OPEN DATA BR

Overview & Training
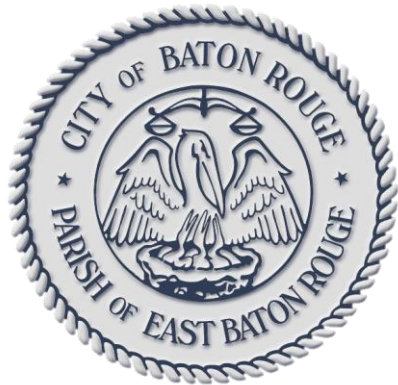
Federation of Greater Baton Rouge Civic Associations

March 12, 2015

http://data.brla.gov

Summary of 2015 Digital Initiatives

▶ Redesign of 3-1-1 System (Summer 2015)
  – Adjustments to make system easier to use for call takers, DPW staff and more user-friendly for public citizens
  – Includes the development of Apple and Android mobile device apps

▶ Launch of new Geographic Information System (GIS) website (2nd Quarter, 2015)
  – New mapping capabilities that are not available in the existing City-Parish GIS web applications will be provided as part of this web portal
  – All interactive web maps and applications developed in the web portal can be used on computer desktops, and iOS and Android mobile devices
  – Web portal also hosts a catalog of web services that can be leveraged by application developers and GIS professionals

▶ Public Engagement via Social Media/Digital Platforms
  – Emphasis on two-way communications with the public
  – Developing infrastructure for real-time communications during emergency situations
  – Launched Baton Rouge Police Department Facebook page February 2015 as part of pilot program – **facebook.com/batonrougepolice**

▶ Open Data BR

What is Open Data?

▶ Open data is a concept that is based on the idea that public data should be freely available and accessible to everyone

▶ Serves as a foundation for Mayor Holden's larger goal of making our City-Parish government more efficient, transparent and accountable to the public

▶ Secondary goals include:

– Increasing our digital presence, both locally and across the region

– Building a smarter government, leveraging technology wherever possible

– Supporting a collaborative environment that allows citizens to work hand-in-hand with government to solve key problems and issues

Why Open Data?

▶ There are massive amounts of data maintained by City-Parish, and data drives decision-making

▶ The public should be able to access this data in order to make informed decisions about their community

▶ Data can be used to support the creation of unique solutions to everyday problems

▶ Builds on the recommendations outlined by IBM as part of the Smarter Cities Challenge Grant

Who does it benefit?

▶ Having unfiltered access to City-Parish data benefits the entire community

▶ Residents can view crime or traffic incidents near their homes

▶ Businesses can view permitting and development activity throughout the Parish, or develop applications that interface with the data

▶ Universities/students can use this data for research projects or for the development of applications

▶ City-Parish employees are able to more easily access data across agencies; can use data to identify trends or service level gaps

A strong process leads to strong results

▶ Builds off of best practices established by cities such as New York City, Chicago, San Francisco and more

▶ Strong review process leads to better quality of data

  – Potential data for inclusion is identified either internally or by the public

  – The department that maintains the data, Information Services, Parish Attorney and the City-Parish administration all participate in the review process

  – Data is uploaded to site

▶ A complex, but necessary process to ensure that inappropriate data (HIPAA, proprietary or other protected data) is not erroneously published
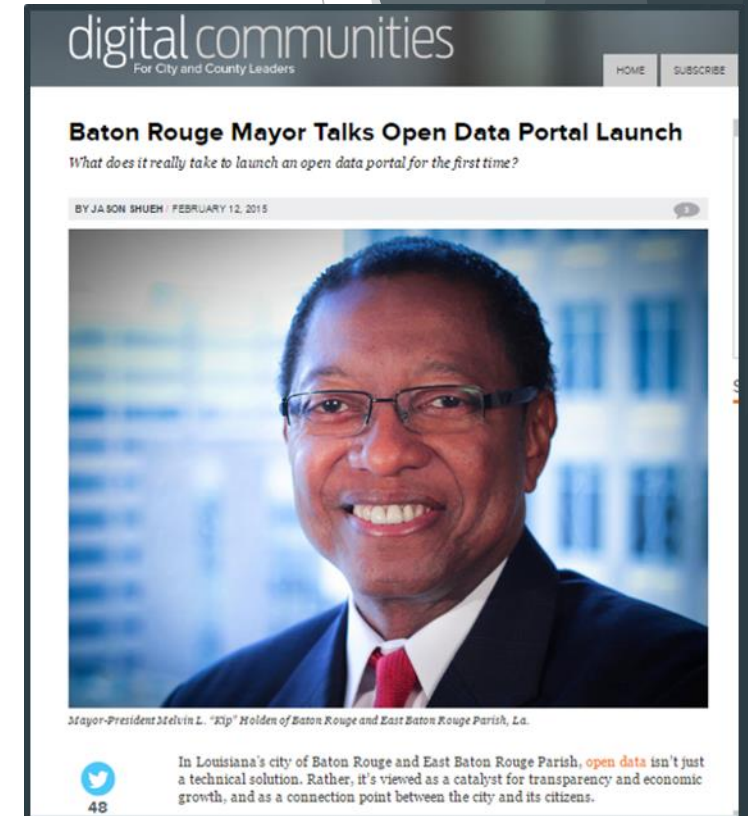
Open Data BR – Pilot Phase

▶ Continual process of data set identification
  – "Suggest a Data Set" feature allows the public to suggest certain data sets or request access to data not currently featured on the site
  – Public notification functions for new data sets added to portal

▶ Routine updates to existing data – most data sets updated daily or weekly

▶ Outreach to other agencies to request their participation in the Open Data BR initiative (e.g., EBRSO, Assessor's Office, etc.)

▶ What's next?
  – Procurement data, traffic flow data and more

▶ The end goal: a true open data environment

Data sets currently available:
- Salary data
- Police incident data
- Fire incident data
- Traffic incident data
- Permitting data
- Adjudicated property data
- City Court warrant information
- Public facility information
- GIS landmark and scenic view information

Open Data BR To-Date

▶ According to the U.S. government (data.org), 46 cities/counties have open data initiatives
  - Open Data BR: #47

▶ Pilot phase launched January 31, 2015

▶ Over 200,000 page views in the first month alone

▶ Tremendous response from community, media and more for transparency and ease of access to public data

▶ Featured on homepage of Government Technology via Q&A with Mayor Holden

▶ Creating our own best practice – recently contacted by a group in New York wanting to know more about our process, approach and open data model

digital communities
For City and County Leaders   HOME   SUBSCRIBE

Baton Rouge Mayor Talks Open Data Portal Launch
What does it really take to launch an open data portal for the first time?

BY JASON SHUEH | FEBRUARY 12, 2015

Mayor-President Melvin L. "Kip" Holden of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish, La.

In Louisiana's city of Baton Rouge and East Baton Rouge Parish, open data isn't just a technical solution. Rather, it's viewed as a catalyst for transparency and economic growth, and as a connection point between the city and its citizens.

48

Functionality of Open Data BR

▶ Wide variety of data that can be visualized or interacted with in a number of different ways
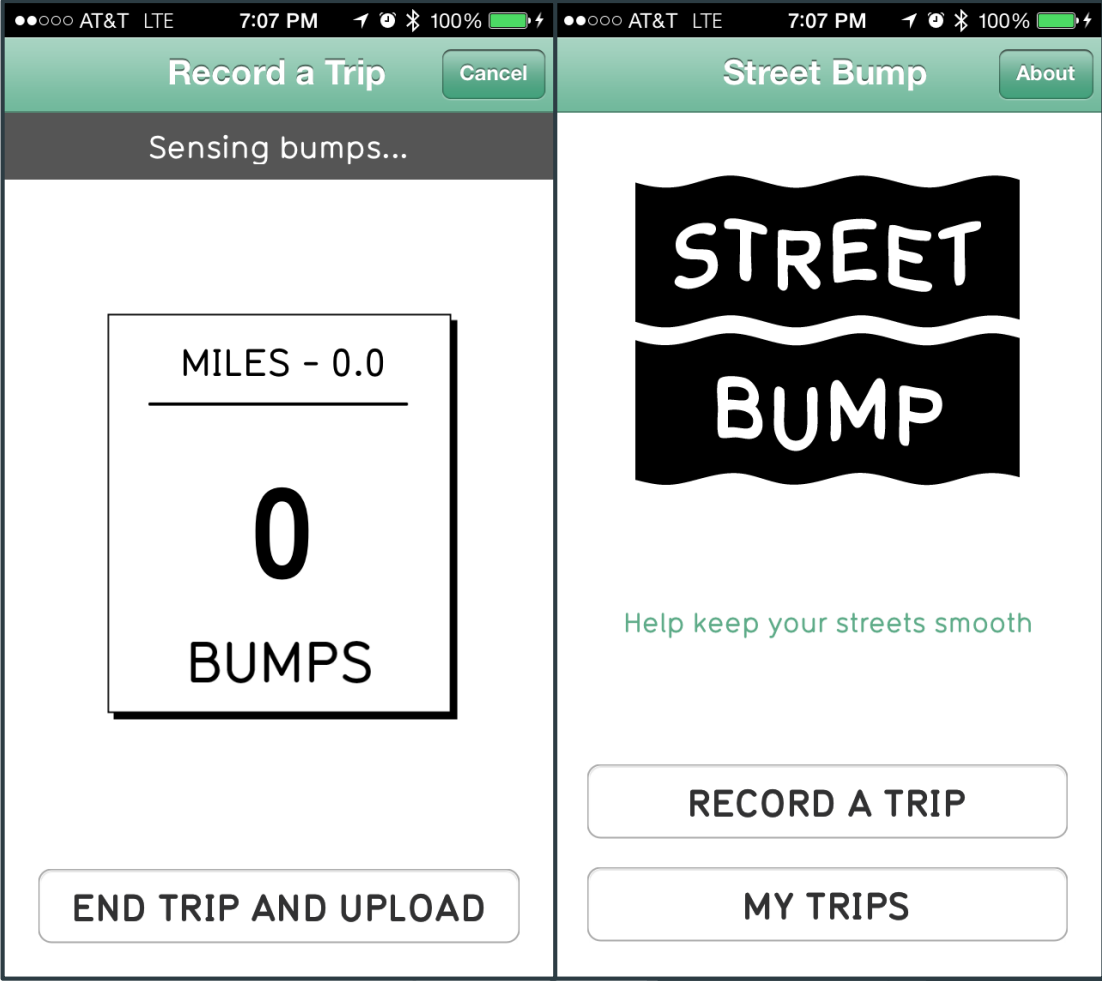
Data Actions
- Sort
- Sum
- Count
- Filter/Search

Data Visualizations
- Graphs
- Maps
- Embedded visuals
- Download

▶ Application Programming Interface (API) allows software developers to build applications that interface with data

Potential Applications of Open Data BR

Potential Applications of Open Data BR

Open Data BR Training Sessions

▶ Two upcoming training sessions to familiarize the train the public on how to use the system

1 March 17, 2015, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Attend in person at the Goodwood Main Library, Conference Room 102 *or* remotely via webinar

2 March 23, 2015, 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Attend remotely via webinar only

▶ For more information and webinar access instructions, visit brgov.com/opendatabr

For more information:
http://data.brla.gov