

## Meeting Overview

### Agenda:

The agenda for the session is as follows:

- 2:00 PM - 2:10 PM Greetings, Introductions, and Purpose
- 2:10 PM - 2:55 PM Panel Discussion
- 2:55 PM - 4:05 PM Lightning Talks
- 4:05 PM - 4:10 PM Survey
- 4:10 PM - 4:15 PM Closing

### Key Resources:

- Open Government Secretariat email box - [opengovernmentsecretariat@gsa.gov](mailto:opengovernmentsecretariat@gsa.gov)
- Data Foundation website - <https://www.datafoundation.org>
- Open Gov Hub website - <https://www.opengovhub.org>
- CDO Council website - <https://www.cdo.gov>

### Greetings:

- Dan York - Director of The Open Government Secretariat, Office of Government-wide Policy, General Services Administration
- Nick Hart - President & CEO of the Data Foundation
- Tony Rodriguez - Director, Open Gov Hub

### Panel Discussion:

- Panelists:
  - Chris Alvares - USDA CDO
  - Hyon Kim - GSA TTS Data.gov Program Manager
  - Zach Whitman - GSA CDO
- Moderator:
  - Nick Hart - President & CEO of the Data Foundation

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## High Level Overview of the Meeting:

- The Open Government Secretariat, in partnership with the Data Foundation and Open Gov Hub, hosted a panel discussion and lightning talks focused on open government data on April 25, 2024. The event featured 20 speakers, including 3 panelists, 1 moderator, and 16 lightning talk presenters (8 in-person and 8 virtual), who shared their insights and experiences on various aspects of open data.
- The key themes that emerged from the discussions centered around the importance of open data in fostering public trust, improving customer experience, and driving innovation. Speakers emphasized the need for more accessible, understandable, and consumable data through the use of APIs, data modeling processes, and standardized schemas. They also highlighted the challenges of decentralized data systems and the importance of interoperability through open standards. The impact of emerging technologies, such as AI, on the demand for government data and the need for updated executive guidance was also discussed.
- Speakers shared examples of how open data advances science, government, and nonprofit initiatives, and stressed the importance of public participation and feedback in shaping open data priorities and improving government services. They called for a shift in perspective, viewing open data as a tool for improvement rather than judgment, and emphasized the significance of agile, iterative projects and process models in the successful implementation of open data initiatives. The event also highlighted the progress made by the current administration in advancing open data and the ongoing efforts to improve data accessibility and usability, as well as upcoming opportunities for public engagement, including the Public Participation and Community Engagement (PPCE) Request for Information, Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) business standards, and the nomination process for the Open Government Federal Advisory Committee.

## Lightning Talks:

### In-person:

- Daniel Schuman (American Governance Institute): Discussed the historical importance of transparency in the U.S. and the impact of AI on the demand for government data.

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- Mike Endale (BLEN, Inc.): Emphasized the importance of APIs and data modeling processes in making open data more consumable.
- David Schneider (Federal Transit Administration): Shared insights on using census data and digital systems to improve transit system resilience.
- Alexander Howard (Editor): Highlighted the need for new executive guidance on open data before 2025.
- Sarah Schacht (Smarter Civic): Discussed the challenges of decentralized data systems and the importance of standardizing data schemas.
- Justin Magruder (SAIC): Emphasized the value of data standards and straight-through processing.
- Lydia Cooley (N/A): Shared reflections on her experience with the DATA Act at the Treasury Department and the importance of agile, iterative projects.
- Taylor Swift (POPVOX Foundation): Discussed the administration's progress on open data and the Department of Commerce's RFI for Open Government Data Assets.

**Virtual:**

- Stephen Buckley (International Association for Public Participation, U.S. affiliate): Advocated for standard best practices, data, and measures for public participation across all agencies.
- Chris Stoner (Amazon Web Services): Discussed the benefits of hosting open data in the cloud and shared examples of how open data advances science and government.
- Joel Natividad (datHere): Emphasized the importance of open standards, such as the DCAT-US metadata standard, for interoperability and innovation.
- Brendan Mapes (Public Policy Lab): Shared insights from the PPLUS65 project, which aims to improve Medicare and Medicaid services for older adults through qualitative data.
- Kate Nicholson (BetaNYC): Highlighted the organization's open data literacy programs and the growth of their open data community.
- Ryan Wold (General Services Administration): Discussed the importance of open data in fostering trust in public services and the need for better process models.
- Marc Joffe (XPLUS): Advocated for the implementation of machine-readable grant data standards by OMB and GSA.

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- Shelley Metzenbaum (The BETTER Project): Challenged attendees to think about the purpose of open data and to view it as a tool for improvement rather than judgment.

**Closing:**

- Dan: There are many ways for the public to participate. [PPCE RFI](#) out for public comment please comment on it. Having a public session on that 5/2 so please register. FOIA business standards are out for public comment until May 17. Please also look at and comment on the [NAP5 Mid-Term Self-Assessment](#). Lastly, if you go to the FRN right now and search for GSA in the public inspection section. Our RFI on the announcement of the [OG FAC](#) and will ask for nomination to sit on that committee. Thank you to all our partners (data foundation and CDO Council) for this event.
- Nick: Congratulations on posting the FRN for FAC nominations. Thank you to everyone who participated in the forum and provided written comments. Finding ways to participate with our government is so critical. Today we talked about data and it's so important to have this data and let's work together. The CDOs, the work at GSA, the Open Government Secretariat all play a critical role. We also sustained leadership from the White House.

**Full Attendee List:**

**Virtual:**

First and Last Name	Organization
Adam Hughes	GovNavigators LLC
Alina Semo	OGIS/NARA
Richard Allen	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Anan Kwok	Workiva Inc.
Anna Lienesch	University of Maryland, NOAA NCEI
Armando Garcia	Social Security Administration
Ashley Marranzino	NOAA Ocean Exploration (UCAR)
Ashley Jackson	CDOC
Avery Freeman	Data Foundation

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First and Last Name	Organization
Avis Ryan	U.S. General Services Administration
Benjamin Berres	N/A
Brendan Mapes	Public Policy Lab
Brooke Shelley	Dept of Homeland Security
Cassidy Harry	ED
Cheri Freedman	Oregon Gov
Candice Hopkins	USGS
Christopher Murrell	Data Foundation
Cindy Good	Department of Treasury Bureau of Fiscal Service
Chris Stoner	Amazon Web Services
Cecelia Yost	Development Gateway: An IREX Venture
Danielle Kane	Massachusetts Education-to-Career Research and Data Hub
Dave Blubaugh	SSA
Donna Okubo	Dryad
Dora Engle	Data Foundation
Dyan Bullock	OCC
Emily Joseph	DOI
Alexzandra Fogle	National Endowment for the Arts
Gabrielle Horn	Federal Reserve Board
Gabriella Cantor (CREW)	Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington (CREW)
Georges Fadel	Guidehouse
Kelly Gleason	USDOL
Gregory White	OCC
Tambra Dunams	CDC
Janice Luong	Project on Government Oversight
Jason Rood	State of Oregon
Jason Weick	NOAA NCEI
Jeannie Yoon	GSA
Jenna Marthaller	Data Foundation
Jennifer Baumgartner	DOI
Jennifer Goode	DOC
Jarrett Newman	University of Illinois
Joel Natividad	datHere

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John Talburt	Noetic Partners
John Shelp	PenTeleData
Julien Antelin	City of Los Angeles
Karin Bucht	NOAA
Kate Nicholson	BetaNYC - NYC Open Data Ambassadors
Katherine Tom	Federal Reserve Board
Katie O'Toole	data foundation
Katie Steen-James	SPARC
Kaylene Keller	U.S. Department of Interior
Kyle Crook	Audient Group
Kirsten Dalboe	Federal CDO Council
Lisa Mavrogianis	Department of Veterans Affairs
Lisa Wolfisch	U.S. General Services Administration
Matthew Westerby	National Gallery of Art
Marc Joffe	N/A
Marci Harris	POPVOX Foundation
Mark Bittner	Department of the Treasury
Manda Cravey	Sebastian County
Michael Leonard	U.S. Department of Education
Michele Friend	International Society for Systems Sciences
Mike Frame	U.S Geological Survey (USGS)
Michael Sisti	Mathematica
Nikki Oliver	DOI Bureau of Trust Funds Administration
Nina Pruzinsky	NOAA
Natalie Ortiz	Library of Congress
Owen Ambur	<a href="https://connectedcommunity.net">ConnectedCommunity.net</a>
Pepe García	Open Government Partnership
Peter Holden	EDM Council
Priya Ramachandran	N/A
Rilee Bennett	Virginia Department of Health
Rochelle Ribeiro	U.S. General Services Administration
Rosaella Branson	Cook County, IL Bureau of Technology
Ryan Wold	U.S. General Services Administration

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<b>First and Last Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Sabine Romero	City of Austin, Texas
Saeb Ahsan	DOT
Sara Stefanik	Data Foundation
Sarah Jacobs	Open Government Partnership
Stephen Buckley	Int'l Assn. for Public Participation (U.S. affiliate)
Susan Harley	Public Citizen
Shelley Metzenbaum	The BETTER Project
Suzanne Piotrowski	School of Public Affairs and Administration, Rutgers Newark
Steve Rosenberg	FCC
Tania Jarosewich	Guardians of Honor/NASA
Tom Santucci	U.S. General Services Administration
Tim Lowden	U.S. General Services Administration
Tom Gilmore	Marine Corps Service Data Office
Varsha Maheshwari	IBM
Yen-Ming Chen	NRC
Yvette Gibson	Open Government Secretariat
Zachary Feder	NYC Open Data
Zully Goya	NA

In Person:

<b>First and Last Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Alexander Howard	Editor
Alexis Masterson	U.S. General Services Administration
Andrea Jaimes	N/A
Ariel Crawford	U.S. General Services Administration
Ashley Nelle-Davis	Data Foundation
Bentley Hensel	CivicActions
Caroline Nihill	FedScoop
Chyna Bacolor	Data Foundation
Corinna Turbes	Data Foundation
Courtney Anderson	U.S. General Services Administration
Daniel York	U.S. General Services Administration

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<b>First and Last Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Daniel Schuman	American Governance Institute
David Schneider	U.S. Department of Transportation
Dominic Beamer	U.S. Census Bureau
Hyon Kim	U.S. General Services Administration
Justin Cole	U.S. General Services Administration
Laura Szakmary	U.S. General Services Administration
Lydia Cooley	N/A
Matt Burrell	U.S. General Services Administration
Shannon McArthur	U.S. Department of State
Mike Endale	BLEN, Inc.
Meghan Stuessy	Library of Congress
Natalie Evans Harris	Data Foundation
Nick Hart	Data Foundation
Renee Brock	U.S. Agency for International Development
Sarah Schacht	Smarter Civic
Brandon Sepulvado	NORC at the University of Chicago
Taylor Swift	POPVOX Foundation
Uday Toodi	Amazon Web Services
Zach Whitman	U.S. General Services Administration