Coeur d'Alene launches OpenGov accountability tool

Sam Taylor, deputy city administrator

The City of Coeur d'Alene is proud to announce a new, interactive online <u>financial transparency tool</u> for the community in partnership with <u>OpenGov</u>, the leader in government performance management.

The launch of the tool now allows the City to share its preliminary FY 2017-18 preliminary budget with the community in a new, interactive way. The proposal, which will be considered for final adoption by the City Council in September, includes no proposed property tax increase while adding a new police detective, enhancing street maintenance, and funds to conduct the first ever, community-wide survey on how the City provides public services.

Coeur d'Alene's new cloud-based OpenGov website allows community members to see City budget and financial transaction information with a simple, visual interface. The platform, powered by OpenGov's Smart Government Cloud[™], will increase government accountability and improve access to important public information including monthly and annual financial reports along with answering frequently asked questions such as "<u>How much does the City spend on Public Safety?</u>". The City has worked hard in the last year to more effectively engage the community and improve transparency through modern technology, and OpenGov is one new tool to make that happen.

"Coeur d'Alene is committed to being an open and transparent city," said Mayor Steve Widmyer, "and we are very proud to be able to use OpenGov as an innovative way to ensure our community members know how we are managing their finances."

OpenGov will allow citizens to not only review reports digitally, but download the data to review and even share it over email or social media.

Coeur d'Alene is also using the OpenGov platform to empower City staff and officials to conduct better analysis and performance measurement by improving access to key financial data.

"We're excited to partner with Coeur d'Alene to harness the power of technology to increase government effectiveness and accountability," said OpenGov CEO Zac Bookman. "Whether repaving the city's streets or remodeling City Hall, public officials are now able to easily report and track financial information, and local residents can see how their tax dollars are being spent."

Coeur d'Alene, with a population of more than 50,000 residents, is just the third Idaho city to utilize this innovative platform, and joins a growing number of local governments nationwide who rely on OpenGov's next generation cloud software. The City of Boston recently launched its updated Open Data platform, "Analyze Boston" supported by the OpenGov Smart Government Cloud, and both the City of Newport and the City of Phoenix recently announced their own transparency efforts propelled by OpenGov.

Coeur d'Alene's OpenGov platform can be viewed at: cdaid.org/opengov.

About Coeur d'Alene, ID

Coeur d'Alene is a thriving North Idaho community known as the "City of Excellence." The lakeside city

continues to attract national attention for its beautiful scenery and unparalleled hospitality, as well as its progressive mindset that nurtures healthy growth and is welcoming to all.

About OpenGov

<u>OpenGov</u> is the leader in government performance management, with easy-to-use cloud software for better budgeting, improved operational intelligence, and comprehensive open data. OpenGov solutions give governments the right tools and relevant data for more informed decision-making and better outcomes for the public.

Over 1,500 public agencies in 48 states are part of the growing OpenGov network. Founded in 2012, OpenGov customers include the State Treasurer of Ohio, the city of Minneapolis, MN; Maricopa County, AZ; and Washington, DC. OpenGov is backed by Andreessen Horowitz, Emerson Collective, 8VC, and Thrive Capital and has headquarters in Redwood City, CA.