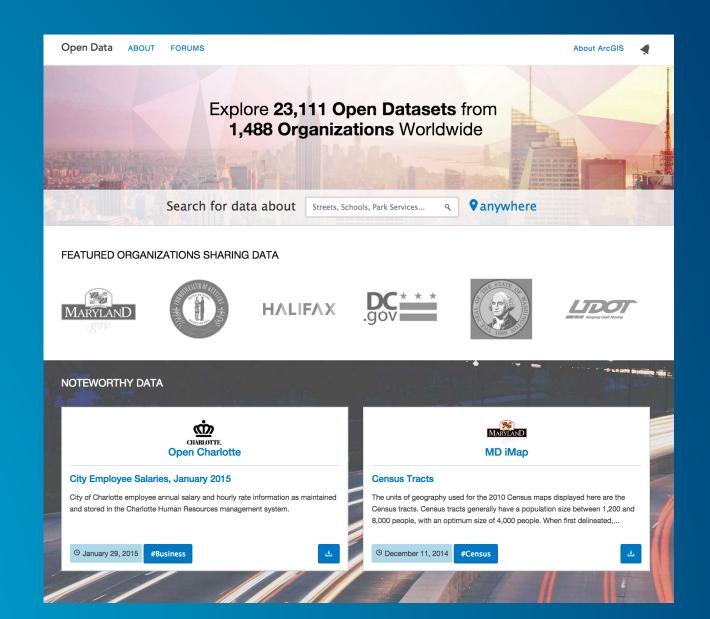
Courtney Claessens
Product Engineer, Open Data
@sidewalkballet

or

Open Data Will Not Save Us

Getting it out there: step one

- Accessible, discoverable, explorable, downloadable
- Standard formats
- Licensing
- Forming the basis of a culture of civic data (internal and external)



data, as is...



Source: Diane Liebenson

beyond the portal or what good does it do?

identification

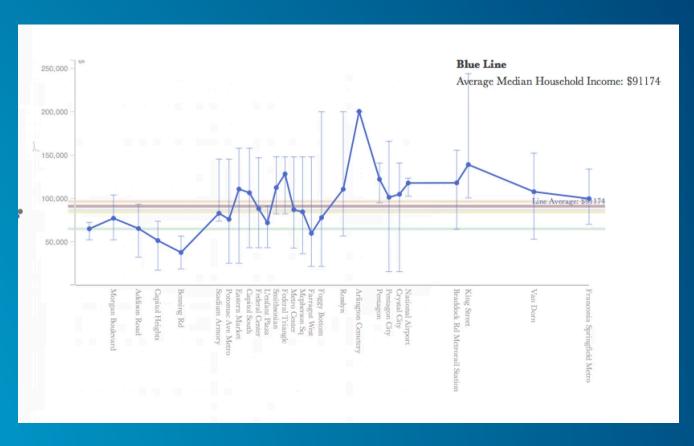
Who is your community?

Who is your community?

- Define the data being used
 - What are the high value datasets
 - Analyse FOIA requests
 - Ask other agencies for data requests
- Analytics

Who is your community?

- Surveys
- Define the data uses
 - Everyday information
 - Research
 - Civic hacking
 - Journalism
 - OpenStreetMap
 - Commercial
 - Government



You Are Here Project, MIT Media Lab

Who is your community?

- Define everybody else
 - Breaking down constituency demographics
 - Residents, tourists, youth, elderly...
 - Who are potential users of data?
 - How do you connect with them?
 - Turning data browsers into data users

outreach

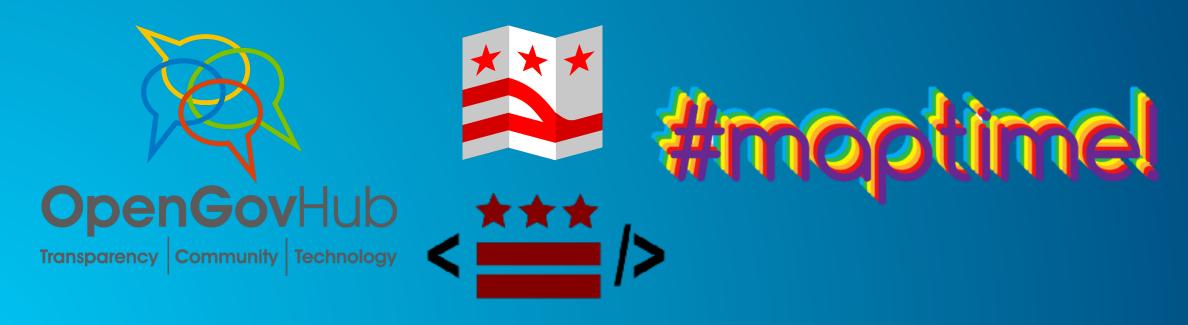
Where is your community?

Getting the word out

- Blogging, social media
- Journalism and press releases
- How can Esri help?
 - Site of the week

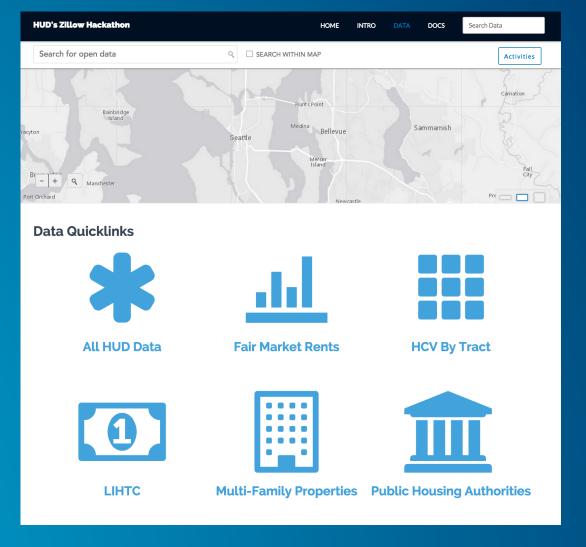
Meet your community where they are

- Meetups
- Coworking spaces
- Civic hacknights
- GIS Day, Data Innovation Day, Open Data Day, make your own day



Bring your community to you!

- Office hours
- Hackathons, datapaloozas, contests
 - Create event-specific sites: <u>HUD Zillow Hack</u>
- Continuous programming



feedback

habits

Cultivating a culture of open data

all learning is premised on habitual actions

(Dewey, 2011)

Civic habits

- Lower the barrier to participation
- Access to open data produces good civic habits
 - Visualise and augment the world around them
- Open data as a building block
- Place habits into systems
- Beyond Transparency: Making a Habit Out of Engagement: How the Culture of Open Data Is Reframing Civic Life by Eric Gordon and Jessica Baldwin-Philippi

Summary

- Open data site is great, but not enough
- Community identification
- Community outreach
- Civic habits

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Understanding our world.