Lopez, Donna

From: Saul Tannenbaum [saul@tannenbaum.org]
Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 12:30 AM
To: City Council
Cc: Lopez, Donna
Subject: City Manager Agenda #8, making restaurant inspection data on the web

I write to respond to the Manager's response to Awaiting Report Item Numbers 13-12 and 13-28, regarding Code for America Peer Network program, authored by Chief Information Manager Mary Hart.

The response says:

> The Peer Network is in a "closed beta". COA offered free membership to Founding Members to help them develop the program. When the program is launch for general participation it will have a cost associated with membership.

But the original order's intent was to investigate putting the City's restaurant inspection on the web in a standard form being developed by COA and others:

> WHEREAS: In making restaurant inspection raw data available for public use, the City of Cambridge will empower its citizens to choose local eateries that prioritize proper food preparation procedures, resulting in heightened adherence to these standards in restaurants across the city; and
>
> WHEREAS: Providing this data in raw form to the public would give the City of Cambridge a great opportunity to put its immense amount of data, innovation, and great minds to work to promote the health and well-being of our residents; now therefore be it

The Manager's answer is non-responsive to the underlying goal of the Council's request: putting restaurant data on the web.

I urge the Council to reject the Manager's response and request that he return to the Council with a plan to place City restaurant inspection data on the web using the standard developed by Code for American and its partners.

Saul Tannenbaum
16 Cottage St.

cc: City Clerk Donna Lopez, for inclusion in the Council records
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