Civic Switchboard
Thursday morning 11:15 – 11:45 a.m.

Civic Switchboard, supported by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), aims to develop the capacity of academic and public libraries in civic data ecosystems. It encourages partnerships between libraries and local data intermediaries to better serve data users, further democratize data, and support equitable access to information. To broaden networks and expand resources, the project team hosted a workshop with pairs of representatives from local data intermediaries and libraries from 10 cities on Tuesday, May 8 before the NNIP Atlanta Partners’ meeting.

The purpose of the session is to share progress of the Civic Switchboard project and relate experiences from the pre-meeting workshop with data intermediaries and their library counterparts.

This session will begin with James Neal, Senior Program Officer from IMLS, describing his agency and the opportunities for NNIP Partners to connect with its programs. Aaron Brennan from the University of Pittsburgh library system will then speak about the overall project, followed by two workshop participants briefly sharing what they learned.

The project team includes representation from Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, University of Pittsburgh, Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (hosted by the University of Pittsburgh Center for Social and Urban Research), and NNIP. In October, the team will reprise the workshop at the Digital Library Federation in Las Vegas. In its second year, the project will offer stipends to partnerships between libraries and local data intermediaries for field testing a toolkit for libraries interested in expanding (or beginning) their role around civic information.

Blogs

- Building Libraries into Civic Data Partnerships
- Introduction to Civic Data Ecosystems
- Libraries: Initial Outreach to Civic Data Partners
- Data Intermediary: Initial Outreach to Libraries
- Introducing Civic Switchboard

Stay in Touch

- Website: https://civic-switchboard.github.io/
- Twitter: https://twitter.com/civicswitch
- GitHub: https://github.com/orgs/civic-switchboard/
- Email: civic-switchboard@pitt.edu
Project Team

- Aaron Brenner, The University Library System (ULS) at the University of Pittsburgh
- Bob Gradeck, Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (WPRDC)
- Toby Greenwalt, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP)
- Nora Mattern, The University Library System (ULS) at the University of Pittsburgh
- Liz Monk, Western Pennsylvania Regional Data Center (WPRDC)
- Kathy Pettit, National Neighborhood Indicators Partnership (NNIP)
- Eleanor Tutt, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh (CLP)

Workshop Participants

Atlanta, GA
Georgia State University Library
Atlanta Regional Commission

Atlanta, GA
Auburn Avenue Research Library on African American Culture and History
Communities Who Know, Inc

Baltimore, MD
University of Baltimore Langsdale Library
Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance

Charlotte, NC
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library*
UNC Charlotte

Chicago, IL
Chicago Public Library*
City Tech Collaborative

Cleveland, OH
Cleveland Public Library*
Case Western Reserve University

Denver, CO
Auraria Library*
Shift Research Lab

Guilford County, NC
University of North Carolina at Greensboro
Guilford County Government

Nashville, TN
Owen Graduate School of Management
Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County

Oakland, CA
Laney Community College*
Urban Strategies Council

South Bend, IN
Hesburgh Libraries, University of Notre Dame*
University of Notre Dame

Southern Tier Region of New York State
Mann Library (Cornell University Library)
Human Services Coalition of Tompkins County

*Guest participants at NNIP Atlanta meeting