

CHI TEXT

(312) 698-3-CHI
(244)

Kennedy Collins

Brad Osgood

Kurt Rudolph

Graham Troyer-Joy

CHI-TEXT is a platform for accessing Chicago's civic data. Instead of an app built for smartphones, CHI-TEXT is an SMS service, affording a large group of underserved Chicagoans access to their data. Using Ruby on Rails and the Twilio API, we have built a working prototype with natural language recognition and a handful of useful prompts. Widespread access to civic data is key to empowering citizens and by democratizing that knowledge, we believe that CHI-TEXT will create higher levels of civic engagement and allow every citizen to positively impact their local community.

Chicago's Open Data

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Chicago's Open Data

- Open Data Executive Order (No. 2-2012)

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- Open Data Executive Order (No. 2-2012)
- CDO and reporting at CTA, CPD, CFD, etc.

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Chicago's Open Data

- Open Data Executive Order (No. 2-2012)
- CDO and reporting at CTA, CPD, CFD, etc.
- Created City of Chicago Data Portal

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Chicago's Open Data

The screenshot displays the City of Chicago Data Portal. At the top, the header includes the City of Chicago logo, the text "Data Portal", and navigation links: Home, About, Help, Developers, Terms of Use, City of Chicago, Sign Up, and Sign In. Below the header, there are four featured dataset cards:

- Budget - 2014 Budget Recommendations - Appropriations**: The dataset details 2014 Budget Recommendations.
- 2014 Budgeted Recommendations - Positions & Salaries**: This dataset includes recommended positions and salaries for 2014 by title and salary.
- Energy Usage**: An unprecedented dataset containing electrical and gas energy usage throughout Chicago in 2010. Data is available by Census block and month.
- Crimes - 2001 to present**: Review reported incidents of crime that occurred in Chicago from 2001 to present.

Below these cards is a search and browse section. On the left, there is a sidebar with "View Types" (Datasets, Charts, Maps, Calendars, Filtered Views, External Datasets, Files and Documents, Forms, APIs) and "Categories" (Administration & Finance, Buildings, Community & Economic Development, Education, Environment & Sustainable Development). Below these are "Topics" (crime, gis, performance metrics, police, tif). The main section is titled "Search & Browse Datasets and Views" and features a table of datasets with columns for Name, Popularity, and Type.

Name	Popularity	Type
1. Elevation Benchmarks Buildings benchmarks, gis The following dataset includes "Active Benchmarks," which are provided to facilitate the identification of City-managed standard benchmarks. Standard benchmarks are for public and private use in	7,415 views	GIS
2. Performance Metrics - Innovation & Technology - Site Availability Administration & Finance performance metrics, technology The website availability metrics below are derived from an automated monitor that sends a request every two minutes to each website. The website is considered unavailable if the response to any request	879 views	Table
3. Food Inspections Health & Human Services food, inspections This information is derived from inspections of restaurants and other food establishments in Chicago from January 1, 2010 to the present. Inspections are performed by staff from the Chicago Department of	63,895 views	Table
4. Cook County - Forest Preserve Boundaries - KML Parks & Recreation county, forest preserves, gis, kml, sustainability KML file of Forest Preserve District of Cook County boundaries. To view or use these files, special GIS software such as Google Earth is required	337 views	GIS
5. Parks - Facilities & Features - Shapefiles Parks & Recreation gis, shapefiles, facilities, sustainability Facilities and features in Chicago parks. For more information, visit http://www.chicagoparkdistrict.com/facilities/search/ . To view or use these shapefiles, compression software and special GIS software,	555 views	GIS
6. Cook County - Forest Preserve Boundaries Parks & Recreation county, forest preserves, gis, shapefiles, ... Forest Preserve District of Cook County boundaries. To view or use these shapefiles, compression software and special GIS software, such as ESRI ArcGIS, is required.	392 views	GIS
7. CTA - Bus Routes - KML Transportation cta, public transit, bus, gis, kml, sustainability Line data representing CTA bus routes. To view or use these files, special GIS software, such as Google Earth, is required.	1,114 views	GIS
8. CTA - 'L' (Rail) Lines - Shapefile Transportation gis, shapefiles, cta, rail, sustainability Lines representing approximately where the CTA rail lines are. To view or use these files, compression software and special GIS software, such as ESRI ArcGIS is required. Projected Coordinate System:	2,427 views	GIS
9. CTA - Ridership - Avg. Weekday Bus Stop Boardings in October 2012 Transportation cta, public transit, ridership, sustainability This dataset shows approximate, average, weekday boardings by bus stop from the month of October 2012.	2,158 views	Table
10. Recycling Dropoff Sites - KML Sanitation kml, recycling, sustainability Locations in Chicago where residents can drop off recycling. For more about Recycling in Chicago, visit http://bit.ly/tcLHr . To view or use these files, special GIS software, such as Google Earth is required.	247 views	GIS
11. Flu Shot Clinic Locations - 2012 - Map Health & Human Services health, flu, 2012 List of Chicago Department of Public Health free flu clinics offered throughout the city. For more information about the flu, go to http://bit.ly/9uNhqG .	1,675 views	Map
12. Flu Shot Clinic Locations - 2012 Health & Human Services health, flu, 2012 List of Chicago Department of Public Health free flu clinics offered throughout the city. For more information about the flu, go to http://bit.ly/9uNhqG .	1,097 views	Table
13. CTA - System Information - Developer Tool: GTFS Data Transportation cta, public transit, sustainability General Transit Feed Specification (formerly "Google Transit Feed Specification") data package for CTA system, including stops, route patterns and full service schedule.	526 views	Table
14. Inspections in 2011 Health & Human Services food, inspections This information is derived from inspections of restaurants and other food establishments in Chicago from January 1, 2010 to the present. Inspections are performed by staff from the Chicago Department of	1,768 views	Table

At the bottom of the page, the URL <https://data.cityofchicago.org> is visible.

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Development Efforts

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Development Efforts

- CTA Bus and Train Tracker Apps

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Development Efforts

- CTA Bus and Train Tracker Apps
- School Sparrow

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The Digital Divide

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- 43% of Chicagoans without smartphones*

* http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2013/PIP_Smartphone_adoption_2013.pdf

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- 43% of Chicagoans without smartphones*
- 31% with limited or no internet access**

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** <http://www.broadbandillinois.org/uploads/cms/documents/chicagosmartcommunitiespcireport4.pdf>

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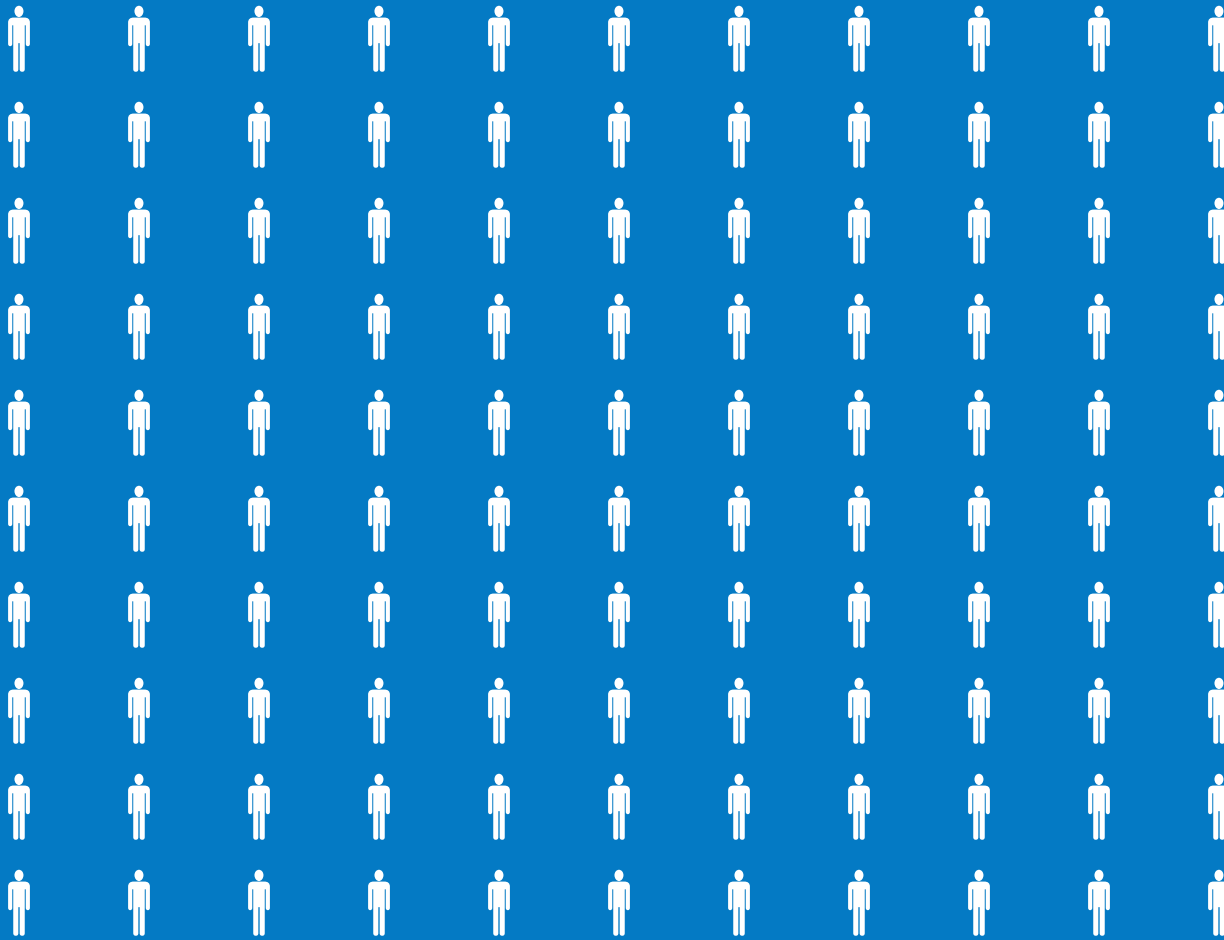
- 43% of Chicagoans without smartphones*
- 31% with limited internet access**
- 91% do have access to SMS*

* http://www.pewinternet.org/~media/Files/Reports/2013/PIP_Smartphone_adoption_2013.pdf

** <http://www.broadbandillinois.org/uploads/cms/documents/chicagosmartcommunitiespcireport4.pdf>

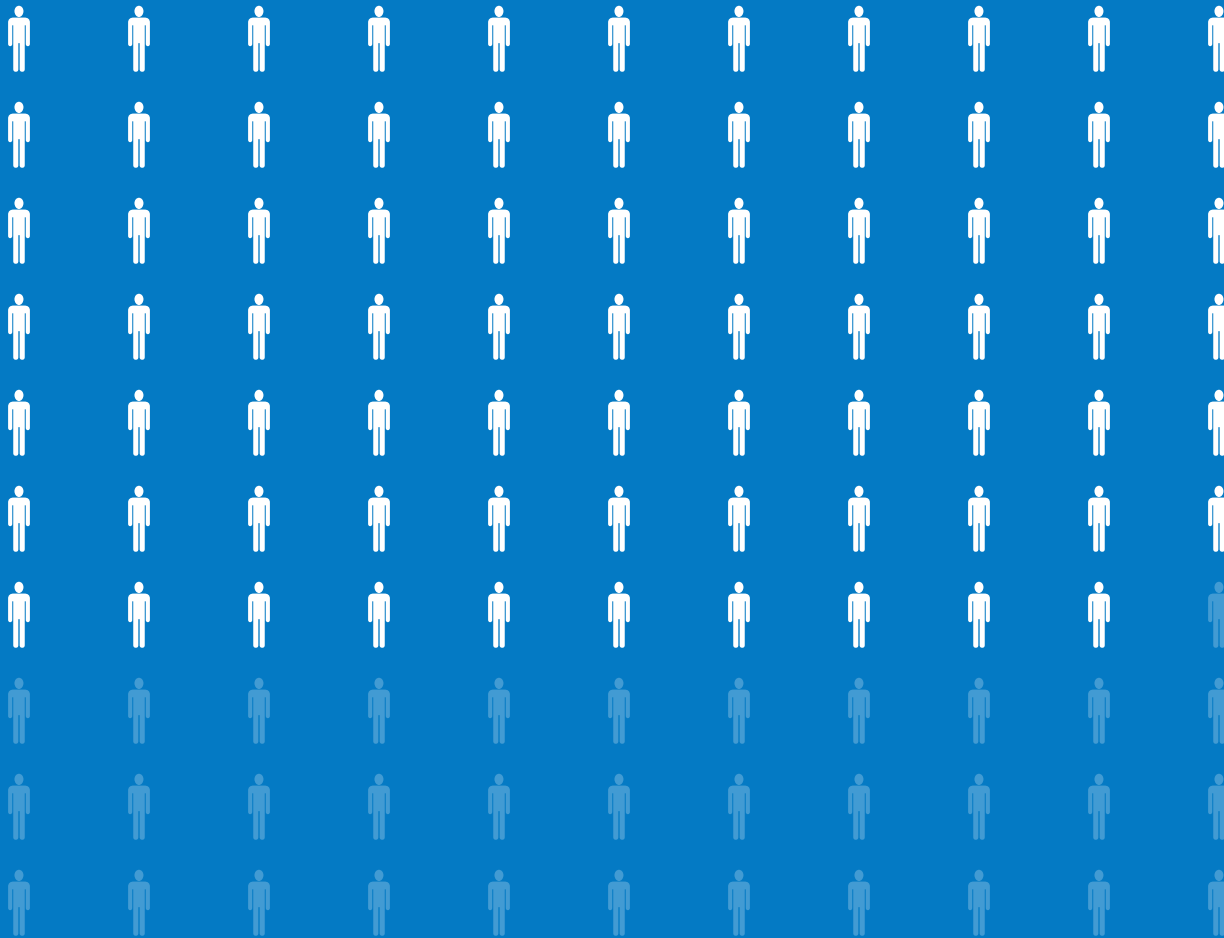
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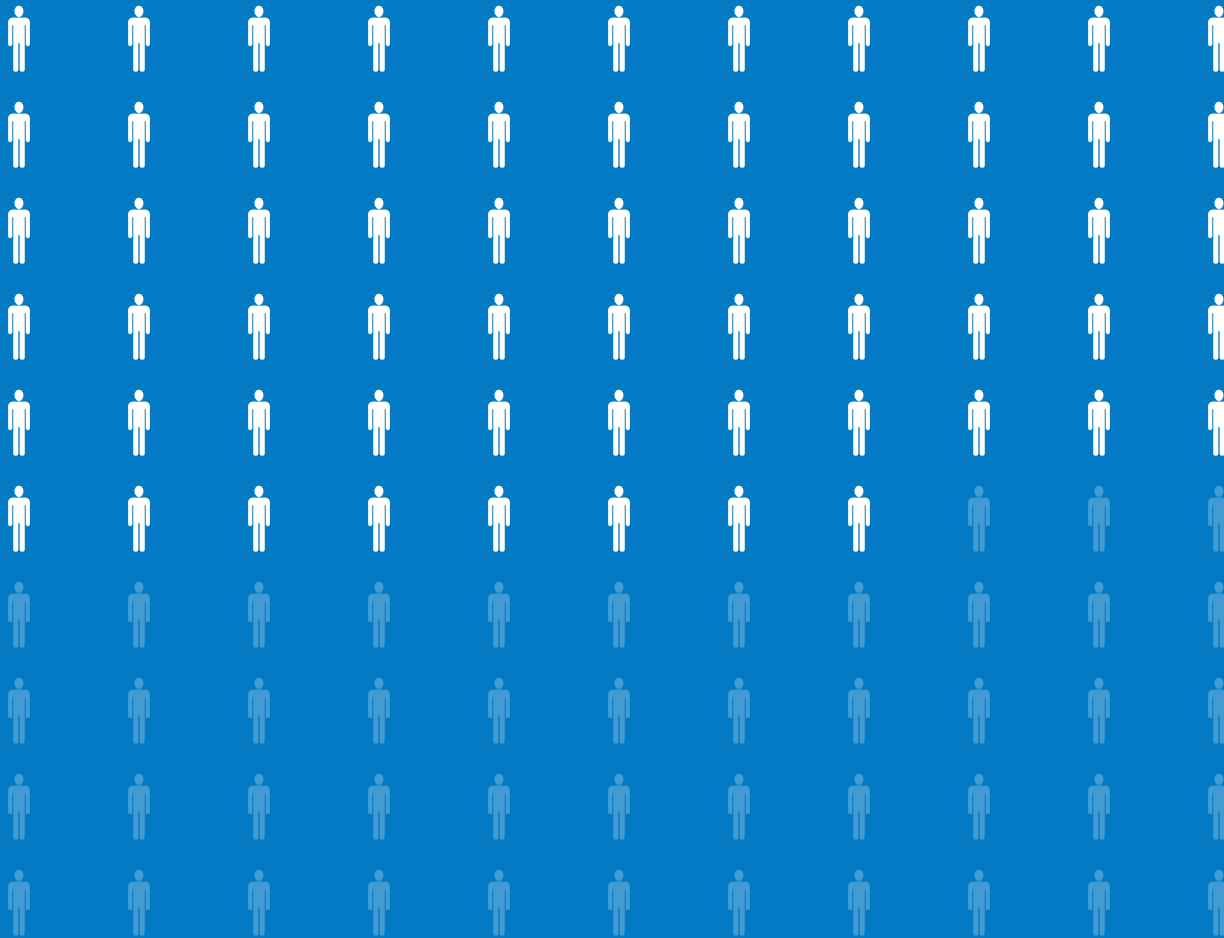
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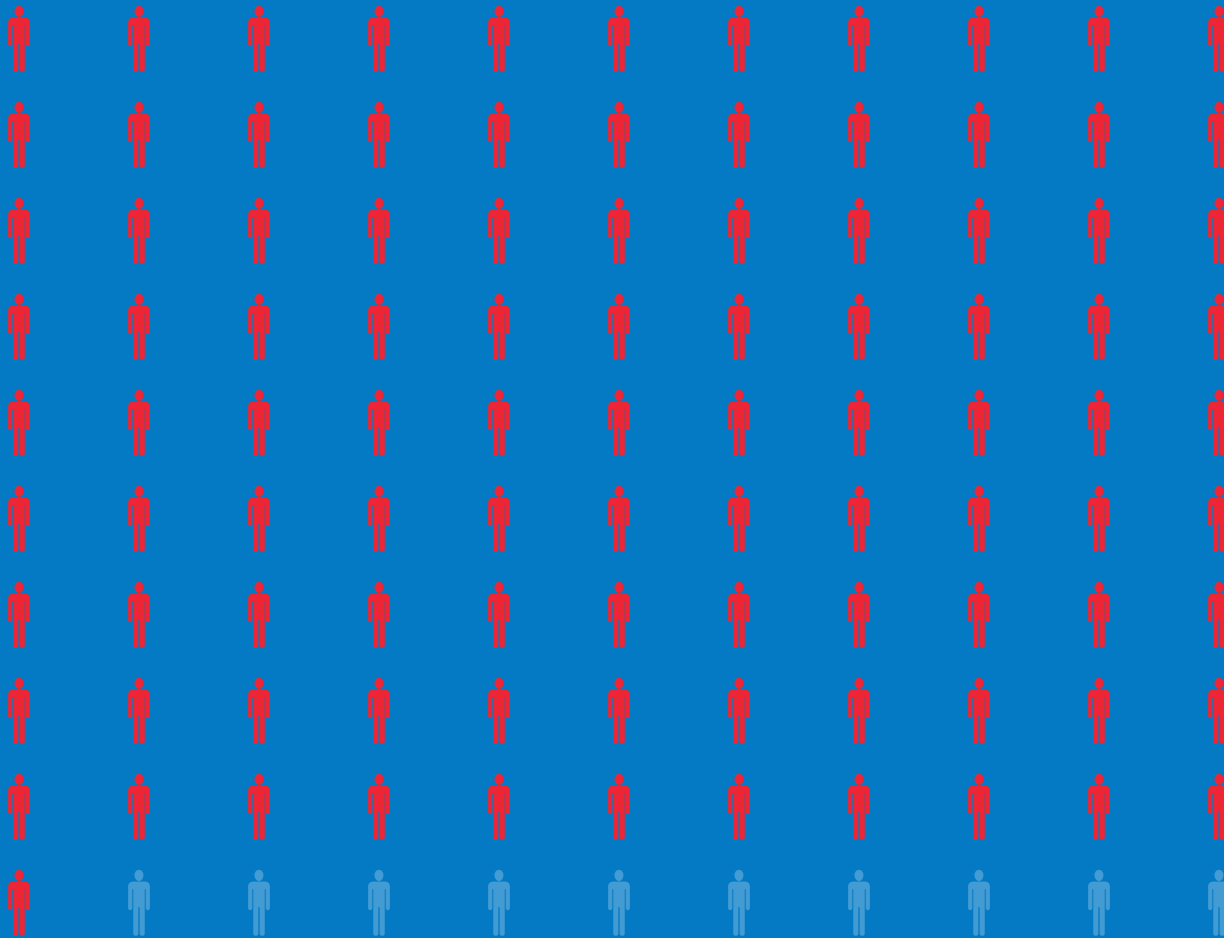
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How It Works

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How It Works

- Built a Rails application to process queries

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How It Works

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- Uses the Twilio API for SMS interface

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How It Works

- Built a Rails application to process queries
- Uses the Twilio API for SMS interface
- Provides info from the Open Data Portal

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How It Works (cont.)

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How It Works (cont.)

- Designed a responsive text interface
- Store user information for ease of use

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How It Works (cont.)

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- Store user information for ease of use
- Includes locations of and directions to
 - Police Stations

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- Store user information for ease of use
- Includes locations of and directions to
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 - Fire Houses

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How It Works (cont.)

- Designed a responsive text interface
- Store user information for ease of use
- Includes locations of and directions to
 - Police Stations
 - Fire Houses
 - Free Flu Shots

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How It Works (cont.)

- Designed a responsive text interface
- Store user information for ease of use
- Includes locations of and directions to
 - Police Stations
 - Fire Houses
 - Free Flu Shots
 - Libraries

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Demo!

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Data for All

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Data for All

- Provide access to vital services

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Data for All

- Provide access to vital services
- Increase government transparency
- Help citizens make informed decisions

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- Designed to be modular from the start

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CHI-TEXT is a Platform

- Service locations are just the beginning
- Designed to be modular from the start
- Source on GitHub to allow for collaboration
 - github.com/bosgood/chi-text
 - chi-text.com
 - (312) 698-3-CHI

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