ODL Environmental Scan: ND8 Interview Notes

Interview conducted 2018-07-27

*ND8 is the head of digital services for a municipal library serving about 86K people. The city and local county publish some open data, mostly GIS.*

# What does library programming look like now? Which groups are served?

* The library’s programs focus predominantly on children and teens. Adult events include reading clubs, crafts and exercise events. The library also hosts drop-in legal and technology-basics clinics.
* The library does not have enclosed classroom space. Events take place in an open multi-use area.
* Much of the programming is handled by volunteers.

# Does the library currently publish its own open data?

* No, although ND8 is interested in this option.

# What is the library’s relationship with local government?

* The library is another city entity. Library leadership meets regularly with other city department heads.
* The library does not currently have a role in the city’s open data portal, to ND8’s knowledge.

# Do open data services (publishing, instruction, advising) seem like options for the library’s future?

* Publishing data or serving as an open data portal (for the library as well as other entities) interests ND8, who attended a session about open data publishing at a recent Public Library Association conference.
* The library has a relatively new director and may get more staff in the near future, which could support new programming.

# How could the State Library support advancing open data services at the library?

* The State Library could provide infrastructure -- a platform or other infrastructure for open data publishing.