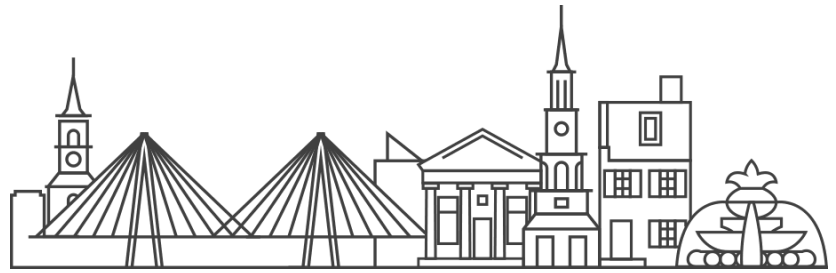


# City of Charleston

## Open Data Report 2022



To: The Honorable Mayor  
Tecklenburg

Members of the City Council

From: Tracy McKee, Chief Innovation Officer

Date: Friday, June 17, 2022

Subj: Report Pursuant to Charleston Open Data Policy, Adopted January 26, 2021

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# I. Progress Towards Goals of Open Data Program

On January 26, 2021 City of Charleston Council adopted the City's first Open Data Policy that outlines our the City's intent to:

- Memorialize our pledge to an open and transparent government that transcends individual commitment.
- Provide a framework to proactively release publishable data.
- Provide a framework to ensure we are good stewards of our citizen's data through defined roles, responsibilities, and accountability mechanisms.

The City first began releasing public data with a homegrown application built using GeoServer in 2013. In 2016 the City became an active member of the White House Police Data Initiative (PDI), built a portal using the Esri platform, and began publishing basic policing data. Much of the City's GIS data and police PDI data are available and can be visualized, downloaded and connected to and queried in real time via an API at <http://gis.charleston-sc.gov/dataportal>.

## Program Implementation and Governance

The adopted policy dictates the creation of an Open Data Management team, made up of representatives from every department that will work together to implement the open data plan.

An [Open Data Coordinator's \(ODC\) Guidebook](#) was created to assist ODCs in their role. A multi-tiered governance approach is outlined in the guidebook that allows for internal controls focused on privacy and security while assessing external demand.

### Open Data Coordinators (ODCs)

Over the past year, Open Data Coordinators (ODCs) met quarterly to begin implementation of the City's Open Data Policy. General responsibilities of the ODCs include:

- Establish a comprehensive inventory of datasets held by their department and identify those to be published on the Open Data Portal and appropriate update frequency.
- Work with the Legal Department to determine the relative level of risk and public benefit associated with potentially sensitive, non-protected information, so as to make a determination about whether and how to publish that information.
- Establish a plan and timeline for publishing data fit to be shared publicly.
- Serve as a key point of accountability for timelines and questions about data sets.
- Coordinate with IT to implement privacy, data licensing, metadata and other standards and practices.
- Provide quarterly reports on progress in implementing the Open Data Plan.

Figure 1.1 provides a list of the departments and ODCs that have been identified.

<b>Agency/Office</b>	<b>Data Coordinator</b>
BFRC	Susan Poteat
Clerk of Council	Meg Moughan/Velvett Simmons
Executive	Tracy McKee
Fire	Chief Mike Julazadeh
Housing and Community Development	Matt Ojala
Human Resources and Organizational Development	Ryan Landry
Information Technology	Shane Dixon
Livability and Tourism	Amy Southerland
Parks	Diane Howard
Planning, Preservation & Sustainability	Mandi Herring
Police	Patrick McLaughlin
Public Service	Stephanie Handley <b>(NEW)</b>
Recreation	Laurie Yarbrough
Stormwater	Maria Wright
Traffic & Transportation	Michael Mathis <b>(NEW)</b>

Figure 1.1 2022 City of Charleston Open Data Coordinators

In compliance with the City's Open Data Policy, the ODC team has completed the City's first comprehensive inventory of authoritative city datasets. This inventory of 110 datasets has been published and can be viewed at <http://innovate.charleston-sc.gov/opendata/inventory/>. Based on dataset categorization (see Figures 1.2 and 1.3), ODCs are currently working to develop their departmental 2022 data publishing plans.

		Public Demand / Value				
Classification		P2	P2	P1	PUBLIC	
		P3	P2	P2	SENSITIVE	
		P4	P3	P2	PROTECTED	
		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH		

Figure 1.2 Prioritization Matrix

<p><b>Priority 1</b></p> <p>Datasets that are high in demand and considered ready for public sharing should be the highest priority for publication unless some other considerations below are applicable. In any case, these datasets should not be ranked lower than P2.</p>	<p><b>Priority 2</b></p> <p>These datasets range from low to high demand and may require thoughtful publication to protect private and sensitive information. You may need to review the considerations below to help prioritize these datasets.</p>
<p><b>Priority 3</b></p> <p>Avoid scheduling these datasets at this time. Once P1 and P2 datasets have been scheduled, we will revisit this list. However, if the data is historical, will not require updating, and is easy to publish, consider adding it to your P2 group.</p>	<p><b>Priority 4</b></p> <p>These datasets do not need to be scheduled until all other groups have been scheduled in the publication plan. In some cases, we may decide some data in this category should not be published and may only be shared internally.</p>

Figure 1.3 Prioritization Descriptions

The resulting compiled publishing plan will be released publicly and implemented in the

fourth quarter of 2022. Beginning in December, the Chief Innovation Officer (CINO) and ODCs will begin the annual cycle of reviewing and updating the catalog and publishing plans to align with the annual Open Data Report due to the Mayor and Council on May 1st (Figure 1.4).

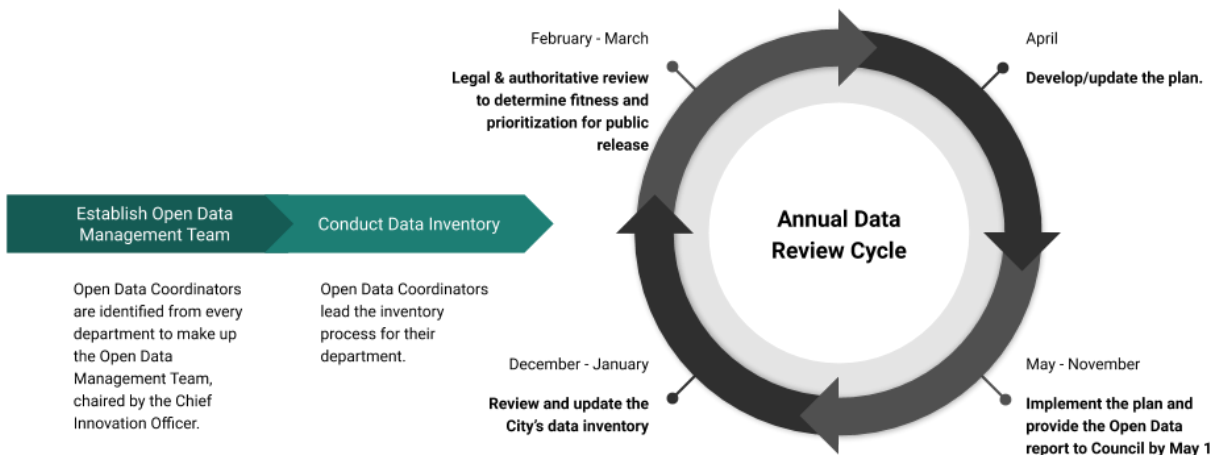


Figure 1.4 Annual Data Review Cycle

## Open Data Portal

The City of Charleston has been using Esri as the platform for sharing open data since 2016. As part of the publishing process, the CINO and ODC team will work together to methodically review the existing datasets available for currency and quality of metadata and make necessary updates.

## II. Assessment of Agency Compliance

Since starting in February, the CINO has been working to build the ODC team and implement the City's open data program. Our kickoff ODC meeting was held on February 25, 2021. Coordinators have been phased in as the CINO has reached out to departments to help them identify an appropriate person. Therefore, attendance is not a direct reflection of a department's willingness to participate in open data. Figure 2.1 provides an overview of ODC meeting attendance and progress towards developing their data inventory.

Department	Meeting Attendance				Inventory Complete
	May 2021	August 2021	November 2021	February 2022	

BFRC			✓	✓	✓
Clerk of Council	✓	✓	✓		✓
Executive	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Fire	✓				
Housing and Community Development	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Human Resources and Organizational Development					
Information Technology	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Livability and Tourism	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Parks	✓		✓		✓
Planning, Preservation & Sustainability (PPS)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Police	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Public Service					
Recreation		✓	✓	✓	
Stormwater	✓	✓			
Traffic & Transportation	✓				

Figure 2.1 Department compliance

### III. List of Datasets on the Open Data Portal

There are currently 59 machine-readable datasets available for download on the City's Open Data Portal. Over the past year, eight (8) datasets were added and one (1) was removed. Appendix A contains a summary of official datasets published on the portal as of May 2, 2022.

### IV. Open Data Engagements

On March 4, 2022 the City held its first Open Data Day celebration. City employees presented to the public on how they are using open data and shared applications that have been built with Open Data including the City's [Racial Equity Storymap](#) and [Affordable Housing Dashboard](#). The complete Open Data Day program can be viewed on [YouTube](#).

### V. Data Publishing Plan for 2022-2023

The CINO and ODC team will continue working the plan resulting in a thoughtful publishing plan based on a thorough inventory and application of the prioritization matrix. The new publishing plan, to be completed in the fourth quarter of 2022, will be shared publicly and open to public comment.

### VI. Key Recommendations

Only one of the recommendations from the 2021 Report was implemented. The table below contains a summary of those recommendations:

#### 2021 Recommendations:

Recommendation	Status	Notes
Create an Open Data Advisory Group	PENDING	Prioritize for 2022/2023
Add Open Data as a request type to our Citizen Help Desk system	COMPLETE	
Consider hiring a Data Services Manager/Engineer	PENDING	Continue to monitor the need for this position as the City's Open Data program

## 2022 Recommendations:

### 1. Open Data Programming

**“This was great information that I believe has the potential to truly impact future policy decisions.”**

*-Open Data Day Program Attendee*

The City's first Open Data Day program, held on March 4, 2022 had 45 attendees. In a post-event survey 85% indicated that the program exceeded their expectations and 100% indicated that they will attend our Open Data Day program next year. The City should continue and consider expanding programming around Open Data initiatives to keep the community updated on our progress and products created from open data.



# APPENDICES

## Appendix A. Current Open Data Inventory Summary as of May 2, 2022

Dataset Name	Department	Last Updated (AUTO=layer is set to auto-publish to the portal)
2020 PLSummaryFile FieldNames		January 28, 2022
Accommodations Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Amusement Recreation Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Arrests	Police	March 31, 2021
Base Zoning	PPS	AUTO
Drainage Basins	Stormwater	AUTO
Building footprints	IT/GIS	AUTO
Calls for Service (PD)	Police	March 31, 2021
Census Blocks 2020 - City of Charleston		January 28, 2022
City Addresses	IT/GIS	AUTO
City Council Districts	IT/GIS	AUTO
City Limits		AUTO
City Streets	IT/GIS	AUTO
City TIF Areas	IT/GIS	August 16, 2021
Current Plan - Block Equivalency File		January 25, 2022
Current Plan - Block Equivalency File (Excel)		January 25, 2022
Easements	Public Service	AUTO
Edge of pavement	IT/GIS	AUTO
Electronic Citations	Police	March 31, 2021

Field Contact Cards	Police	March 31, 2021
Fire Stations	IT/GIS	AUTO
Garbage Collection	IT/GIS	AUTO
General Business Late Night Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Hate Bias Incidents	Police	March 31, 2021
Historical Flood Closures Daily and Yearly Counts with Conditions		October 14, 2021
Historical Flood Closures with Conditions		March 1, 2022
History FloodClosures Daily Count with Conditions		October 14, 2021
History FloodClosures Yearly Count with Conditions		October 14, 2021
Horse Carriage Sanitation Alerts		March 2, 2022
Horse Carriage Tour Trip Log		March 2, 2022
Horse Carriage Tour Zones		March 2, 2022
Johns Island Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Landmark Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Neighborhood Councils	IT/GIS	AUTO
Neighborhood Districts	PPS	AUTO
New Construction Permits (2010-)		AUTO
Old City District Boundary	PPS	AUTO
Old City Height Districts	PPS	AUTO
Old and Historic District	PPS	AUTO
Parks	IT/GIS	AUTO
Police Stations	IT/GIS	AUTO

Public Housing	IT/GIS	AUTO
Railroads	IT/GIS	AUTO
Restrictive Covenants Overlay	IT/GIS	AUTO
Road Closures	Police/GIS	AUTO
Savannah Highway Overlay	PPS	AUTO
School Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Short Term Rentals Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Stormwater Culverts	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Discharge Points	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Fittings	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Inlets	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Manholes Junctions	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Network Junction	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Network Structures	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Open Channels	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Outlets	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Pipe	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Structural BMP	Stormwater	AUTO
Stormwater Virtual Drainlines	Stormwater	AUTO
Subdivisions	IT/GIS	April 15, 2022
Tour Boat Overlay	PPS	AUTO
Urban Growth Boundary	PPS	AUTO
Water Around Charleston	IT/GIS	AUTO