**Tactical Data Engagement: Camp Session I**

**NNIP Camp October 2017**

**Leader:** Katya Abazajian

**Notes:** Olivia Arena

**Participants:**

Amy Confair, Philly

Brian Waldron, Memphis

Unai Miguel Andres, Polis

Jessica Rosenthal, IUPR

Sharon Kandris, Polis

Kevin Miller, Microsoft

David Long, Population Lab (Madison)

Kavya Shankar, Polis

Katya: More information on the guide. Super quick recap. We have this guide, it’s 4 steps, tactics used to complete each step. Look [here](https://sunlightfoundation.com/taxonomy/term/tactical-data-engagement/) for more information. We are looking for partners or potential sites.

Brian, Memphis: Interested in it because we work a lot with local government, seen by them as the data people and analysts. Better understand what TDE is.

Olivia, Urban Institute: interested in tactical culture.

Amy, Philly: More that we could do with open data and we want to be a service with the city and trying to figure out how and in what way.

Alejandro: Client is the City of Dallas and looking to help that relationship.

Jessica Rosenthal: Student and Research assistant.

Kavya: Call myself a data analyst and we work with local government, so like to see how that works.

Unai: Recently started, creating research can be used in community and how that can be used, how can we increase impact.

Sharon: Fairly hard to use data out of open data portal. How to use that and be a service. How do we partner and make city data more accessible?

Kevin Miller, Microsoft: Most of my career is public sector working on issues of open data. From a current perspective, our team works in 12 different cities looking at data and community impact. Happy to be an amplification to get the word out about a good tool.

David Long: Population lab, respond like local business, looking to us as data intermediary. We look at our outputs, cited and circulated, website hits, seeing how that impact looks

Katya: See the city of a client. One aspect of the first step is to start from a blank slate and we don’t know what to do with open data but we want it to be better. It’s great to start a foundation instead of being on hand as a resource.

Brian: Innovate Memphis, they define the focus areas based on the Mayor. We see some loopback. Agenda moves based on election cycle. City 🡪 Innovate Memphis 🡪 How data supports the answering of that question. We determine the analysis needed to answer that question. Once a month.

Katya: Aim for the impact to be short-term. Glendale project is 6 months. Quick turnaround. You shouldn’t have to build a large solution to crime, but use knowledge to limit the scope to address what you are talking about.

Katya: Process will work if the goal is for residents in the community to use open data, activist group. Glendale analyzes public records requests, planning and neighborhood services. City needed to know how people use information. They are prototyping a page as a contextualization tool, hub for real estate professionals in the community. Explanatory and links. Compile these data sets to you. User testing with those folks, building the page, uploading the page.

Katya: applicable to a data provider, issue area that you would dive into with the community> gerrymandering, at the county scale, picked up. Healthcare coverage. With the Madison stuff we are in a responsive role.

Katya: Does your city value resident feedback?

* Open data portals, but use depends on who on city council
* Don’t know if data we show is actually in the portal

Kevin: Cities generally have mixed sentiment about cloud vs. not. It’s secure. In terms of open data specifically, we are not providing open data solutions.

Katya: Cities are coming around to the open data portals. Cities might be reluctant in person to share information but are releasing data through a portal because it’s the right thing to do. It gives data intermediaries an “in”. If they have an open data portal it’s a waste if it’s not used.

Brian: Commonality, we all do our operations, we are seeing regional open data portal and distributing cost

Katya: Use github, suggest co-creating on

Olivia: NNIP Github?

David: Madison—open transit data

Katya: Wanted to avoid sending out data and getting back products. Didn’t want to send it out to coders. Required to ground-truth at every step. Want to be in the room for the conversation with tech. Open to civic tech.

Alejandro: No Code for America Brigade. Want one in Dallas.

David: That relationship feels weird. You just assigned a score to a neighborhood without any information or context. Best practice in terms of that.

Katya: Partnerships are hard to define but so important.

Olivia: Housing Insights. <http://housinginsights.org/>

Katya: Reverse map our process—Identify shared priorities. Researchers at Urban knew affordable housing. Had contacts at the City, interested in affordable housing subsidized. Refining use cases, product manager user testing, Code for DC, did their background on use cases. Recurring meetings to collaboratively plan, stakeholders represented. Had members from Housing department. Built with brigade and Urban.

Brian: high impact data is harder to get. Who owns a meter? Health data has to be aggregated. How do you deal with secure or critical data but allow it to be open source.

Brian: Depends on who you bring it to. They give us the need and we can give them the code. Becomes a long process.

Kavya: When we send out information, don’t have county-level information. Excel with information, send us shapefiles. That’s the way we share data in counties.

Brian: If they give us an excel file. We will process it and then give it back to him. We will give you back something better.

Kavya: We process it and share it with the communities.

Katya: Recognize the value of you if you give you something back.

Amy: Yeah, any partner is.

Unai: We work with rural counties and they may not have a city, unincorporated communities. Struggle comes from the rural counties, don’t have internet. No user-friendly way of them sharing data with us. Most don’t even know what we are talking about when we say open data.

Brian: Government is more open to working with university, more independent.

Katya: Cities want you to take their open data, make it better, and then make it public. Cities don’t know where to start. When you think that they work retroactively. They don’t think proactively vs putting out fires. Value proposition is important.

Unai: Who updates the data? Who pays for that? We have to account for time? How do we fund that?

Katya: The structure would work better where there is an open data program. Collaborative portals.