

The City of Salinas is the largest municipality of Monterey County, California, with over 155,000 inhabitants. Small in size relative to the Golden State metropolises of Los Angeles and San Francisco, Salinas is part of a big trend: going smart. Salinas was one of 100 cities to receive a grant from the Bloomberg Philanthropies initiative to improve lives through data.

THE CHALLENGE

Salinas needed a solution that would help the city:

Make government more transparent and accountable by giving residents greater insight into how government decisions are made.

Make valuable data accessible to all, including innovators and entrepreneurs.

Create smart city initiatives to support Salinas' priorities, including tackling mobility challenges.



It's not just the community that benefits. City employees now have access to what other departments are doing, the information is no longer siloed, doing their own things where they might not know what's going on in another division. Integrating the information in one place means city employees, too, can easily find data to help inform their decisions

Eric Sandoval, GIS administrator

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THE SOLUTION

The City of Salinas used its Bloomberg Philanthropies grant to develop an open data portal with Opendatasoft. The Salinas portal features:



A SINGLE DATA HUB

to store, manage, visualize, and share high volume of IoT and municipal data. Various departments (finance, geographic information systems, safety, energy and transportation operates) are now able to share and collaborate on IoT- and sensor-based data.



A STRONG STORY-TELLING APPROACH

to provide its audience with the information they're looking for. Six specific sections by center of interests have been created on the home page to guide citizens quickly and easily towards the information they need.



A SMART CITY PORTAL

to process real-time traffic data. The City of Salinas uses Waze data internally to improve congestion and make better informed urban planning decisions.



A USER-FRIENDLY INTERFACE THAT IS ACCESSIBLE BY ALL

regardless of technical knowledge or background.

find out more at www.opendatasoft.com



BENEFITS AND KEY RESULTS

Salinas chose to build its portal using the Opendatasoft technology. This collaboration enabled the city to:

INCREASE GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY AND ENCOURAGE DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS

with deeper public engagement in local government.



and boost employee collaboration.

ENCOURAGE INNOVATION AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

by using real-time data about the smart city projects and initiatives launched throughout the city.

INCREASE EFFICIENCY ACROSS PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SECTORS

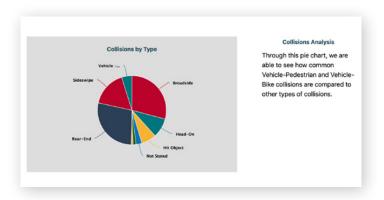
by releasing public information in a way that stakeholders can quickly and easily access and use.

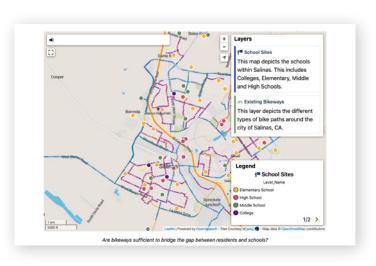


Long-term, Salinas wants to be a city that's innovative. By providing the data to entrepreneurs and developers that create apps or to researchers or students, there's a good chance those external customers, clients or coders can come up with solutions staffers wouldn't come up with on their own. We have to have the perspective that we're a startup – even if we are government.



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Check out the open data portal here: bit.ly/2Z2hfr9