ODL: Library-Government Open Data Collaborations Interview Protocol

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# Intro

I’m working with the Washington State Library this summer to assess how the State Library might support open data services in public libraries. One of those potential services is advising local governments about publishing open data, or improving the data they’ve already published. I’d like to learn more about your library’s experience with that sort of collaboration.

# Questions

* Tell me a little about how your library works with local government on open data.
  + Probe for how long they’ve collaborated, how it got started (who initiated), nature of collaboration, state of open-data publishing locally
* What has worked well with this collaboration? What could work better?
* How does this collaboration enhance the library’s mission? Is such collaboration new, or has the library had an advisory role with local government before?
* What sort of expertise does the library draw on when it advises local government about open data quality?
  + Probe for literature, conference presentations, anecdotal or personal interest, patron questions and transactions, class feedback?
  + How do you strike a balance between passing on user feedback to government agencies, while also protecting patron confidentiality?
* How do you know if you’re helping to improve local open data quality and access?
  + Probe for how they measure this.
* If you had everything you needed, what would be the right next step for this partnership? What would you need to take that step?
* Anything I haven’t asked you or that you’d like to add?