INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES
TRANSPARENCY PLAN UPDATE
February 21, 2024

The Office of Information Technology Services (ITS) created a working group to review agency policies and procedures on transparency in accordance with Governor Hochul's call to action. The working group identified several opportunities for ITS to improve transparency and adopted the ITS Transparency Plan on October 20, 2021. The plan was updated on January 10, 2023. A sample of specific accomplishments and new initiatives to be implemented are found herein.

DELIVERABLES ACHIEVED SINCE 2021

Review and Publication of Information: The ITS review and publication of information initiative was successful and remains ongoing as more responses to FOIL requests, bid openings, and policies are being shared publicly than ever before. ITS reviews each response to FOIL requests to determine whether it is a common request or of particular interest to the public. When this criterion is met, the responsive documents are posted on the ITS website at the following address: https://its.ny.gov/foil. Additionally, ITS conducts quarterly reviews to ensure that internal policies meeting similar criteria are also posted publicly at the following address: https://its.ny.gov/policies.

Open Data: ITS introduced multiple initiatives that will prove beneficial to the public and state agencies. To promote the use of the new and improved Open Data website, the Open Data team increased outreach to covered agencies and authorities and updated their training. ITS also revised the Open Data User Guide which was published in tandem with the 10th anniversary of the program. The website and Open Data User Guide can be found at the following address: https://data.ny.gov/.

ITS worked to build better awareness of the Open Data program via a variety of communication channels, including X (formerly Twitter) and the ITS website. ITS now shares quarterly reports on Open Data through these social media postings.

Project Sunlight: As part of the effort to increase agency awareness of Project Sunlight, ITS reviewed and improved training requirements and revised the Project Sunlight policy. The internal processes for and awareness of the Project Sunlight reporters list were improved to ensure covered employees and support staff have more frequent exposure to the program requirements.

INITIATIVES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN 2024

Artificial Intelligence: ITS recently publicly posted a newly adopted policy regarding State Entity use of Artificial Intelligence. ITS will create a database that shows State Entity use of Artificial Intelligence, where feasible, and it will be shared publicly on the ITS website. Additionally, documents requested via FOIL regarding uses of Artificial Intelligence will be shared on the ITS website, where the established criterion is met.