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Review and comment on proposed solutions
Submit ideas on how we can do things better
Need Help? See the training videos or User guide

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The CfA Fellowship Process

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February: City Residency

March:

Inception

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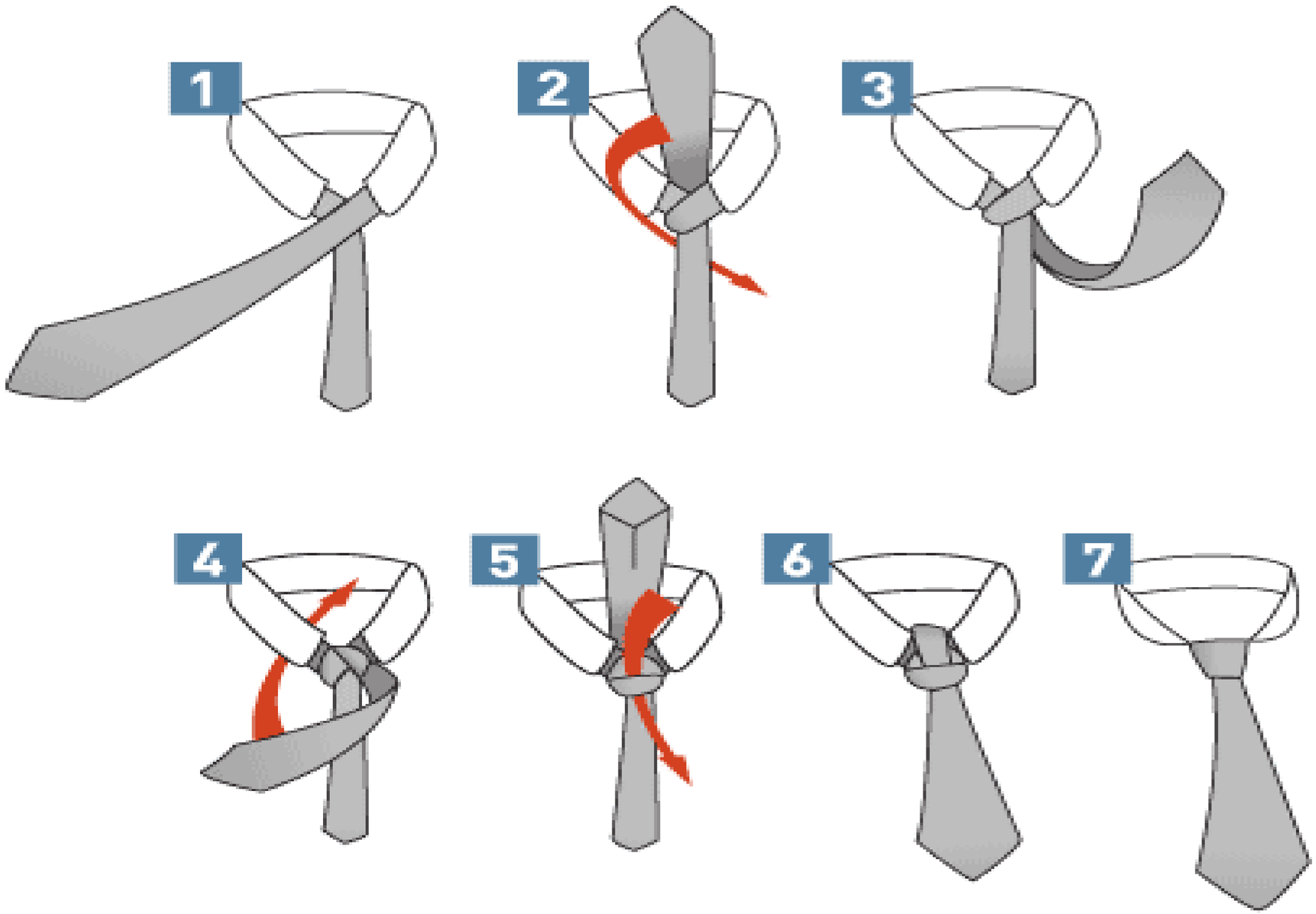
THE FELLOWSHIP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<!-- begin app catalog -->
// it's not just about the apps.
// but the apps do matter.
// and they show what's possible.

//Adopt-a-Hydrant

In the midst of winter snowstorms, buried hydrants cause dangerous delays in the ability of fire fighters to respond to fire emergencies. To check and clear off the thousands of hydrants across the city, Adopt-a-Hydrant lets governments turn to the community. This map-based web app allows individuals, small businesses, and community organizations to volunteer to be responsible for shoveling out specific hydrants.

http://adoptahydrant.org

//Change By Us

Change By Us both crowdsources ideas for improving our cities and gives residents tools to bring those ideas to life. As a marketplace for community projects it enables residents to find local initiatives that matter to them and lets them join in the effort to improve their community. Change By Us also provides a simple kit of web-based tools that make it easy to become a local organizer and bring people together to improve their community.

http://changeby.us

//CityGroups

In cities across the country, there is amazing work being done by community organizers to take on community problems. CityGroups helps publicize these organizations through a collaborative public directory for finding and recommending groups working to make the city better. In doing so, it opens up this valuable data, enabling connections within the community and support from the local government. Since launch, CityGroups has been deployed in four cities.

http://citygroups.org

//ClassTalk

ClassTalk empowers teachers to communicate instantly with their classes through SMS and email, keeping school subjects and class deadlines at the top of a student's mind. Teachers can send messages to an entire class instantly or schedule one to be sent at a future time, and students can reply, providing instant, low-barrier access to their teacher even after class is dismissed. ClassTalk brings out-of-school communication to the devices teachers and students already use everyday.

http://classtalk.org

//CouncilMatic

Keeping up with your city council can at times be difficult with all of the issues addressed and bills proposed, and for many, only a fraction of the activity is relevant to them – either because of topic or location. CouncilMatic makes accessing Philadelphia legislative data as easy as checking your email or reading a blog.

http://councilmatic.org

//DataCouch

DataCouch uses the CouchDB database to build a tool that allows data in spreadsheets to be uploaded and converted to an API for use by other developers. Developers can then create a copy, clean, or add to the data – in turn, making that new dataset available. This removes the major hurdle to data sharing, and allows data to be made immediately available even if it is not in a traditionally web-friendly format.

http://datacouch.com

//DataWorks:Boston

DataWorks is part app catalog, part ideation platform, and part project management tool; but at its core, it is a network of community-members and developers – connecting those with a concept (anyone) with those who have the know-how to turn concept into a creation (developer). The platform not only enables collaboration and project development, but also features completed apps, built in Boston for Boston.

http://buildingboston.org

//DiscoverBPS

Distributing many students across the city – while taking into account factors like walkability, sibling attendance, and personal preference – is a complicated task and creates a process that can seem incomprehensible to parents. By leveraging technology – interactive maps, user-generated reviews, and structured data – we can make the process easier, and we can help parents get the information they need when making an important decision: which school is *right* for my child?

http://discoverbps.org

//Iconathon

With our evolving cities and lifestyles come the need for new symbols to describe our physical environment. To generate these new symbols CFA fellows held six events for hundreds of people around the country – Iconathons – where designers gathered to create (or recreate) icons that represent key aspects of cities and civic life.

http://iconathon.org

//JobOps

Veterans exit the military without the tools they need to compete in the modern job search process. Most services don't provide specialized information for jobs catering to veterans. Veterans deserve a better way of starting their post-military career. JobOps, built in partnership with the White House, is a light-weight tool to integrate online career building services and help veterans find jobs.

http://c4a.me/rjNKqv

//Lunch Roulette

As organizations grow, it's difficult for coworkers to meet new people and break out of their day-to-day bubble. Lunch Roulette brings social networking into the office. The application randomly pairs up two people for a lunch date, and emails them the pairing in the morning – over time, working to match as many people up as possible. It's an easy way to make lunchtime more interesting and fun. It's currently being used by more than 20 organizations.

http://c4a.me/tOEcdO

//Open311 Dashboard

Over the past decade large cities have implemented 311 systems to handle non-emergency service requests such as fixing a pothole. The Open311 API allows web applications to seamlessly interact with the 311 system and it's deluge of data. The Open311 dashboard provides a clean and interactive dashboard that will help track response times, identify service request trends, and give city officials data about the efficiency of various city services.

http://open311.org

//Open211

Social service providers spend as much time making referrals to other providers as they do helping clients directly. The Open211 Rednectory is a crowd-sourced list of social service resources that keeps service providers up-to-date on where clients can find the help they need. Plus, its SMS interface enables individuals to search for resources themselves. Open211 was featured by the White House as an "open data Champion of Change."

http://open211.org

//Public Art App

Conceived in Philadelphia, a city renowned for its murals, the Public Art App merges public datasets that describe public art with user-submitted information to create an interactive public art map for any city. The Public Art app pulls information about the location, artist, and history of public art and displays it in a mobile, multi-platform web app – giving people access to the art as well as its context and meaning.

http://publicartapp.mobi

//PHL API

Cities are teeming with data for developers to leverage in their applications. Getting that data into an app, however, often requires significant effort on the developers part. For Philadelphia, our fellows built PHL API, which makes it easier to access dozens of city datasets on topics as diverse as art, economic indicators and political boundaries. Developers looking to incorporate this data in their own applications now have a simple way to pull it off the web in real time.

http://philapi.com

//ReRoute.it

ReRoute.it is a mobile application that helps people make informed transportation choices. The app does so by turning the regular transit app on its head – instead of choosing the mode of transportation first, ReRoute.it lets you compare every option with regard to time, cost, health, and global warming impact. Is a bike as fast as the bus but a quarter the cost? Info like that helps people understand transportation choices as something that impacts us in many ways.

http://reroute.it

//Septa.mobi

Thanks to the use of GPS on most city buses, cities now have access to real-time data on bus locations and even estimated time of arrival. This information is useful not just to transit administrators, but citizens as well, wondering when the next bus will arrive. Septa.mobi is a real-time mobile bus tracking application for Philadelphia residents that gives them up-to-the-minute information on when buses will arrive at any stop.

http://septa.mobi

//SnapFresh

The Federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) – better know as food stamps – helps low income people put food on the table. Unfortunately, information about which retailers accept food stamps is hard to find. SnapFresh allows users to easily find that information by texting an address to the SnapFresh phone number. Information about the five closest quality food stores is instantly returned via text. SnapFresh uses USDA data and works nationwide.

http://snapfresh.org

//SolarCity

Solar City is a web application that uses ESRI mapping software to calculate solar potential for rooftops. With this tool, basic calculations can demonstrate both the average amount of sunlight that is available and the cost saving opportunities of a switch to solar power. Any city with the necessary geodata can use the app to help consumers understand the viability and potential benefits of solar energy.

http://solar-1.appspot.com

//Where's My School Bus

Last winter, during a major snowstorm, Boston public schools received more than 3,000 calls in a week from concerned parents wondering when their child's delayed school bus would arrive. Where's My School Bus lets parents receive location information through a mobile app so they can track their child's bus in real time, freeing up city call-center resources.

http://schoolbus.bostonpublicschools.org

//Technofinder

Cities are actively trying to provide internet access to the underserved by providing tech centers located throughout the city. Using Technofinder, residents can simply call a toll-free number and input their location to be given a listing, hours, and directions to the tech centers closest to them. Built on top of Chicago's open data, the app can be deployed in any city with the necessary public data.

http://techfind.me

<!-- end -->

Introducing the Boston Public Schools 2009

A Guide for Parents and Students

A publication of the
Boston Public Schools
26 Court Street • Boston MA 02108
617-635-9000
Carol R. Johnson, Superintendent

The School Committee of the City of Boston
Rev. Gregory Groover, Chairperson
Marchelle Raynor, Vice Chairperson
Helen Dájer • Alfreda Harris
Claudio Martinez • Michael O'Neill
Elizabeth Reilinger

This guide is intended as a general introduction to the Boston Public Schools. It is not a comprehensive policy manual. Some of the information in this guide may have changed since publication. For further information, call any Family Resource Center, listed on page 28.

Produced by the
Boston Public Schools Communications Office

January 2009

ENGLISH: Introducing the Boston Public Schools is available in English, Cape Verdean Creole, Chinese, Haitian Creole, Portuguese, Somali, Spanish, and Vietnamese. For a copy or for assistance, please call or visit any Family Resource Center, listed on page 28.

CAPE VERDEAN: [illegible]

CHINESE: [illegible]

HAITIAN CREOLE: [illegible]

PORTUGUESE: [illegible]

SOMALI: [illegible]

SPANISH: [illegible]

VIETNAMESE: [illegible]

The Boston Public Schools does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, age, disability, sex, religion, national origin, or sexual orientation, and does not tolerate any form of discrimination, intimidation, threat, coercion, and/or harassment that insults the dignity of others by interfering with their freedom to learn or work.

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Choosing a School

What are your choices?

Under Boston's student assignment plan, the city is divided into three geographic "zones"—East, West, and North—for elementary and middle schools. Students entering kindergarten–grade 8 may apply for:

- Schools in the zone in which they live
- Schools in other zones if the schools are within their "walk zone" (see page 4 for details)
- The citywide Hernandez K–8 School and Timilty Middle School (see page 8).

All high schools are citywide.

For a customized list of all the schools you may apply for, go to www.bostonpublicschools.org/register and click "What Are My Schools?"

How will you decide which school is best for your child?

Introducing the Boston Public Schools 2009 is a good place to start. In the following pages, we will answer many of your questions and introduce you to each of our schools.

Be sure to visit our **Web site** to read school profiles and learn all about the school choice and registration process: www.bostonpublicschools.org/register/

Our **Family Resource Centers** can really help, too. Staff can explain what each school offers, what your options are, and how to apply. They also have information about:

- Wait lists and transfers, if you want to change schools
- Programs for English language learners and for students with disabilities
- Programs for high achievers
- Before- and after-school programs
- Summer programs
- Parent education and opportunities for family involvement
- Community resources
- ...and much more!

Our Family Resource Centers are listed on page 28. Call or drop by.

We encourage you to visit our schools and talk to relatives, friends, and neighbors whose children attend schools you are considering. All schools are open to visitors during regular school hours. If you want to visit classrooms and speak to the principal and staff, we recommend calling ahead for an appointment—or go during **School Preview Time.**

School Preview Time

November 3, 2008–January 23, 2009

School Preview Time is a great time for families to learn more about our schools before school registration begins. During School Preview Time, each elementary, K–8, middle and high school provides special opportunities to visit classrooms, tour the school, and meet the principal and teachers.

For a schedule of School Preview Time activities, contact any Boston Public Schools Family Resource Center, or visit:

www.bostonpublicschools.org/register

About 30 area employers, including the City of Boston, offer up to four hours of paid time off to visit schools before registration. Check to see if your employer is one of them!

Other places that can help you choose schools are:

- **Countdown to Kindergarten, ☎ 617-635-6816 www.countdowntokindergarten.org** If you are applying for kindergarten, Countdown has lots of information on how to choose a program, how and when to register and how to help your child get ready for his or her exciting first year of school.
- **Y/BPS, www.ybps.org.** This partnership between the BPS and the YMCA offers workshops and resources in English and Spanish for families who want to learn about the Boston Public Schools. You can sign up for their monthly e-newsletter by visiting their Web site.
- **WGBH "Eye on Education" High School Choice Web site, www.wgbh.org/eyeoneducation/.** If you're an eighth grader living in Boston (or if you are in high school and want to transfer), you have dozens of high school choices. This Web site has lots of information and "tools" to help you and your family find the schools that match your interests.

Choosing a School, page 3 ►

The City of Boston

Choosing a School (continued)

Choosing a School: What to Ask

Ask the principal and teachers about:

- The school's philosophy and expectations for every student
- Student achievement, measured by test scores and performance on projects and written assignments
- The school's plans to help students achieve at higher levels
- The curriculum: what will your child learn in every subject?
- Resources that support active learning, including the library, science labs and technology
- Teaching styles to match your child's learning style
- Before- and after-school programs serving the school and neighborhood
- Opportunities for art, music, and physical exercise
- Support services available to students and their families, such as counseling and health services
- School uniforms and dress codes

Who needs to apply for school?

Students who go to a Boston public school now may stay in the school through the school's highest grade. They do not need to complete an application.

A student must apply for school if...

- The student attends a BPS school and is in the school's highest grade this year—for example, grade 1 in an Early Learning/Early Education Center, grade 5 in a K–5 school, or grade 8 in a middle school or K–8 school.
- The student is in kindergarten–grade 8 and the family moves to a different zone. However, the student may stay in the same school if the parent/guardian agrees to provide transportation.
- The student is in a special program and must go to a different school for a new program.
- The student wants to transfer to another school.
- The student doesn't attend the Boston Public Schools now—even if the student applied and received a BPS assignment last year.

According to state law, each child must attend school beginning in September of the calendar year in which the child turns six years old. *Failure to send a child to school could result in legal action against the parents.*

Where to Register

Students who are currently enrolled in the Boston Public Schools will get their applications from their school. They do not need to apply in person at a Family Resource Center.

Parents of new-to-BPS students may pre-register on the BPS Web site. But to complete the process, they must visit a BPS Family Resource Center (see page 28).

Required Documents

When you go to register, bring:

- At least three preprinted proofs of your current address in the City of Boston (see detailed list below)
- An original birth certificate (with raised seal) or passport for children registering for kindergarten (K0, K1, and K2) or grade 1.
- Up-to-date immunization records (see details on this page).

Completing the Application

The application form lists all the schools you may choose.

- Make at least FIVE choices.
- Choose as many schools as you wish.
- Number your choices in order of your preference.
- If you are applying for high school, ask about schools with special admission procedures (pages 25–27).
- Save your copy of the application in case there's a problem.

When to Apply

To increase the chances of receiving an assignment to a school of choice, students should apply in the first registration period for their grade. This schedule is for **new registrations** and **transfer requests** for the 2009–2010 school year.

FIRST REGISTRATION PERIOD
January 5–February 6, 2009
Kindergarten, Grade 6 & Grade 9 only
To avoid long lines, we recommend the following schedule, based on the first initial of the parent's last name:

A–I Register January 5–9
J–Q Register January 12–16
R–Z Register January 20–23
All: Register January 26–February 6

NEW THIS YEAR. Families who are registering a student for kindergarten, grade 6, or grade 9 may register other children in the family for all other grades during the first registration period. Applications for students registering for grades other than kindergarten and grades 6 and 9 will be processed in the second registration period. They will receive their assignment notice in late April.

SECOND REGISTRATION PERIOD
February 11–March 20, 2009
Kindergarten and Grades 1–12

THIRD REGISTRATION PERIOD
March 23–May 1, 2009
Kindergarten and Grades 1–12

FOURTH REGISTRATION PERIOD
May 4–June 5, 2009
Kindergarten and Grades 1–12

You will receive the notice of your child's assignment by mail. Assignments are usually mailed about six weeks after the close of the registration period.

In the spring, we mail an **RSVP form** to students assigned to the BPS. If you know your child will not attend the Boston Public Schools in September, please sign and return the form so we can assign another student from the wait list. You can also use the RSVP form to tell us if you want to stay on wait lists for other schools.

Residency Requirement for Students

In order to attend Boston Public Schools, a student must live in the City of Boston. The residence of a child under age 18 is the legal residence of the parent(s) or guardian(s) who has physical custody of the child. A student who is age 18 or older may establish a residence separate from his or her parents or guardians for school attendance purposes.

"Residence" is the place where a person lives permanently. Temporary residence in the City of Boston, solely for the purpose of attending a Boston public school, is not considered "residency."

This residency policy does not apply to homeless students. Questions regarding homeless students should be directed to the Office of Legal Advisor, 617-635-9320.

Verification of City of Boston Residency

Before any student is assigned to or invited to attend a Boston Public School, his/her parent or legal guardian must provide at least **three proofs of residency** in the City of Boston. Documents must be pre-printed with the name and address of the student's parent or guardian and must be presented at the Family Resource Center at the time of registration. Please note that **legal guardianship** requires additional documentation from a court or agency.

These documents are also required for any change of address.

Applicants must submit at least one document from each of the following three groups:

GROUP A
- Copy of deed AND record of most recent mortgage payment ♦
- Copy of Lease (including BHA and HUD leases) AND record of most recent rent payment ♦
- Legal affidavit from landlord affirming tenancy AND record of most recent rent payment ♦
- Section 8 agreement

♦ You must submit BOTH of these documents.

GROUP B
A utility bill or work order dated within the past 60 days:
- Gas bill
- Oil bill
- Electric bill
- Home telephone bill ♦
- Cable bill

♦ We do not accept cell phone bills or water & sewer bills.

If a family is sharing housing with an individual or family and does not pay rent, the family may submit a utility bill in the name of the person who owns or leases the property.

GROUP C
- Valid Mass. driver's license
- Current vehicle registration
- Valid Massachusetts photo identification card
- Valid passport

Dated within the past year:
- W-2 form
- Excise tax bill
- Property tax bill

Dated within the past 60 days:
- Letter from an approved government agency
- Payroll stub
- Bank or credit card statement

Any school with an approved special admissions policy may opt to accept applications from non-resident students, but **only students who have presented three valid proofs of Boston residency may be invited or offered admission to a Boston Public School.**

Any student found to be in violation of the residency policy will be dismissed immediately from the Boston Public Schools. The parent/guardian of a student dismissed for non-residency may appeal the decision. The student may be allowed to remain in school during the appeal procedure.

In addition to dismissal from school, the Boston Public Schools may impose penalties on the family such as legal action, a fine based on the cost of educational services received, and the withholding of certain scholarships and prizes.

Immunizations

The Boston Public Schools requires that students must have immunizations that are up-to-date for school entry at the time they register for school. This means that the following immunizations need to be in place at registration:

Grade:	K0 (age 3)	K1/K2 (ages 4–5)	Gr. 1–6	Gr. 7–12
Hepatitis B	3	3	3	3
DTaP/DTP/DT/Td booster	≥4	5	4 or 5	4 or 3 + 1
Polio	≥3	4	≥3	≥3
Hib	1–4	0	0	0
MMR	1	2	2	2
Varicella (chickenpox)	1*	1*	1*	1–2*

(*or documentation of disease)

NOTE: If a child has turned 4 years old by the registration date, he or she must have received the K1/K2 immunizations. However, if the child is only 3 years old at registration, he or she is NOT expected to have received the 4-year-old immunizations.

To learn more, go to: www.mass.gov/dph/cdc/epii/imm/school_reqs/schoolentry.pdf. Contact BPS Health Services, 617-635-6788, if you have questions. In addition, we strongly recommend that your child have a Tuberculosis Risk Assessment.

When you register your child for school you must submit a doctor's record stating your child has had the required immunizations. The record must include the month, day, and year when the immunizations were given. If you need a copy of the immunization record or have questions, contact your doctor or health center. If you don't have a doctor or health center, call the Mayor's Health Line, 800-847-0710. Please allow two to three weeks for your doctor or health center to copy records.

Keep in mind that school nurses review immunization records regularly.

By law, students whose immunizations are not up to date may be excluded from school.

Special Situations. Except in an emergency or epidemic, students may start school if a parent or guardian presents a written statement from a physician that their child has not been immunized for medical reasons, or a letter stating that immunization conflicts with his or her religious beliefs.

Please see page 7 for information on physical examinations.

How does the BPS assign students?

Assignments are made by a computer that is programmed with a **mathematical formula.** The computer program tries to assign students to their highest listed **choice** for which they have the highest **priority.**

For more information about how the formula works, call 617-635-9516.

What are priorities?

Sometimes a school doesn't have room for every student who lists it as a choice. When this happens, the computer assigns students based on choice and **priorities.** Here are the major priorities, with the highest listed first:

1. Sibling + walk zone
2. Sibling
3. Walk zone (a priority for 50% of available seats)
4. Random number

Within each assignment period, students with the highest priority are assigned first.

“Inside Boston’s School Assignment Maze”

MARCH 28, 2011

The assignment letters arrive

Boston parents get school assignments

In a downtown office cubicle, next to a file cabinet topped with a philodendron in a wine carafe, a Boston public schools computer specialist dispassionately clicked a mouse. (By Stephanie Ebbert, Globe Staff)

VIDEOS Parents react to school assignments | The Bertrands react | Grophears react | Rousells react | Rudders react

MARCH 13, 2011

Inside the school assignment maze

Taking a chance, making a choice

The lottery assigning Boston kindergartners to classrooms is designed to be fair, but with too few good schools to choose from, too many opt to leave. (By James Vaznis, Globe Staff)

The Boston Globe

Selection process starts with choices, ends with luck

In towns across America, families buy homes knowing exactly where their kids will go to school. Like their post office, their parish, and their neighborhood pub, it’s usually the closest one. (By Stephanie Ebbert, Globe Staff)

VIDEO Introduction to the series | Meet 13 families navigating the process | **MAP** Boston Public Schools

CODE for AMERICA

DISCOVER BPS

Search | Schools | My Favorites

Welcome to DiscoverBPS. This tool allows parents and students to find eligible schools and create a customized list of favorites. To get started, please enter your information in the search form, below, and then click "Search."

Find Your Schools

Address:

Zipcode:

Grade:
K0

Sibling School:

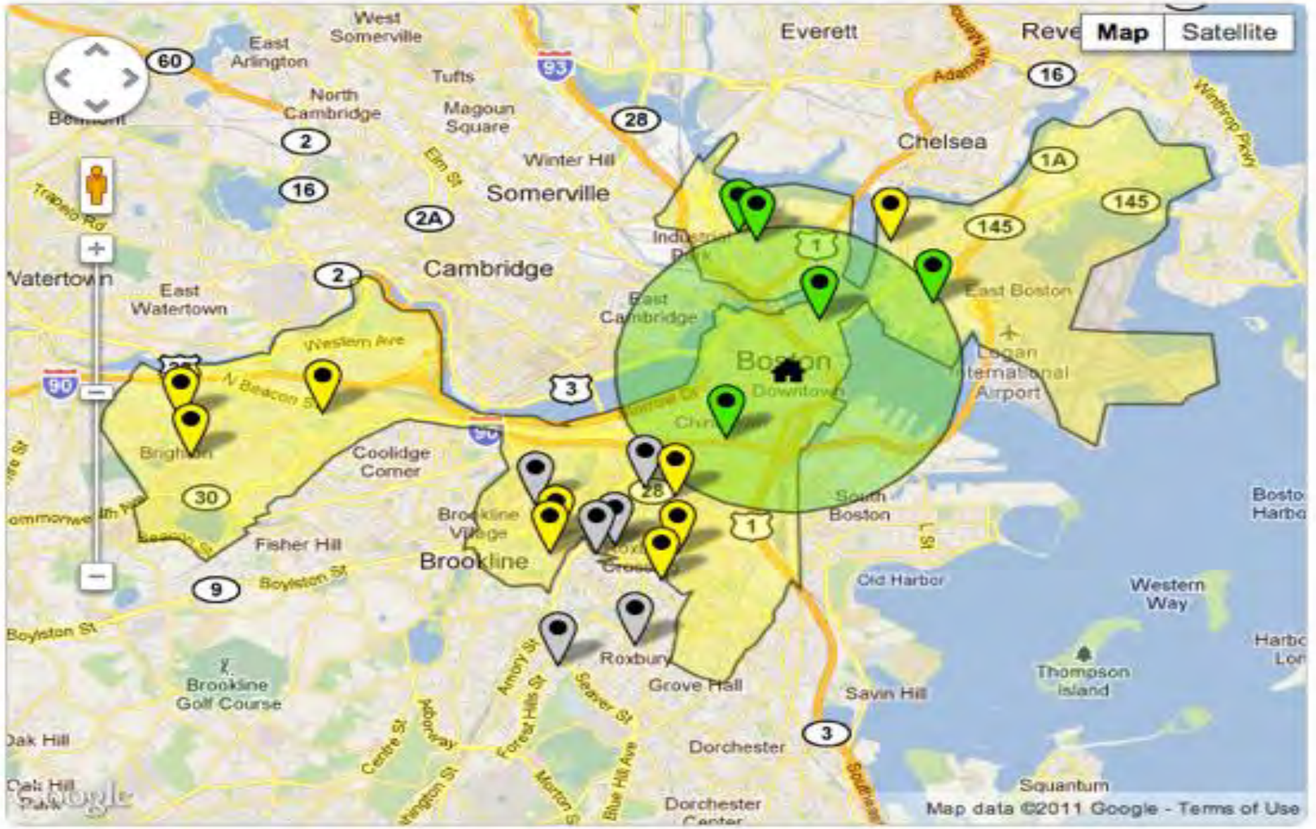
Search

Bates Elementary - West Zone

DISCOVER BPS

Eligible Schools for: **26 Court St, Boston, MA / Grade 7** Search Again

Below is a map of your eligible schools. The yellow shape represents the North Assignment Zone; the flags represent your eligible schools. Click the flags or the school name links to learn more. Click the 'List View' tab - at right - to return to the previous page.



- Eliot K-8 School
- Quincy Upper School
- Warren/Prescott
- McKay K-8
- Edwards Middle
- Umana/Alighieri K-8 Academy
- Hurley K-8
- Orchard Gardens K-8
- Dearborn Middle
- Tobin K-8
- Mission Hill K-8
- Jackson/Mann K-8
- Edison K-8
- Lyon K-8
- Carter Center
- O'Bryant Math & Sci.
- Timilty Middle
- Boston Latin School

Walk Zone School Assignment Zone School Citywide School

List View

My Favorites

1. Quincy Upper School
2. McKay K-8
3. Tobin K-8
4. Hurley K-8
5. Eliot K-8 School

Compare

DISCOVER BPS

Search | Schools | My Favorites

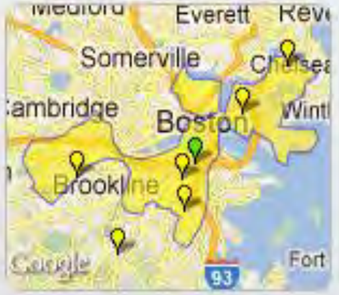
Eligible Schools for: **26 Court Sq, Boston, MA / Grade K0** Search Again

Below are your eligible schools. Click the 'Views' buttons to see more information, or click the column headings to sort the listings. You can also view your eligible schools on a map by clicking the map icon at right.

Views: Overview | Transportation | Admissions

	School Name	*Transportation Eligibility*	*Distance*	*Walk Time**	*Drive Time**	
	Quincy Elementary *885 Washington Street, Boston*	School Bus	0.74 mi	14 min	4 min	View
	Blackstone Elementary *380 Shawmut Avenue, Boston*	School Bus	1.35 mi		8 min	View
	East Boston EEC *135 Gove Street, East Boston*	School Bus	1.42 mi		9 min	View
	Mason Elementary *150 Norfolk Avenue, Roxbury*	School Bus	2.28 mi		14 min	View

Map View



My Favorites

To create a customized list of your top schools, click the star button beside each listing.

simple, beautiful, and easy to use

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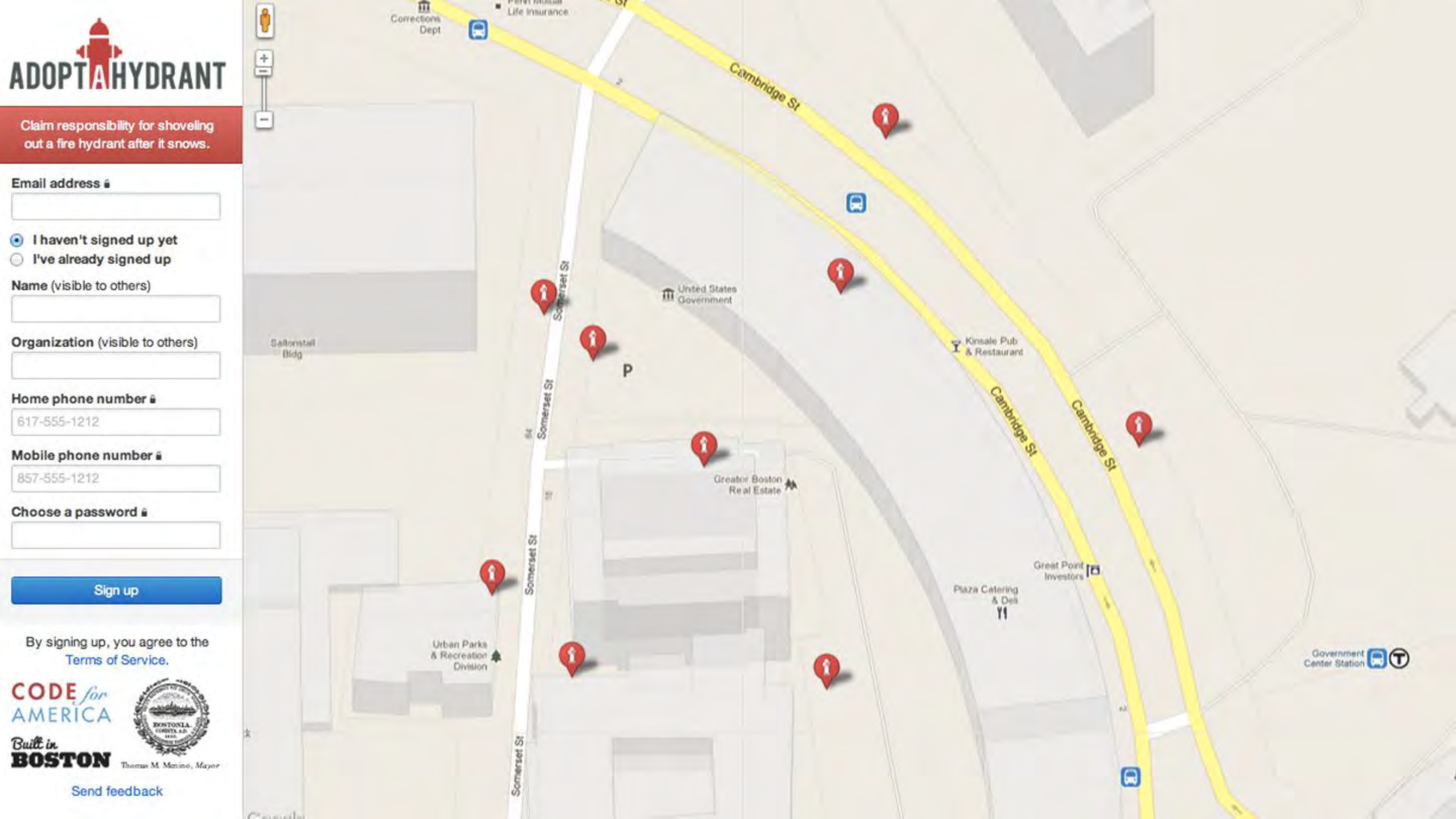
ADOPT A HYDRANT
Claim responsibility for shoveling out a fire hydrant after it snows.
Email address
I haven't signed up yet
I've already signed up
Name (visible to others)
Organization (visible to others)
Home phone number
617-555-1212
Mobile phone number
857-555-1212
Choose a password
Sign up
By signing up, you agree to the Terms of Service.
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Built in BOSTON
Thomas M. Menino, Mayor
Send feedback
Cambridge St
Somerset St
Corrections Dept
United States Government
Kinsale Pub & Restaurant
Greater Boston Real Estate
Great Point Investors
Plaza Catering & Deli
Urban Parks & Recreation Division
Government Center Station
Saltonstall Bldg

Stout single who loves salt, shovels and sunshine.

2'8", 150 pounds. Full of life. And water.

networked government

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active citizens

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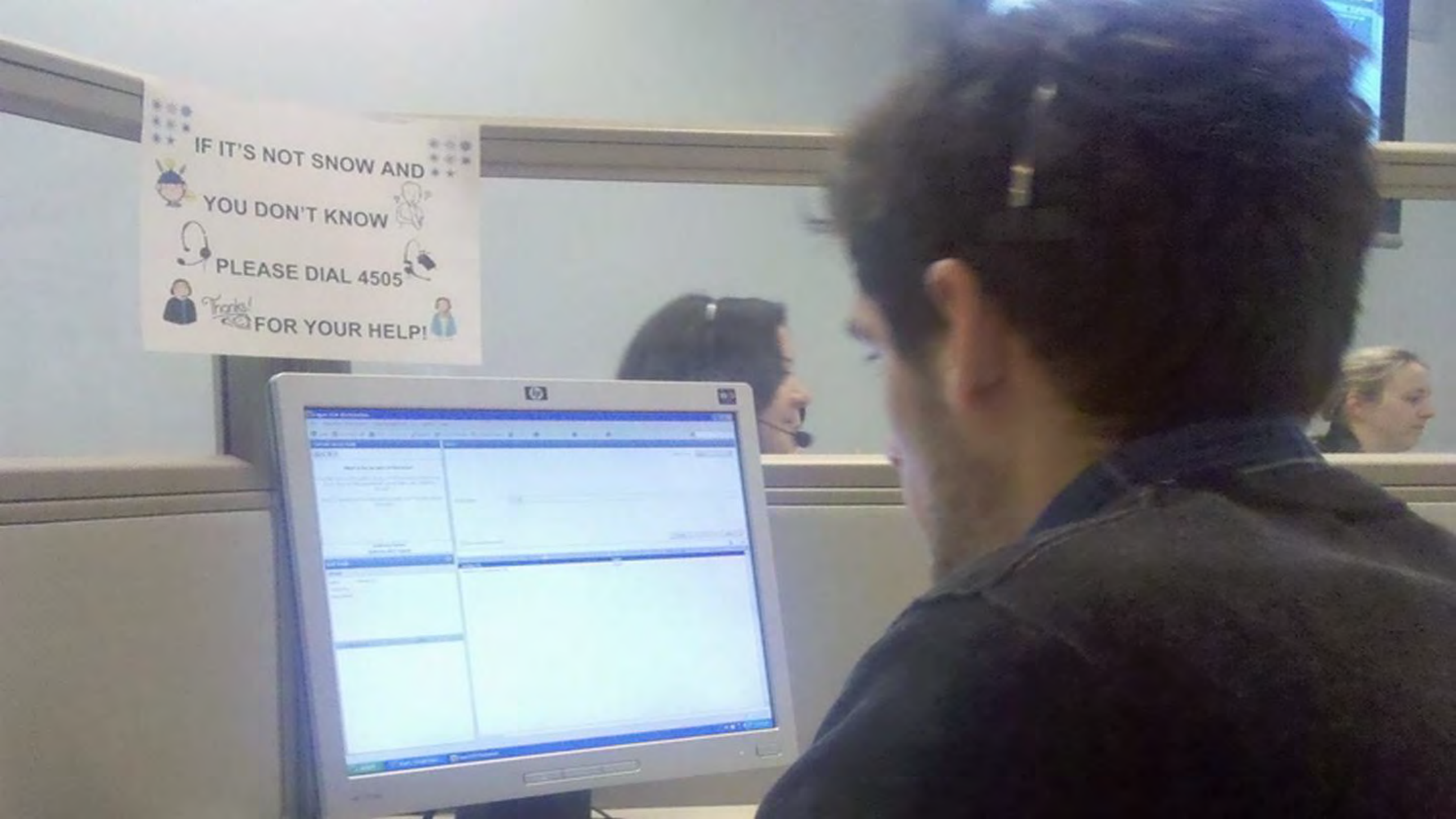
IF IT'S NOT SNOW AND
YOU DON'T KNOW
PLEASE DIAL 4505
Thanks!
FOR YOUR HELP!

Citizens **Connect**

View Reports Submit Report Learn More

Streetlight report at 164 9th Street, Boston

Closed about a month ago

Possum in my trash can. Can't tell if it's dead... How do I get this removed?

case id: 10100024603

Nearby reports

View Reports Submit Report Learn More

Powered By SPOT REPORTERS

Citizens **Connect**

View Reports Submit Report Learn More

Streetlight report at 164 9th Street, Boston

Closed about a month ago

Labandibar reports: 11:15PM Walked over to West Ninth Street... Locate trash can behind house. Possum? Check. Living? Yep. Turned the trash can on its side. Walked home. Good night, sweet possum.

Nearby reports

View Reports Submit Report Learn More

Powered By SPOT REPORTERS

government as a platform

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The Apps
Show What's Possible

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Governments *Institutionalize* Change

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What Your Government Can Do

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#1: open up data

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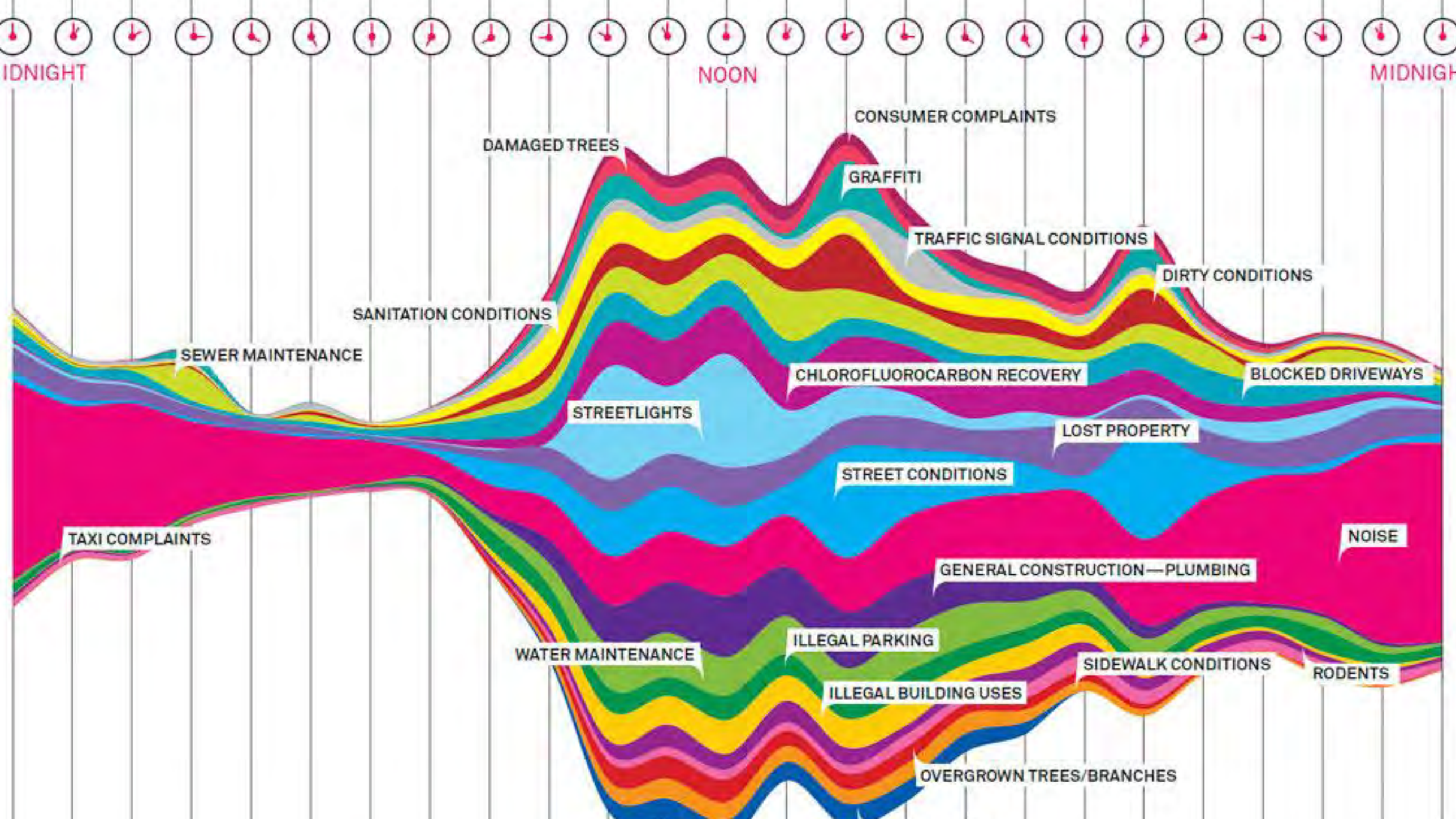
IDNIGHT
NOON
MIDNIGH
CONSUMER COMPLAINTS
DAMAGED TREES
GRAFFITI
TRAFFIC SIGNAL CONDITIONS
DIRTY CONDITIONS
SANITATION CONDITIONS
SEWER MAINTENANCE
CHLOROFLUOROCARBON RECOVERY
BLOCKED DRIVEWAYS
STREETLIGHTS
LOST PROPERTY
STREET CONDITIONS
TAXI COMPLAINTS
NOISE
GENERAL CONSTRUCTION—PLUMBING
ILLEGAL PARKING
WATER MAINTENANCE
SIDEWALK CONDITIONS
RODENTS
ILLEGAL BUILDING USES
OVERGROWN TREES/BRANCHES

Data = Economic Jet Fuel

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Socrata

Measured Voice

SeeClickFix
power to the community

NeighborGoods

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#2: set the tone & default

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Open Government Initiative

Open Government Executive Directive

Printable PDF of the Model Local Open Government Directive with Footnotes

Printable PDF of the Model Local Open Government Directive with Comments in Each Section

Version 1

January 24, 2011

[City]

Local Open Government Directive

Introduction

The [City] is committed to creating an unprecedented level of openness in government. City officials will work together and with the public to ensure open and effective government as well as public trust and establish a system of transparency, public participation, collaboration, and accountability.

default to open

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#3: share & engage

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WE the PEOPLE

YOUR **VOICE** IN OUR GOVERNMENT

NEW FEATURE

Help make We the People even better. Share your feedback on how this new platform can improve.

Share Your Feedback

Giving all Americans a way to engage their government on the issues that matter to them.

Get Started

VIEW PETITIONS | START A PETITION

Featured Petition Responses SEE ALL

- Combatting Online Piracy while Protecting an Open and Innovative Internet
- Building a 21st Century Immigration System
- Taking Action to Reduce the Burden of Student Loan Debt
- Repealing the Discriminatory Defense of Marriage Act

Hey Chicago! What would encourage you to walk, bike or take CTA more
Text your idea to:
(312) 380-0436
Terry Peterson
Ron Burke
Stan Dey
Give a Minute
Christmas Carol
GOODMAN

#4: get connected

civiccommons.org

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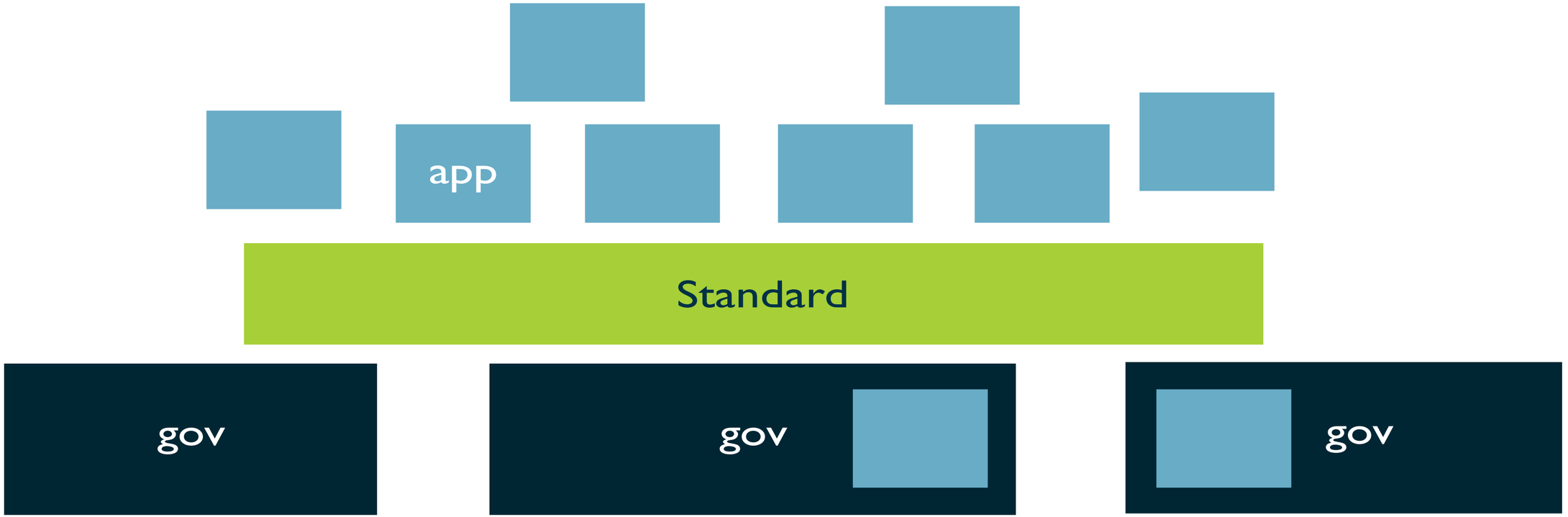
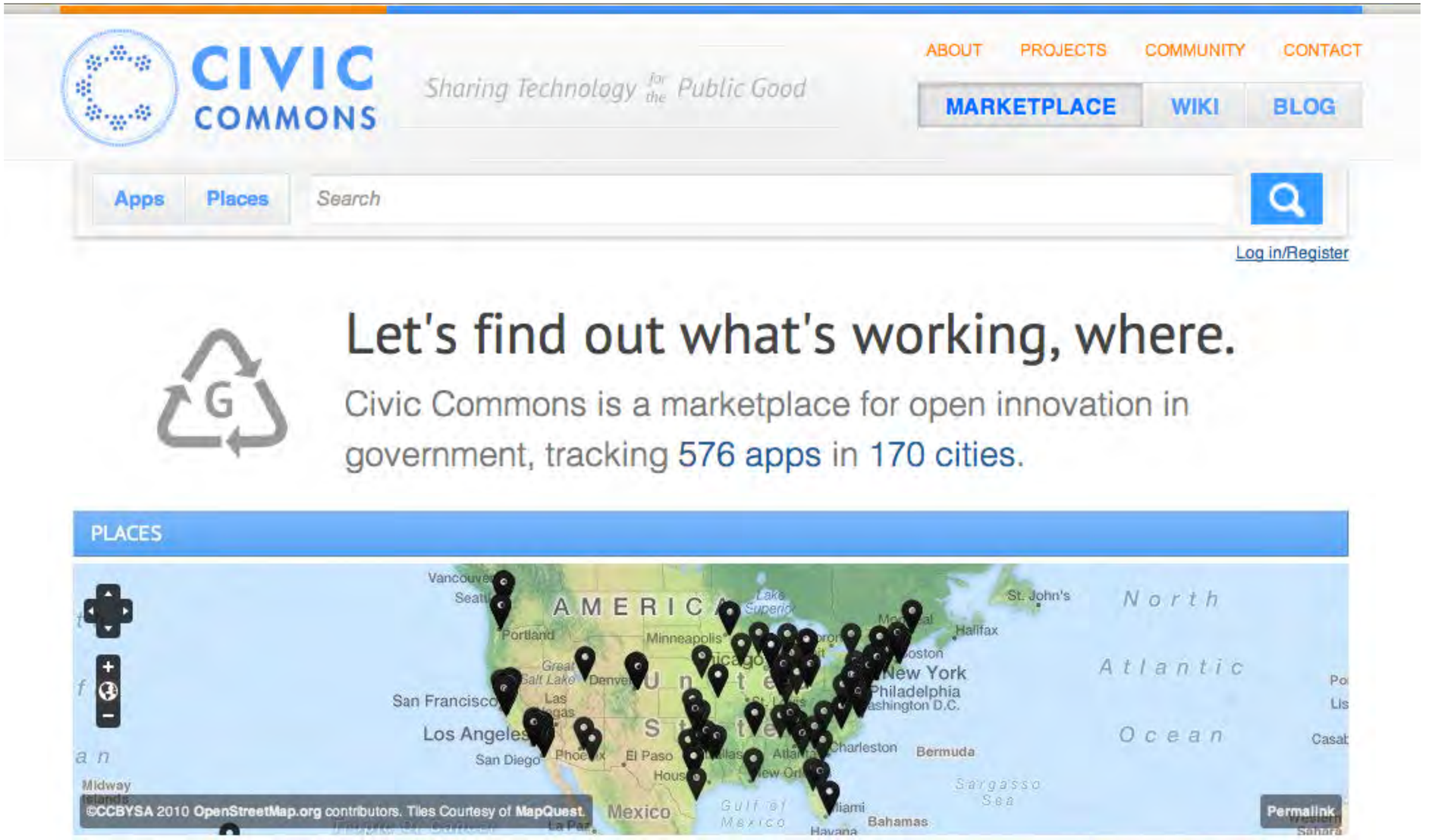
City as a Connected, Platform





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#5: just get out there.

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CODE ACROSS AMERICA: A WEEK OF CIVIC INNOVATION

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“Mysterious strangers who came and taught the city’s staff that they had the magic in them all along.”

-Jeff Friedman

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90% is just showing up.

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01010111 01100101 00100000 01110100 01101000 01100101
00100000 01010000 01100101 01101111 01110000 01101100
01100101 00100000 01101111 01100110 00100000 01110100
01101000 01100101 00100000 01010101 01101110 01101001
01110100 01100101 01100100 00100000 01010011 01110100
01100001 01110100 01100101 01110011 00101100 00100000
01101001 01101110 00100000 01001111 01110010 01100100
01100101 01110010 00100000 01110100 01101111 00100000
01100110 01101111 01110010 01101101 00100000 01100001
00100000 01101101 01101111 01110010 01100101 00100000
01110000 01100101 01110010 01100110 01100101 01100011
01110100 00100000 01010101 01101110 01101001 01101111 01101110

-James Madison

System Architect, 1787

CODE THE NEXT CHAPTER OF AMERICAN HISTORY

CODEFORAMERICA.ORG/FELLOWS

CODE *for* AMERICA