

OPEN

SAN DIEGO

June 26, 2014

Committee Chair Sherri S. Lightner  
Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations Committee  
202 C Street  
San Diego, CA 92101

Re: July 2, 2014 Agenda ITEM-2: Report from the Open Data Advisory Group regarding a PROPOSED  
OPEN DATA POLICY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN

Councilmember Lightner:

Congratulations to you, the entire committee, and the city of San Diego on your progress towards implementing an open data policy. The policy put together by the Open Data Advisory Group addresses immediate and real challenges that the City of San Diego faces while providing a framework for exciting new solutions.


In July of last year, we first presented to this body on the benefits of an open data policy ([http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilcomm\\_agendas\\_attach/2013/Rules\\_130710\\_3.pdf](http://docs.sandiego.gov/councilcomm_agendas_attach/2013/Rules_130710_3.pdf)). We discussed that open data is a public good, provides for economic development, ensures transparency, and is an enabler of participatory governance.

Since then we have had the pleasure of working with council staff and representatives from throughout the city, including the City Attorney's and City Clerk's offices. **We are very proud of and fully support the draft policy and implementation plan developed by the Advisory Group.**

Since we first presented, many other cities throughout the country, including Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, Boston, and Salt Lake City, have implemented open data policies. **We encourage you to promptly move forward with this policy.**

Thank you and we look forward to continuing to work with you to move San Diego forward.

Sincerely,



Ben Katz  
Political Director



Jeffrey Johnson  
Technical Director