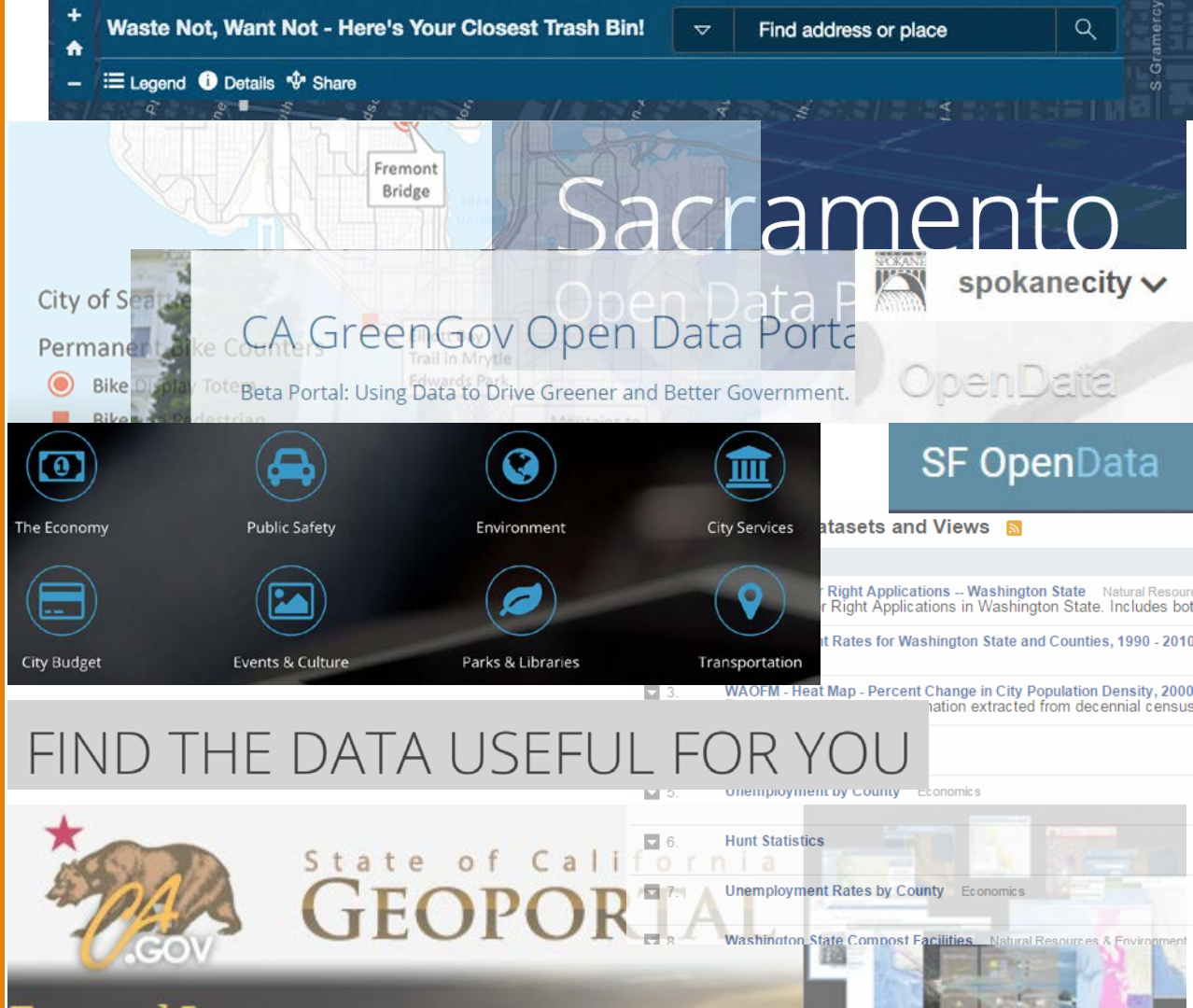


Civic Data & Public Libraries

*Exploring Data,
Solving Problems
Giving Feedback*

October 22, 2018

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“How might we make data work for individuals and communities?”

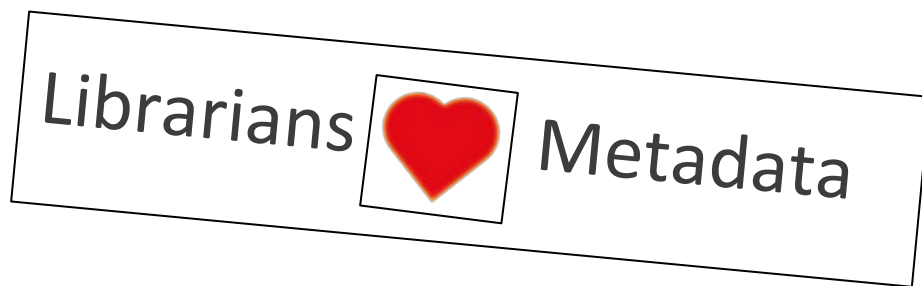
Why Libraries?

“...the library as an institution has been fundamental to the success of our democracy. Libraries provide access to the skills and knowledge necessary to **fulfill our role as active citizens**. Libraries also function as essential **equalizing institutions** in our society. For as long as a library exists in most communities, staffed with trained librarians, it remains true that individuals' **access to our shared culture** is not dictated by however much money they have.”

– John Palfrey, [BiblioTech: Why Libraries Matter More Than Ever in the Age of Google](#)

And what about librarians?

- Information professionals rooted in communities; connect communities to information



Equity



data is available



you can access the data



you can leverage data to create change



Curriculum + 462 attendees and counting!



Librarians and Civic Technologists Create Curriculum (DONE! 4 1 -2hr classes: definitions, uses, basic statistics, charts and graphs, answering your own question)



Libraries that helped create curriculum tested it and we made changes based on feedback (Done!)



Accepted 26 beta testers, provided two -day in -person training and now tested it in their communities.(Done!)



Open Data Staff Training

- High Attendance & Enthusiasm - 233 attendees at staff trainings
- Informal signs of continued use - emails, requests for more classes
- Widespread agreement that reference librarians should be familiar with open data sources and tools, and be ready to direct community members to open data and one-on-one training, as needed.

Community Training

- Enthusiasm - 229 attendees at community trainings and more to come
- Small classes, despite vigorous outreach
- Challenging to have different technology skills among participants

Open Data Questions from Participants

- Which skilled nursing facilities in Long Beach have the best inspection rating?
- Crime rate near my house/kids' schools
- Where can I find first-time homebuyer data?
- What is the air quality by my house?
- # of car accidents resulting from drugs?
- How many home-based businesses are in LA?
- Broadband access in Washington State?
- What are the most diverse cities in LA County?
- # of adults by a geography with a cognitive disability
- State trends in library science profession
- Compare school quality data and funding
- Government budgets/spending

After taking our class, 78%
of community participants said
they were very likely to use
open data in their life.

Profile: San Jose, CA

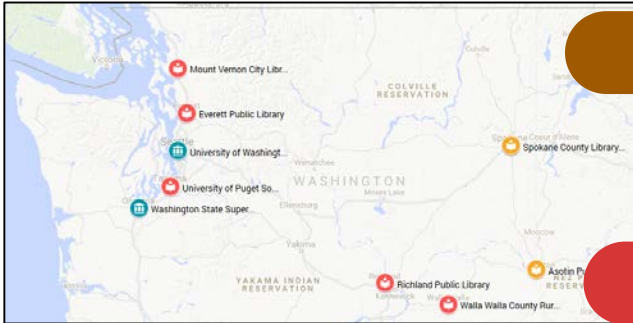
- Member of new citywide Data Strategy Team
- Library IS an information management center that provides training and access to public
- Knowledge of Privacy
- Knowledge of how to organize information
- #metadatanerds



Profile: Everett, WA

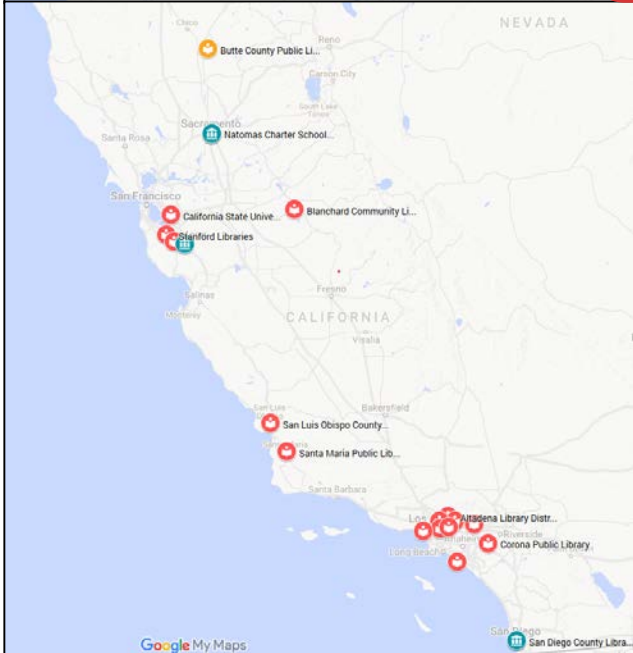
- City library and IT have an informal partnership
- City IT developing data and portal
- Library as educator for the public - focused on
 - How to make data findable
 - How to manage a catalog
- Data Equity training will coincide with portal launch Fall 2018





Alpha Testers + Curriculum Builders

Asotin County Library,
Butte County Library,
Spokane Public Library,
San Jose Public Library,
San Diego



Beta Testers

Altadena Library District
Arcadia Public Library
Blanchard Community Library
Cal State University, East Bay
Corona Public Library
Everett Public Library
Glendale Library, Arts &
Culture
Huntington Beach Public
Los Angeles Public Library
Monterey Park
Mount Vernon City Library
Natomas Charter School
Library
Richland Public Library
Sacramento Public Library
San Diego County Library
San Luis Obispo County Library
Santa Maria Public Library
Santa Monica Public Library
Spokane County Library
District
Stanford Libraries
Sunnyvale Public Library
University of La Verne
University of Puget Sound
Walla Walla County Rural
Library

Curriculum Contributors

State of WA, State of CA,
University of WA, Open for Good,
Code for Sacramento



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<https://data-equity.org>

Data Equity for Main Street:
Bringing Open Data home
through local libraries



Images by Eric Fisher (<https://ric.org/arc7v/>) and Open Knowledge (<https://ric.org/alltag/>)