Captioning Transcript of Committee on Equity and
Inclusion August 18, 2022

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Metro Tv, we will get started in 1 minute. Peace, welcome to the
committee on equity and inclusion today is Thursday, August, 18
2022 the time is currently 4:06 PM. I'm chairman Jecorey Arthur
with vice chair Anthony Piagentini and committee members Nicole
George, Kevin Kramer, Marcus Winkler virtually, and Cassie
Chambers Armstrong will be joining us shortly and committee
member, Barbara, Shanklin has an excused absence. This meeting
is being held pursuant to 61.826 and counsel rule 5A. The only
item on our agenda is an ordinance O-243-22, an ordinance
creating a new chapter of the Louisville Jefferson County, Metro
code of ordinances, creating an open data policy and review
process may have a motion.

"Winkler, Markus"
Motion Winkler.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Second.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
2nd motion by Winkler and 2nd by Piagentini. Thank you so much
this ordinance is codifying an executive order from the fall of
2013 it makes open data available to the public by default,
which is really important to note if you pull up the ordinance,
you'll see that open data is defined by any public record that
is defined by Kentucky open records act, which could be made
available, online, using open format data as well as best
practice, open data structures and formats when possible, that
is not protected by protected information or sensitive
information with no legal restrictions on use or reuse. Open
data is not information that is treated as exempt under 1.878 by
Metro government and when you visit our open data portal you'll
see all sorts of different categories, 311 services, community
services, Budgets, health a lot more. I know I was on it maybe
last week looking at 301 request from 1999 when I was 7 years
old this is an extraordinary tool for our city, and our city has
been considered unique compared to other cities that have opened
data policy such as Washington. D. C. Portland, Oregon. Memphis,
Tennessee, Austin, Texas, New York City, New York, Philadelphia,
Pennsylvania, and our friends up the road and Lexington,
Kentucky, and dozens of other cities across this country where
unique because our data is open by default. You don't need to
request it from a department clog up our phones, jump through

hoops you simply go to our open data portal I believe, and I believe that we believe a more inclusive city as a more transparent city, we cannot be transparent if we're gatekeeping data and a more inclusive city also means a more informed city and we can't be informed if public information isn't publicly available I like to recognize assistant county attorney, Natalie Johnson for her work on this and I would love for her to just give us a quick breakdown of today's ordinance compared to the executive order from 2013 for committee members and the public the executive order is attached to the ordinance and attached to the agenda, Natalie Johnson.

"Johnson, Natalie"
All right, thank you. Council member Arthur and good afternoon as Council Member Arthur mentioned this ordinance basically codifies and an existing executive order from 2013 there's just a few differences between the ordinance and the executive order. The 1st is that the ordinance expands the definition section, so more terms are defined for our purposes and understanding the ordinance, the 2nd, is that the ordinance creates a notification requirement so if there is a successor website in the future, Metro council is required to be notified of that change.
And also, it is required to be published on the city's website.
The 3rd difference is that the ordinance mandates that each department is responsible for the quality and integrity of their own data and that each department is also responsible for uploading their data to the open data portal. And then the last change is that, um, the annual report, which was already required to be, submitted to the mayor is now also required to be submitted to metro council and Metro council may ask departments to come and speak to certain data sets as they wish. So those are really the main differences between the executive order and the ordinance. And if you have any questions, please, let me know.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Thank you so much. We've been joined by a committee member Cassie Chamber Armstrong. It's even more important to recognize that Louisville has been leading and open data for almost a decade now. So to talk more about open data, the data portal, and the work that goes into that, I would love to recognize the Chief of civic innovation and technology, Grace Simrall, Thank you for being here.

"Simrall, Grace"
Thank you so much, so good afternoon. I'm Grace Simrall I'm the Chief Civic and technology for local metro government. I want to

1st, thank council committee chair, Arthur for sponsoring this ordinance and codifying it taking it to the next step in in the city's work. I'd like to thank vice chair Piagentini and all the members of the committee as well, as Metro council are present. It's a historic moment that we're in back in 2013 we are among the 1st cities to even issue this as an executive order. So, 1st making our data open by default. I cannot stress that enough, how important that is, important that is and our usage statistics would reflect just how much our residents leverage this to deliver value into their own lives also reducing the burden on our 311 systems and other agencies. So, by taking the step of codifying it, we are again making sure that the practice of using data to drive decision, inform legislation and policy continues on at Louisville Metro Government, thank you so much.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
I'll ask a few questions for you and anyone from your team are welcome to jump in and then we'll see if any committee members have questions as well. For members of the committee and the public, when you look at the agenda, you'll see open data reports from 2019, 2020 and 2021, and more reports can be found at data dot. Chief, how did these reports help guide your work?

"Simrall, Grace"
The reports both take stock of what has been done in the past again, indicate usage statistics include benchmarks of how the city is done against national standards and then reflect on what we want to continue doing so all of the either new and or expanded data sets that we would like to release to the public. We also make it clear that again, we want this to be an open feedback loop meaning that if the public see something that they think would be useful to them. As long as it's not protected information or sensitive information. And, in fact, if I might borrow the copy of the ordinance before us, I just want to make sure we define these. So that the public also knows protected information is defined as any dataset or portion thereof to which the department may deny access pursuant to any law rule or regulation and the definition of sensitive information is any data, which if published on the open data portal could raise privacy confidentiality or security concerns, or have the potential to jeopardize public health safety or welfare to an extent that is greater than the potential public benefit of publishing that data, so I really want to call out those are 2 exceptions to our open by default policy. Again, the public who would like, some examples that includes protected health information so, for example, the Local metro Department of public health and wellness does collect sensitive, protected

health information on some individuals that information is protected and therefore not open by default, but again, by taking this step we are just ensuring that the public has a means to see what we've done and also give us feedback on how we can improve or release more data to them, and I did want to acknowledge that I'm joined by the data officer for Louisville Metro government Andrew McKinney.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Thank you for being here, the reports show hundreds of thousands of page views annually. We know that online interactions with government help us with cost effectiveness and they also help us with government operations. Could you speak to any examples as far as that goes?

"Simrall, Grace"
Certainly, I'll start and I'll pass it off to Andrew. So if we, if we just look at in general, again, how many page views? The average time of interaction we're, we're talking on average 18,000 page views each month, that's a significant number of requests. If it weren't for the open data portal, those would all be routed through our open records request, which, as you have heard testified before you is a burdened process. Those resources are heavily burdened and so by removing 18,000 requests every month we significantly reduce the burden. Then if you look at the average length of time in a session, it's about 2 minutes. So you've heard from constituents from residents about how long? Sometimes they have to wait on 311 to be able to connect to someone to get information. Now it's self service within 2 minutes they're obtaining the information they need and able to get questions answered, be able to do some research there's even businesses that leverage our data to improve the products that they provide to our residents. So I just want to call out. Those are all great examples of efficiency. We're achieving.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Committee member Winkler.

"Winkler, Markus"
Yeah, thank you. Thank you for being here. And thank you to the sponsors for putting this ordinance forward. I don't really have any questions. I just wanted to make a comment, I think this is really important. I don't know if anybody's familiar with Michael Lewis wrote a book a couple of years ago, the author of the big, short and a number of all the books, and one of the things he talked about is sort of the federal governments

equivalent program, and particularly as it relates to Noah
and sort of what that has enabled the access to government data
what that is enabled, in the private sector, right? Particularly
around, you know, when you look at, it isn't a practical
application sort of the weather apps right? Be it, you know
dark sky, or whether or not com or whatever those apps are all
dependent, not on private data, but on public data and, and all
of that innovation was unlocked, by providing the public access
to government data and so I applaud the efforts by the sponsors
here and, uh, you know, think this is just really good policy
and creates the ability. I'm locked a ton of value for the
public and again, I'm proud to support it.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Thank you so much. I'm the only sponsor right now, but if you
add it, we'll be sponsors with an s, committee member
Piagentini.

"Winkler, Markus"
I would be. Yes, and if you would add me.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Thank you, thank you Mr. chair, so a couple of quick questions.
1st of all let me just say broadly fully in support of it,
just so everybody understands my stance on this stuff if
somebody asks me, I've had reporters ask me, hey, I've heard
there was an email, blah, blah, blah, blah, blah and if I've got
the email, I sent it to them, because they're going to send me a
for a request I'm going to have to submit it anyway, right and
it's such a pain in the butt to go through the whole 4 year
process so, just so, everybody's aware I'm about as open book as
they get if you asked me for it, and it's something that you
were going to get anyway, in a, for your request, you're going
to get it from me so as far as I'm concerned, let's put it all
out there. But I do have a couple of questions one, as you said
there are some changes minor maybe from the executive order to,
to the legislation, I just want to make sure I originally
walking in I was talking to Chair Arthur, that about just
concerns about cost implementation on stuff. Probably been
significantly mitigated if this is just building off of, it's
sort of codifying what we've done from what we've already done
from an executive order but are there any changes in this or
anything that may incur additional costs or any potential budget
impacts or anything like that moving forward beyond what we're
already to be clear, beyond what we already put into the budget?

"Johnson, Natalie"

This is Natalie Johnson, the county Attorney's office. I don't anticipate any further of budgetary occurrences because, like you said, this is just building off the executive order from 2013 the changes are minor there's just notification requirements just notification requirements and reports to be sent to metro council in addition to the mayor, which that already occurred. So, the changes are minor.

"McKinney, Andrew"
Andrew McKinney, thank you I just wanted to add to that, because of our recent change to a new open data portal we were previously on a platform called, which we were paying money for support and maintenance on the site. We've switched over to a partnership with our local Jefferson County information consortium logic, which is our platform partners. We have ELA, with that group, and we tapped into that ELA for this platform, and now we're saving about 34,000 dollars a year moving to this new platform, which is great. Not only that, but most of our agencies also have training already so, the transition of this new portal was super-efficient so not very much in training budget and we're hoping to save money in the future because of that.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Excellent. A couple of just a quick follow up questions. One, you said the each department is individually responsible. I like that. Holds them accountable. But do we have an audit price? Just because we're talking about it? Do we have an audit process? Or like, how do we know that department acts is actually putting everything out there that they should be. Right? Is there a way that we audit that from time to time or do we do an inventory like, you know, 3rd party either yourselves or internal audit or somebody take a look at it and say you really should be more open with this data over here?

"McKinney, Andrew"
Absolutely. That's a great question. So we do have a group of 65+ members across our agencies on our data governance group. We meet mostly monthly to discuss things about around open data. around open data that's out there. We have a senior data analyst that does a really great job of checking what other open data platforms are providing and bringing those back also working with the agencies through working groups to make sure that we have standards policy and 1 of the ones that we're working towards this year, and next year will be a data validation policy working group that looks at those data sets and make sure that they're up and running. But you're right, the agencies are

the owners of this data. We're the stewards and we make sure they have the tools and technology to get the data.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Okay. Can you talk about I appreciate the definition gave on what sort of the call health and there were some exceptions, right? And is an obvious 1, right? We serve actual members of the public in the public health department, and it would be a violation of all kinds of federal laws if we were to make that information public. And then there's a bunch of rules around, you know, social security numbers, and all these other things, even for employees. Right their salaries are online, but not, you know, their home address or something like that. Right? So, there's some expectation privacy there, but when it does get into a gray area ,right, and I'm thinking of, you know pretty important departments like LMPD and other departments that are dealing in safety and security where how is the process or how is the thought process done on you know, this is close but how do we document like, we're making a call that this should be public and then we're going to make a call over here this should not be made public and here's why do we document that somehow?

"Simrall, Grace"
1st, I want to say that public safety agencies are governed by a set of privacy standards commonly referred to as CJIS so criminal justice information systems, and those standards govern a lot of what's protected for the public beyond that as far as I am aware of Louisville Metro Public police department does have its own set of policies for how they handle redactions and again protection of privacy for individuals but a lot of it is governed by CJIS standards.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Okay and so I was picking on LMPD, but any department may have policies within the department that say, okay, these are this is data that we consider public and this is data that we are considering not public and here's why right that would be captured somewhere in an or some kind of policies and procedures within that department. Ideally?

"Simrall, Grace"
Ideally that we've done a data classification, and I know that there's a different level of maturity across the agencies on where they are it's part of the data inventory process and so, as agencies complete their data inventories so just what sets they have available, which ones can just be public by default, which would have contained within fields of data that are

sensitive and need to be classified as such it's handled through the data inventory process.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Okay, great. And then last question, how do we differentiate between open data and open documents? Like, for example, I mean, there's as sure, Arthur said we have the website out there are tons of data documents generally handled via request or something like that but are we making more publicly available documents as part of this as well or no?

"Simrall, Grace"
That's a great question. Part of the distinction for open data is that we want this information to be machine readable so, in a format that can be ingested by a machine and manipulate it in some way to give you an example, a PDF document is not really machine readable, I mean, you have to have special software, like software to be able to manipulate the data but that said there are agencies office of civic innovation technology included I have chosen to put certain PDFs some documents into the open data portal to make it part of our transparency portal so that's an agency call, but really, it's meant for machine readable data formats.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Got it, okay it makes sense. And I'm familiar with what Committee Member Winkler was talking about, right you make these huge datasets available and then you have all these, you know, could be, not for profits could be public citizens could be companies that they use it to do analysis and to figure things out, so terrific. Thank you very much. I appreciate your responses. Thanks, Chairman Arthur, appreciate it.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Committee member Cassie Chambers Armstrong.

"Armstrong, Cassie"
 Thank you Mr. chair and I think so I practiced in the field of open records law, prior to running for office and so 1st off when a command, Chair Arthur on his work and with councilman Arthur's approval we'd love to be added as a CO-sponsor. He's given me a thumbs up. Thank you. I did have some questions for Natalie just to help me understand the way that this interacts with state law because I do think what Councilman Piagentini when was getting out was sort of, the intersection of this open data, local,

open data policy with the Kentucky state requirements of the
open records act and to answer councilmen Piagentini and legal
question. I believe the Kentucky open records act says that if
you request a document, if you want information from a document,
you're entitled to the entire document, that has it if you make
a request is that right Natalie?

"Johnson, Natalie"
That is correct councilmember Armstrong.

"Armstrong, Cassie"
So really what we're doing here we still we have to comply with
the requirements of the open records act, which means any
documents that are public records, we have to provide those
documents to folks what we're saying is we're going to be
proactive and help make that data more easily accessible by
instead of waiting for an open records act request for documents
by taking the data in those documents and proactively pushing it
out, but nothing in this prohibits an individual for making an
open records request for those underlying public documents. Did
I state that correctly?

"Johnson, Natalie"
That is correct and just to add on to that and agencies have
been very backed up with open records requests and so this will
just save a lot of time for them to go and find that information
themselves rather than to have to wait weeks or months for the,
for the actual document from the agency.

"Armstrong, Cassie"
I guess my other question then is my understanding of what we
are not proactively pushing out is tied to KRS 61.878, which is
like, our general catch all open records act exemption that has
what like 8 or 9 different categories, preliminary records
things with personal identifying information pretty broad,
sweeping categories of documents that we say are exempted under
state law from open records acts. I guess my question and my
concern with and I don't think that this is a concern that we
address today I think it's just something for us to be aware of,
is that by tying the exemptions, the data that we won't release
to the state law exemption policy in recent years, there have
been a lot of efforts to add to those exemptions to exempt
further categories of public documents from the open records act
and just so, I'm clear if the state were to change KRS 61.878 to
exempt a new category of documents that, under the way, this is
written wouldn't necessarily prohibit us in metro government

from affirmatively pushing out that from affirmatively pushing out that information is that correct?

"Johnson, Natalie"
No, that so under the open records act in Kentucky, a lot of those exemptions are permissive so if an agency wanted to produce that information, they could, but if they don't want to, then they have that exemption as a fallback or why that information is protected.

"Armstrong, Cassie"
Okay. So okay. So your position would be that even if the state were to exempt new categories of public records that, that wouldn't change that would impact the things that we're proactively providing data about?

"Johnson, Natalie"
I don't think so and unless they unless the department that was in control of the data wanted that exemption to apply.

"Armstrong, Cassie"
Okay. Well, again, I appreciate your work I don't think it's something I don't have a better way of defining it I think it's just something to be cognizant of is in Frankfort this is an act that gets a lot of attention and a lot of proposed amendments, some of, which are successful some of, which aren't and so it's something for us to monitor and just be aware of but again, I think this is really important for transparent and for building public trust in government, and so I think the sponsors and everyone else for their hard work on it. Thank you.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Committee member George.

"George, Nicole"
Thank you chair and thank you Grace and Andrew for being here. The 1st question is really around the open data policy. How frequently should that be updated?

"McKinney, Andrew"
The open data policy should be reviewed frequently. We have an open data policy, working group part of our data governance committee that was reviewing it and they made pretty massive strides on reviewing and updating it and in fact, we have a draft still available from 2017 unfortunately that got put on pause and then further paused when the pandemic happened

unfortunately, but that is something that we will be reviewing annually and the open data policy is something that kind of drives the work we learn new things and new things and we want to make sure that what we're providing is the most efficient and the best data that we can, and the policy helps us define that so that will be a working group that'll be active throughout the year.

"George, Nicole"
Excellent, and so, I guess just given the frequency in which technology and the field changes, what I'm hearing you say is, there's a need there's an ongoing need to review and to make updates in the proposal under, it looks like 5C it just acknowledges this rapid change and says that it should be reviewed in the future and what I'm wondering is if there was any discussion, or if there would be any benefit of putting something more specific in there that says there's a commitment to review within a certain amount of frequency?

"Arthur, Jecorey"
We haven't discussed it, but I would love if we have any feedback from the experts. If you think we should go ahead and commit to reviewing it. Updating it as time goes on, I'm fine with that I just saw Elon Musk at robots they're about to start doing household chores I'm not telling what this portal might look like next week.

"McKinney, Andrew"
Personally, I think the commitment is a good thing. It would put it on paper, you know, give me a box to check off at the end of the year and make myself feel better and the team feel better. Right, so, I don't see an issue with that I also just don't want us to write ourselves in a corner and if nothing changes, then we have to make sure that we hit that deadline or something like that, but I don't see an issue with that.

"George, Nicole"
So, I would lean on you in terms of suggestion of what makes sense because I hear the balance of those things.
"McKinney, Andrew"
Yeah.

"George, Nicole"
The 2nd question I have is around, I was impressed to hear 18,000 views I'm interested to know, what do we know about those folks who are accessing the portal each month? Who are they?

"McKinney, Andrew"
It depends on the month. Depends on what's hot and what's going on the news obviously, that that changes, but it's anyone from universities with our transition to our new open data portal we've obviously had a few hiccups, which is okay, we knew that was going to happen a lot of it was with the data transfer and that really kind of shed some light on some of the issues that came across so we've got some emails from folks at the department of justice, we've gotten emails from folks and universities around the world asking about our data sets, local news, students from, like I said, all across the world as far as specifics recently let's see the, the data sets themselves, yeah, thank you. Grace, so, from our data report for 2021 yeah, the biggest one is our employee salaries that was I checked that today and that's still the case crime data and the Department of justice and the university student that was the email that I had we had received verbal form that they were looking at our crime data, we had some issues with our dates that has since been fixed it's been a hot topic, still we released, I think 17 new data sets related to covid sets related to covid, so those are those are downloaded quite frequently reviewed Micro mobility, so dock less trip scooters in fact, we're hoping to release a new page off of our open data portal that's centered around Micro mobility and then, of course, covid restaurant inspections, foreclosure sales, red lining level, and then a uniform citation date, or some of them more frequently visited datasets that we've got, all over the place,

"George, Nicole"
That was very specific, I appreciate that.

"McKinney, Andrew"
You're welcome. Thank you.

"George, Nicole"
If we're looking to use data to drive practice changes. I appreciate that we're all interested in salaries, but I'm also interested in how neighbors and average community members can look at the data and really better understand the needs and help make recommendations on solutions and so I'm familiar with the term data rich information, poor and I know as part of your last annual report, you really wanted to scale up community engagement through social media posts, making folks, aware of the data portal and then, I guess, learning sessions, which I'm assuming would help maybe provide more context to what people

see in the way of data. Have you made any progress in that way? Or is there anything that we can do to help support that?

"McKinney, Andrew"

That's a great question. So, the majority of this year with our new team, I've been in this role since December, so I'm still pretty green as the data officer, but I've been with Metro for over 5 years and been in GAS for a while so, if you've seen some maps around, that's where you might have seen my name on there, but as far as outreach so that is one of our goals is to continue to start our social media around open data, talk about the new open data sets that we have available or that we'll have available, but also give another avenue for people to give us responses on what they think should be available in the open data portal with our new open data site there's also potential for us to expand upon it and get a premium license, which allows us with more community engagement that actually allows us to create community profiles and people can create accounts and they can comment on data sets that could provide feedback they can attend events, we could schedule events ,we don't have that right now, right now we have a version that, we are, like I said, partnering with logic on, but that's something that we could do and as far as in person, events are training so that's something that we want to start back up as well we released our new open data portal, July 1st we shut down our old on August 1st so we're still kind of relying on that riding the high, if you will but so we're really hoping to get more community engagement in the future and that is definitely a priority.

"George, Nicole"

Excellent, I think that's a worthy goal and I look forward to, I don't know what the data stories that you referenced, I'm assuming it's to showcase how you can use the data to really break down and better understand and then some real practical suggestions for positive use in the community and so I look forward to seeing more of those, assuming that's what that is, and if there's anything we can do, please let us know.

"McKinney, Andrew"

Awesome. Thank you.

"Simrall, Grace"

Councilwoman George, if I could add one more thing, which is prior to the pandemic, we hosted many hackathons with the community around our open data so very specific specifically issuing challenges as you can imagine that was very difficult to do during the pandemic we actually did conduct a virtual Hackathon all around looking for ways to close the digital

divide this was back in 2021 so we are now very eager to resume those type of activities and welcome the public back in the public back in a Co creation with us.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
For the record and the chair what's the Hackathon?

"Simrall, Grace"
A Hackathon is a gathering of people who want to, work on a problem together. That's it, it might be if they might use data, they might use technology, but it's not necessary but some of our most successful hackathons have been ones where it was more about the design process and making sure we had a really diverse group of community members participating with us.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Thank you, thought y'all were breaking in my email. Vice Chair Piagentini.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Thank you, so quick question for the county attorney, and maybe for councilwoman Chambers Armstrong to make sure this never went to law school guy, gets it. I think what we're, what you guys were saying earlier was that so I'm looking at the language in the in the Ordinance, which says under open date of the definition last sentence open data is not information is treated as exempt under KRS 61.878 by Metro government what I think I hear you both saying is that if it if it is not exempt it's open data we have, we should be putting it out there right? By ordinance. But I'm also hearing you say, if the state puts something puts into the exempt category that doesn't mean automatically that we have to stop reporting it that we still have discretion. Is that what I was hearing?

"Armstrong, Cassie"
So I can clarify on the 1st, 1 and then Natalie can speak to the 2nd, one, so the Kentucky open records act as a state law, that basically says, in some ways, the fundamental premise that we're starting from here that the public should have access to public records that the default is if it's a record produced by the government or a document, an email, whatever it might be that the public should be able to see it and KRS 61.878 and then carves out a bunch of categories of exemptions and I haven't looked at the language recently, I did not read them quite as permissively as Natalie is reading them, but Natalie is the one that has looked at it more recently than I have so, I will defer

to her on that, I think, as a practical matter so, KRS 61.878 carves out under state law what is not an open record what is something that an agency is allowed to withhold and a lot of those are things that, like, an individual would have privacy interest in so, you know, we, we could not, in those circumstances release emails that have people's, you know home addresses, personal, identifying information, social security numbers, there's language around anything that would cause like an unwarranted embarrassment to someone just sort of unnecessary not in the public interest embarrassing information and so my understanding of Natalie's response is that she believes that we could choose to continue to release information if the state changed the law, I think practically metro government would probably assume and again, I don't know that I would read it quite as permissively as Natalie is, but I think practically speaking metro government would say that anything that is exempted as a public record under state law is something we're not going to release locally. Is that, would you agree with that Natalie?

"Johnson, Natalie"
So, to go back to the 1st point open data is not open record. You know, 1st off, um, and so there is going to be a lot of differences there, I think, to begin with, and then speak to the permission point. Yes, I would agree with what you said and the ordinance itself is also permissive that they may deny based on law ruler regulation

"Armstrong, Cassie"
I think the key difference is that the open records act speaks to the actual documents so whenever someone submits a request for your emails, they are seeking the public documents this is data that's often extracted from documents the public still has a right to go and get the documents so we could provide all of this information that we wanted to publicly and in an easily digestible spreadsheet and they could still say, I would like every email about every pothole that we've spent money filling or something like that and then we would run an open records request. Does that answer your question councilmen?

"Piagentini, Anthony"
It totally does, thank you and both of you answer my question, I appreciate the dialogue and the clarity let me put it this way if the chair is okay, I would like to sign on as a CO sponsor the one of the things that I think we see across the country and certainly, I see it locally is the outcry from all sides of the political spectrum for transparency and government it is

something I have heard from people I have huge policy
disagreements on right and on the opposite side of the political
spectrum that I'm on and I've heard it from people that agree
with me on a lot of things right they want transparency the
other reason I think this is incredibly critical is it would be,
I don't think I'm going on a limb to say that there has been and
I think the data shows this in surveys, there's been a breakdown
in trust of public institutions, right, and whether and the
government and government representatives are part of that and
some of it is justified some of it's unjustified right, so,
there were some, some things, some of that breakdown and trust
is based on truth in fact, some is not, but without being
transparent about the truth. In fact, we can't debunk those that
may not be telling the truth right, or those that may be fudging
the truth so, for me, it is there's clearly a public route
outcry on all sides of this issue and I think this is one of
those ways in which we restore public confidence that the data's
out there you can see it if they submit a failure request
documents they get should line up with the data they're looking
at and everybody's okay great right now I trust what's going on
so thanks for allowing me to sign out as a CO sponsor Mr. Chair,
I appreciate your work on this, and thank you for continuing to
maintain this and do this kind of data transparency, thank you.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Committee member, George.

"George, Nicole "
Thank you chair, as we think about, and while we're on the
subject of transparency and practical use of data I'm interested
in learning more about the rental registry. Several of my
colleagues and I are working to make some enhancements to bring
more transparency to that process and I'm interested to know why
the rental registry has not been part of the open portal data
system and as we think about bringing more transparency, is
there anything we should be considering in that process?

"Simrall, Grace"
So, how about I start by saying that, while we're open by
default, we are relying on agencies to both agencies has the
data owners to release that information to the data team, to be
able to put on the open data portal number 1, number 2 there are
plenty of times when that data doesn't actually exist you might
think that it is, but it doesn't actually exist and so it if it
doesn't exist, it also can't be open data this is part of why
it's gotta be a feedback loop sort of a process where either
council members or the public approaches agencies and says, hey,

we think this would be really useful and that might require new data sets to be recreated. So, back to vice chair Piagentini's original point about will this incur potential? New costs? It might if it's data, that does not exist yet so I do want to make that clear when we talk about open it by default is about data that actually exists currently and its current state.

"George, Nicole"
Thank you. I think that's good for us to consider.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Vice Chair Piagentini.

Thank you Mr. Chair and since we're bringing up the rent, the registry, somebody opened up the can I'm diving into the can. So, I will say, and again to Council l George's point lots more discussion is going to happen in public works on this but because we're talking about it, I want a different for me one of the differentiations is most of the data Republicans, data generated by activity that the government is inherently doing right, so for example, I know a lot of I was pinging today about data, and it was actually already on the, they just pointed me to the external site they're like, it's out there right, so I was like, great, terrific, don't worry about running that report, I'll go to the site and, like, use, like, everybody else does so I'll go and pull the data, but that is activity paid for and executed by the government we pay for it the taxpayers pay for it, we execute it, we're being transparent with the public the rental registry is us collecting information about private actors in a private business, doing private transactions so that it would be like, you know, we don't make grocery stores register with us, and then report their information because those are private businesses doing private transactions with private individuals and that's true with and that's true with property ownership with that said that I will concede and this is where the line make it a little blurry there is already a lot of information related to real estate that is by law public, right? So, for example, one of the reasons that if you buy a house, you get bombarded with paperwork 5 minutes afterwards is because your mortgage has to be filed with the clerk's office in the newspaper they actually declare that you bought that you bought this house, right? So there are companies that are mining this data and sending you information thinking oh, your new homeowner you must need X, right, and they're selling you based on that information so, where it's already legally required I think, yeah might not be more transparent and make it more usable, but where I have concerns about I don't want to keep

picking on the rental registry, but anything that we're doing in the future where we're asking a private transactions in a private industry to give us information, now there might be some reason we're looking to do that, but we also have to be cognizant that of what impact that could have, how that could be misused and that that isn't that is I want to really be clear differentiate between that and something that we do as a matter of tax payer funded activity, right, so anyway, that's how in my brain it works, right, so, for example, I'll give you an example if on the rental I'm not saying this, we're doing this I have no idea how it's going to net out, but if the rent or registry for some reason, we were collecting the direct phone number of the property owner, right, and there was some need for, for example, codes and regulations to have that information I would object strenuously to publishing that private citizens phone number that the public could then get access to, right so those are the kind of things that I would I want to differentiate my brain they're differentiate between what we do as a matter of public business, if that makes sense, thank you.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Thank you so much I don't think I see anyone else in the queue. We have an amendment by substitution, and if you check out the most recent document in the system is the 2nd to last whereas clause they're really just flexes a little bit about how great we're doing with open data so I would ask a motion to move that and vote on that.

"Piagentini, Anthony"
Motion Piagentini.

"Armstrong, Cassie"
Second, Armstrong.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Motion Piagentini, seconded by Armstrong and before we vote on the entire ordinance oh, we got a vote on that and then vote on the ordinance, steps, let's open a system to vote on that and then I have a question for you all about the city's platinum branding that you have.

"Winkler, Markus"
It should be a voice vote.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
All in favor say, aye. Any opposed? The ayes have it. Could you just elaborate on the network city's level of recognition? It

looks like we got a platinum rating in 2020, 1 of 2 cities that got 1 of the highest ratings, because you just elaborate on what that means for us.

"Simrall, Grace"
Of course, thank you for the opportunity, and for those who are not familiar with what work cities I just want to help clarify what it is, what work cities recognizes and celebrates local governments for their exceptional use of data to inform policy and funding decisions, improve services, create operational efficiencies and engage residents, the certification program necessities on their data driven decision practices, such as whether they are using data to set goals and track progress, allocate funding, evaluate the effectiveness programs and achieve desired outcomes these data inform strategies, enable certified cities to be more resilient, responding crisis situations, increase economic mobility, protect public health and increased resident satisfaction, so this started back in 2018 as part of a new national standard there was a recognition that local governments had various forms of certification and accreditation for, you know, for example, the parks department or libraries but there really wasn't any sort of standard focused on how governments use data and so what works cities stood up this new standard, created a certification process and city applied and its inaugural year and within the unnatural year, we renamed a silver sets, silver certified city, which is the 1st tier the subsequent year we were able to move up to gold and then the year after that, we moved up to platinum at this point platinum is the highest level of certification only 2 cities in the entire country of I've met that and it's Louisville, Kentucky and Los Angeles, California, so we're in very good company what work cities that, in fact, just recently released a new set of standards the reason why we haven't recertified until now is because it was the same set of standards it wasn't necessary for us to do, so we've at this point self-assessed, and we'll go through the process again and what they do when they change these standards, as they make them more difficult they say, you know what, we think some of these were baseline things around, for example, stakeholder engagement or data governance open data let's move those goal posts and make it a matter of continuous improvement for cities to be able to continue to push themselves. So, why do we certify, besides, of course, getting the recognition, we do it so that we can benchmark ourselves we can develop a roadmap for where we need to go and we can have a network of pure cities not we don't do everything really well, and so, by working with other cities who are doing well in those areas, we can improve and I just wanted

to the team for what an excellent job they've done over the past several years to get us to the platinum status.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
Thank you so much for your work and I'm really proud that we're able to continue this on no matter who the mayor may or may not be I don't see anyone else in the queue we're ready to vote.I think we've closed the voting

"Brown, Marissa"
Committee member Winkler?

"Winkler, Markus"
Yes.

"Arthur, Jecorey"
My bad bro. All right. The ordinance passes, we'll put it on old business so we can get more specific language around those updates. Before we go I'd like to acknowledge women's equity day next Friday, August, the 26, the same day, 102 years ago, that the 19th amendment was certified, making sure that the rights of citizens in the United States of America to vote would not be denied by gender Congress made this a day for us to celebrate the importance of women's work so shout out to all our sisters fighting the fight and thank you for everything that you do. No more business today without objection we stand adjourned, thank you for your service.