



**Commissioner Carole Post's Remarks: Intro 29-A/Open Data Bill Signing Ceremony**  
**March 7, 2012**

Thank you, Mayor Bloomberg, and good afternoon.

For the past decade this Administration has made government transparency commonplace, widespread and sustainable.

Before Mayor Bloomberg took office, there was no 311. Arguably the single most effective way to access government information and services, 311 is now the gold standard in government accessibility – and it celebrates its 9<sup>th</sup> birthday this week.

There was no Citywide Performance Reporting, which each month updates 500 measures of agency performance, letting users compare trends across past years and directly download raw data.

There was no NYC BigApps competition and no Open Data portal to support it, let alone the nearly 800 data sets available there today to anyone, anywhere, at anytime, free of charge.

And there weren't any of a myriad of publicly-available tools that allow New Yorkers to learn more about their City – and how their City works – than ever before.

Intro 29-A is the next logical step in the march toward government transparency.

We welcome the new era of open government that it will create, the innovation of publishing this data that it will require, and the commitment to deliver that it will demand.

I thank Mayor Bloomberg for his leadership on this matter. He has many times reminded the public, and the agencies that serve them, that government data belongs to the people.

Intro 29-A will codify this ideal for future administrations and future generations.

I thank Deputy Mayor Holloway and my colleagues across the City for their support.

I thank the New York City Transparency Working Group, and its member organizations for participating in the process to help inform and shape a bill we can be proud of.

I would like to especially thank Council Member Gale Brewer for her tireless work and advocacy for a government that can work better and smarter through technology. I don't know where she gets the energy, but New Yorkers continue to benefit from her spirit and her commitment to the things she cares deeply about.

We look forward to helping implement this legislation and to unlocking a whole new window into government access and transparency.

Thank you.