

PressRelease

For Immediate Release: May 12, 2011



THE OFFICE OF
ENTERPRISE TECHNOLOGY
STATE OF MINNESOTA

CONTACT:

Cathy de Moll, Director of Communications

651-556-8002

Cathy.de.moll@state.mn.us

658 Cedar Street

Saint Paul, MN 55105

www.oet.state.mn.us

New state website promotes better citizen access to state government public data

St Paul, MN – The Dayton Administration today announced the launch of the State’s new Minnesota Open Data website, another step in the State’s efforts to create a better government for a better Minnesota. The website will help state government be more open, accessible and accountable to Minnesotans.

Located on Minnesota’s North Star state portal, [Minnesota Open Data](#) links to a variety of public data that are already collected by state agencies and makes them easier to find and more clearly lays out the resources and information available to Minnesotans.

Governor Mark Dayton’s Chief of Staff Tina Smith, who heads the governor’s better government initiatives, said: “When we make state public data simple to find and easy to use, we promote good government, good citizenship and good business. A one-stop-shop for data is just one more way we’re making government more open and accessible.”

While the State of Minnesota collects and analyzes large amounts of public data about the state and state government, it can be hard to find across 2300 state websites. A single “roadmap” of this information, sorted by subject category rather than agency, allows the information to be used in a variety of creative ways, including data analysis for local governments and citizen groups, and application developers’ use of state data to create mobile applications. Ready access to state public information also contributes to the transparency of state government, allowing citizens a window into state operations.

Compiling this data into a ‘one-stop -shop’ for information will allow the public access to data at their fingertips, and encourage the creative use of data beyond government, for example in online applications (‘apps’).

Minnesota Open Data is maintained by the Office of Enterprise Technology, with input from data architects from across the executive branch.

###