Metadata Standards for NYC Geospatial Data

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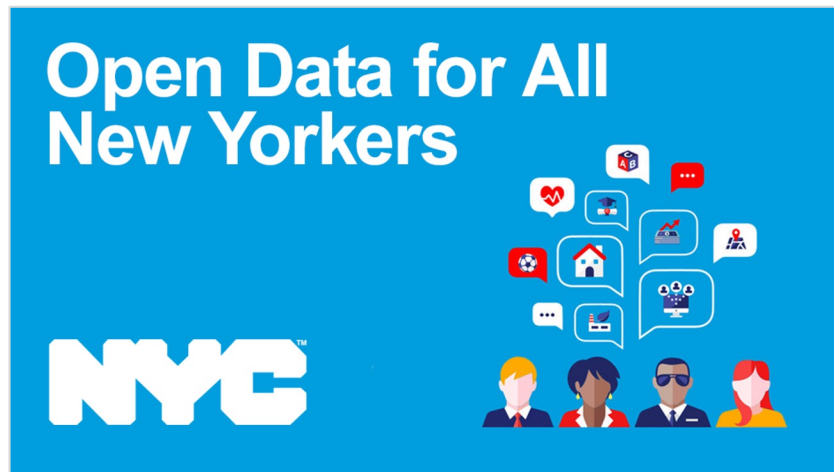cnicklin@oti.nyc.gov

About the Office of Data Analytics (ODA)

- ODA works with City agencies and their data to help serve New Yorkers more equitably and effectively.

- Our work takes three main forms:

OPEN DATA	Making NYC Open Data more accessible to New Yorkers
ANALYTICS	Analyzing data to improve City agency operations
DATA OPS	Advancing citywide data infrastructure, integration, and sharing

Open Data

- ODA manages the City's Open Data Program.

  - NYC Open Data Law passed in 2012

  - More than 3,000 datasets

  - Made possible by a network of approximately 100 Open Data Coordinators across City entities

  - More than 1.5 million visitors in 2020

Data Documentation

Documentation is a love letter that you write to your future self.

- Damian Conway -

And to other users of your data

Examples of Data Documentation
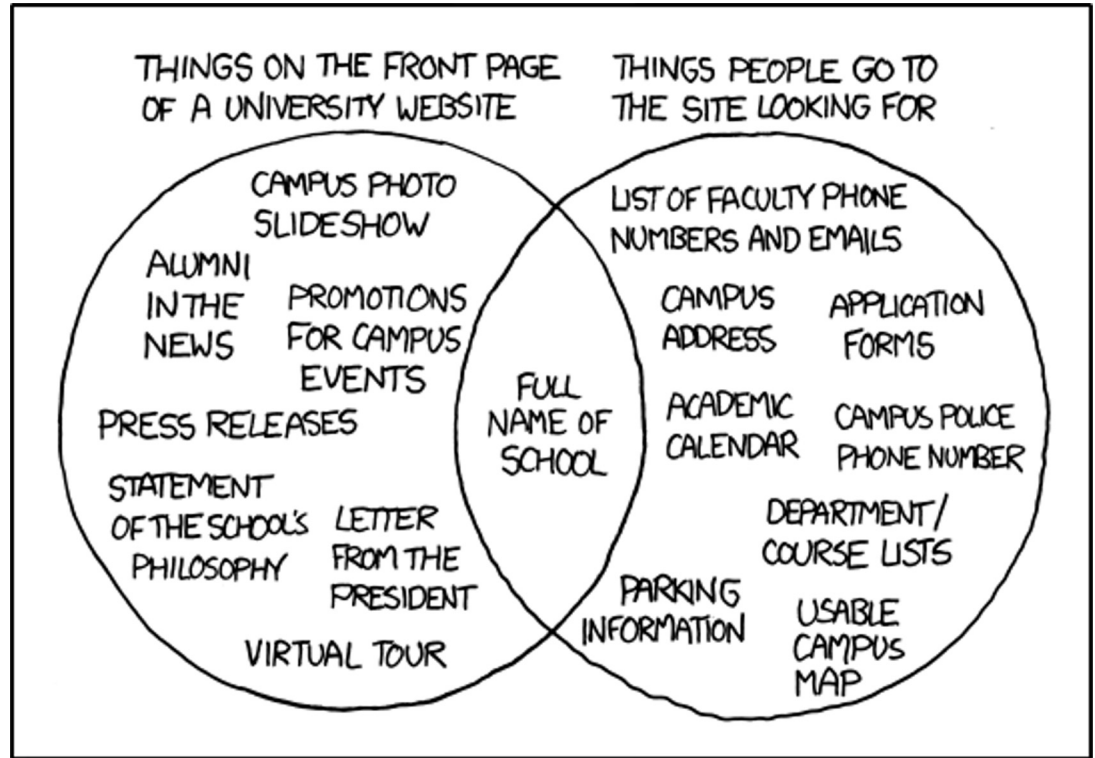
User documentation

- Narrative user guides
- Release notes
- Data catalog
- Data Dictionary

Technical documentation

- Database diagrams
- README file
- Release notes
- Comments in the code

Usability

a measure of how well a specific user in a specific context can use a product/design to achieve a defined goal effectively, efficiently and satisfactorily

https://xkcd.com/773/

Data Documentation Details

This data was not created just for you. How was it collected?

Image: NYC Department of Buildings

Data Documentation Details

What should a data analyst know about the data?

Image: Bagby Elevator Company

Data Dictionary for Geospatial Data Assets

NYC Analytics

DRAFT

Data Dictionary for Geospatial Data Assets - Dataset Information

Dataset Name	
Data Provided by *The name of the agency providing this data to the public.*	
Dataset Location *A direct URL to the data, if possible. Otherwise, a description of where it's located.*	
Each row is a... *The unit of analysis/level of aggregation of the dataset.*	
Dataset Description *Overview of the information this dataset contains, including overall context and definitions of key terms. This field may include links to supporting datasets, agency websites, or external resources for additional context.*	
Horizontal Coordinate System *The Office of Technology & Innovation recommends using New York State Plane Coordinate System, Long Island Zone as the primary map coordinate system for geospatial data within New York City.*	Suggested values include: The New York State Plane Coordinate System, Long Island Zone Web Mercator projection
Spatial Coverage *Describe the boundaries of the geographies included in the data. Does it only include the 5 boroughs? Does it include parts of the NYC Metro area?*	
Why is this data collected? *Purpose behind the collection of this data, including any legal or policy requirements for this data by NYC Executive Order, Local Law, or other policy directive.*	
How is this data collected? *The methods used to create and update this dataset, including what cleaning or processing*	

NYC Analytics

Q&A / Contact Info

Feedback Requested:
https://tinyurl.com/yurrscm5

Website: nyc.gov/analytics
Twitter: @NYCAnalytics

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