



Fighting Urban Blight in NYS's Capital Region and Mohawk Valley *Project Update*

Research and Practice in Progress Briefing on Local Government in New York 2019

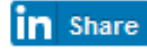
JOHN COLUCCIO, SIGNAL SUPERINTENDENT, CITY OF SCHENECTADY

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Four Cities Kick off Effort to Combat Urban Blight with New York Department of State Local Government Efficiency Grant



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Build a Shared Information Resource Among NYS Cities



DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Local Government Efficiency Program

Municipal Restructuring Fund



The Community Officials Data Exchange (C.O.D.E)

Local Governments Working Together to Effectively Fight Blight

The C.O.D.E is a dedicated resource for local governments to share code enforcement information for the purposes of informing the prevention, mitigation, and resolution of property blight.

The C.O.D.E brings together data and provides a sharing platform so that local government leaders can :

- Search and link data (owners, agents, landlords, and properties from across local governments)
- Perform analytics and create visualizations
- Learn code enforcement processes in other local governments

The C.O.D.E was envisioned and spearheaded by the Cities of Schenectady, NY, Amsterdam, NY and Gloversville, NY and funded by the New York Department of State.

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Combating Blighted Properties

- ▶ Blighted properties are costly for NYS communities.
- ▶ Currently there is limited to no access to timely and accurate data on properties, property owners and landlords as well as information on how critical programs are carried out in within each jurisdiction.
- ▶ There is no way to share this information across jurisdictions so that leaders can use it to inform decision making.



Challenges

- ▶ **There are real challenges associated with obtaining the data needed to inform policy and decision making at the local, regional, and statewide levels.**
 - Non-standard data collection (i.e. format)
 - Half paper/half electronic data collection, management, and storage
 - Lack relational and easily searchable and visual data
 - Limited information sharing within departments
 - Little-to-no information sharing among jurisdictions
 - Incomplete critical datasets



Two Main Goals

Build the organizational and technical capability carry out code enforcement programs and ability to collect, manage, and use data within each city.

Share data across municipalities to:

- Identify problem property owners/actors
- Analyze and run reports of available data
- Build a community of information sharing



City Functions: 8 Programs Of Work Identified as Critical to Prevent, Mitigate and Resolve Blighted Properties	Program Description
Building Permitting	To identify, approve, track, and monitor changes/enhancements to all structures in the city
Code Violation and Enforcement	To identify violations, issue tickets, and prescribe reparations (fees & timeframe for compliance)
Demolition Management	To identify and manage the properties in need of and ready demolition
Vacant Property Management	To identify, track, & monitor vacant properties in the city
Landlord Registration	To identify, register, and monitor landlords in the city
Rental Unit Certificate	To identify rental units in the city and certify compliance with all city & state codes
Foreclosure Management	To identify and manage all properties that are ready for the foreclosure process
Public Assembly Inspections	To identify areas of public assembly, and certify compliance with all city & state codes

Focus on Data-Collection, Management, Sharing and Use



Code Violation/Complaint Categories

- ▶ Electrical (system hazards, electrical equipment, installation, receptacles, wiring, etc.)
- ▶ Exterior Property (handrails, guardrails, decks, premise identity, sanitation, grading, drainage, etc.)
- ▶ Exterior Structure
- ▶ Heat
- ▶ Illegal Burning/Fire Pits
- ▶ Infestation (rats, mice, bugs, etc.)
- ▶ Interior Structure
- ▶ Junk Vehicle
- ▶ Life Safety (fire safety, means of egress, etc.)
- ▶ Livestock/Animals
- ▶ Mechanical (safety controls, energy conservation devices, mechanical appliances, etc.)

Permit Categories

- ▶ Building Residential
- ▶ Building Commercial
- ▶ Demolition
- ▶ Electrical
- ▶ Equipment
- ▶ Generators
- ▶ Hazmat/Mercantile
- ▶ Heating/Appliance/HVAC
- ▶ Junk Vehicle
- ▶ New Commercial
- ▶ New Single Family
- ▶ Plumbing
- ▶ Public Assembly



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The Community Officials Data Exchange

Search



Search and link data (owners, agents, landlords, and properties from across C.O.D.E members)

Analytics



Perform analytics and create visualizations using data from C.O.D.E members

Resources



Learn how code enforcement processes are carried out in other local governments

Help



Information and help in navigating the C.O.D.E

Identifying a Problem Actor to Take Action



- ▶ To identify an Actor (Owner, Agent, Landlord, Contractor)
- ▶ Search and link by:
 - ✓ By Name (individual, LLC)
 - ✓ By Mailing address
 - ✓ By Property address
 - ✓ By Legal address
- ▶ Uses data from jurisdictions that are members of the C.O.D.E.
- ▶ Link actors who show a connection (properties, mailing address, legal address) so that the jurisdiction can have more information to take action!

▶ Current Data Sources

- Real Property Data
- Municipal Code Enforcement Data
- Municipal Vacant Property Data
- Municipal Tax Data
- Open Data Set (NYS LLCs)

▶ In Progress Datasets

- Open Data LLC – other US states
- Regional police and fire

Name: Eagle LLC

Created By:

Last Updated: Mar 11, 2019

Total Records: 6

Municipalities

Filter
demo

Clear All Select All

- AmsterdamCityNY
- GloversvilleCityNY
- SchenectadyCityNY
- Demo
- ConnectDemo

Search

Enter Name or Address
Eagle 11

Search Append Results ¹

Contacts(16) Properties(0) NY-LLC(19)

Full Name	Type	Address	Municipality	E-mail	IsLinked
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO Box 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO BOX 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO Box 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO BOX 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		14
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO Box 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO Box 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO BOX 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		
<input type="checkbox"/> Eagle 11 LLC	OWNER	PO BOX 1694	SchenectadyCityNY		

Search

Search and link data (owners, agents, landlords, and properties from across C.O.D.E members)

Results

Load 

Map 

Graph 

Violations(0)

Complaints(0)

Permits(0)

Parcels (Owners)(15)

Parcels (Entities)(0)

Municipality	PrintKey	Owner	Address	State	City	Zip
AmsterdamCityNY (3)						
	39.73-1-49	Eagle Property Mgt, LLC	285 W Main St	NY	Amsterdam	12010
	39.73-1-49	Eagle Property Mgt, LLC	285 W Main St	NY	Amsterdam	12010
	39.73-1-49	Eagle Property Mgt, LLC	285 W Main St	NY	Amsterdam	12010
SchenectadyCityNY (12)						
	49.24-3-1	Eagle 11 LLC	599 Hamilton	NY	Schenectady	12307
	49.24-3-50	Eagle 11 LLC	601 Hamilton	NY	Schenectady	12307
	49.24-5-64	Eagle 11 LLC	748 Albany	NY	Schenectady	12307
	49.50-2-46	Eagle 11 LLC	958 Emmett	NY	Schenectady	12307

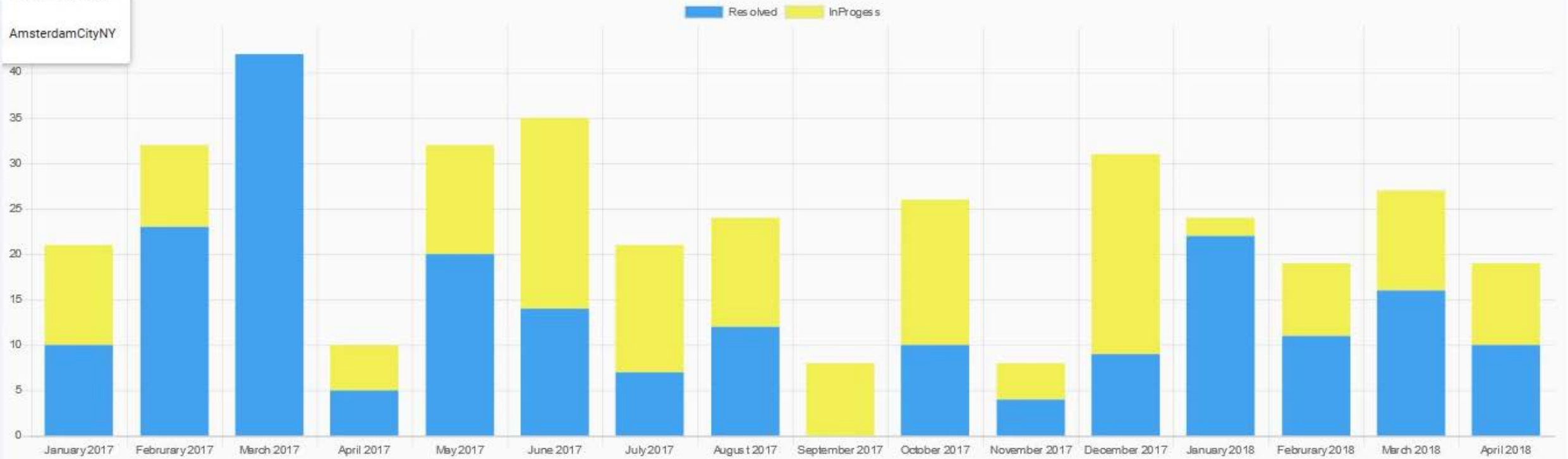
Search 

Search and link data (owners, agents, landlords, and properties from across C.O.D.E members)

Add Municipality

GloversvilleCityNY

AmsterdamCityNY



Analytics

Perform analytics and create visualizations using data from C.O.D.E members

Contact Information ▾

Fees And Fines ▾

Data Standards ▾

Permit Types

Standard permit types to organize building permits

[View ↗](#)

Violation/Complaint Types

Standard violation and complaint types to organize violations

[View ↗](#)

Resources

Learn how code enforcement processes are carried out in other local governments

Challenges

- ▶ **Building baseline technical and organizational capabilities to collect, store and manage data.**
- ▶ **Data standardization.**
- ▶ **Multiple data sources and some incomplete historical data.**
- ▶ **Gaining access to systematic feeds to complete LLC data.**

Governance

Community Officials Data Exchange (C.O.D.E) CHARTER

Article I – Purpose

Section 1:1 Name

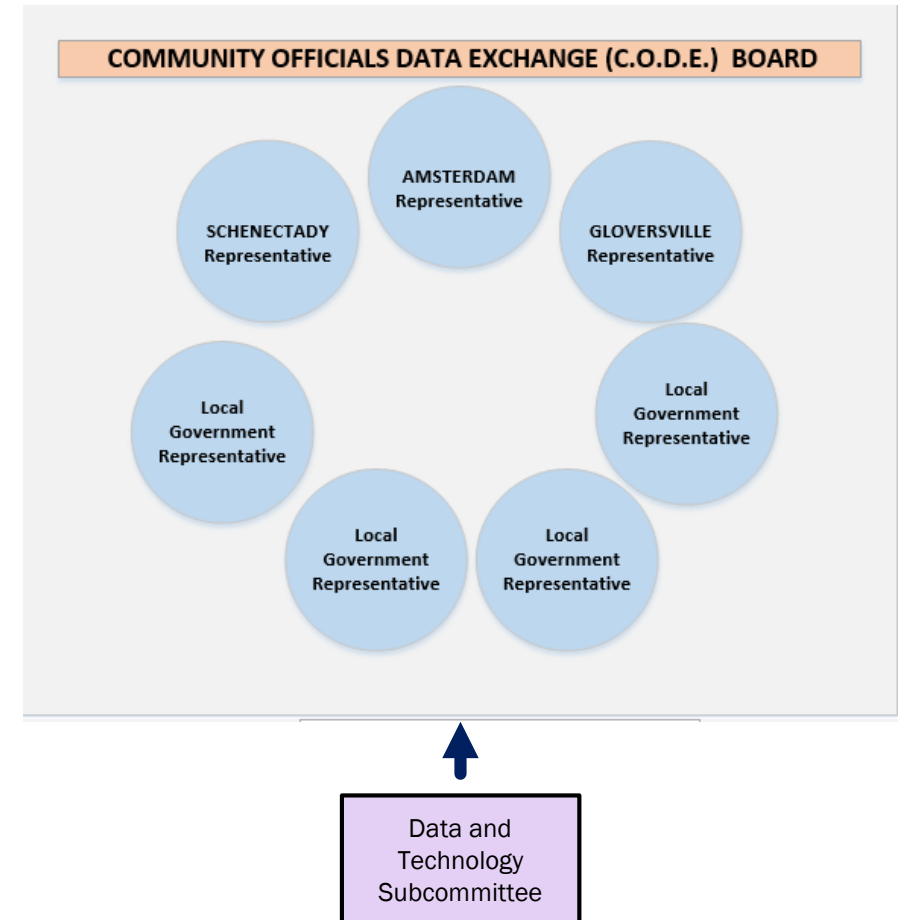
The name of the organization is the **Community Officials Data Exchange (C.O.D.E)**

Section 1:2 Mission

The Community Officials Data Exchange (C.O.D.E) is an organization, with a dedicated platform to share data among governments for the purposes of using owner and property data as well as code enforcement process information to inform both local and statewide decision making in preventing and mitigating blight in the communities throughout our state.

Article 5-G

Municipal Cooperation
(Article 5-G of the State Constitution)

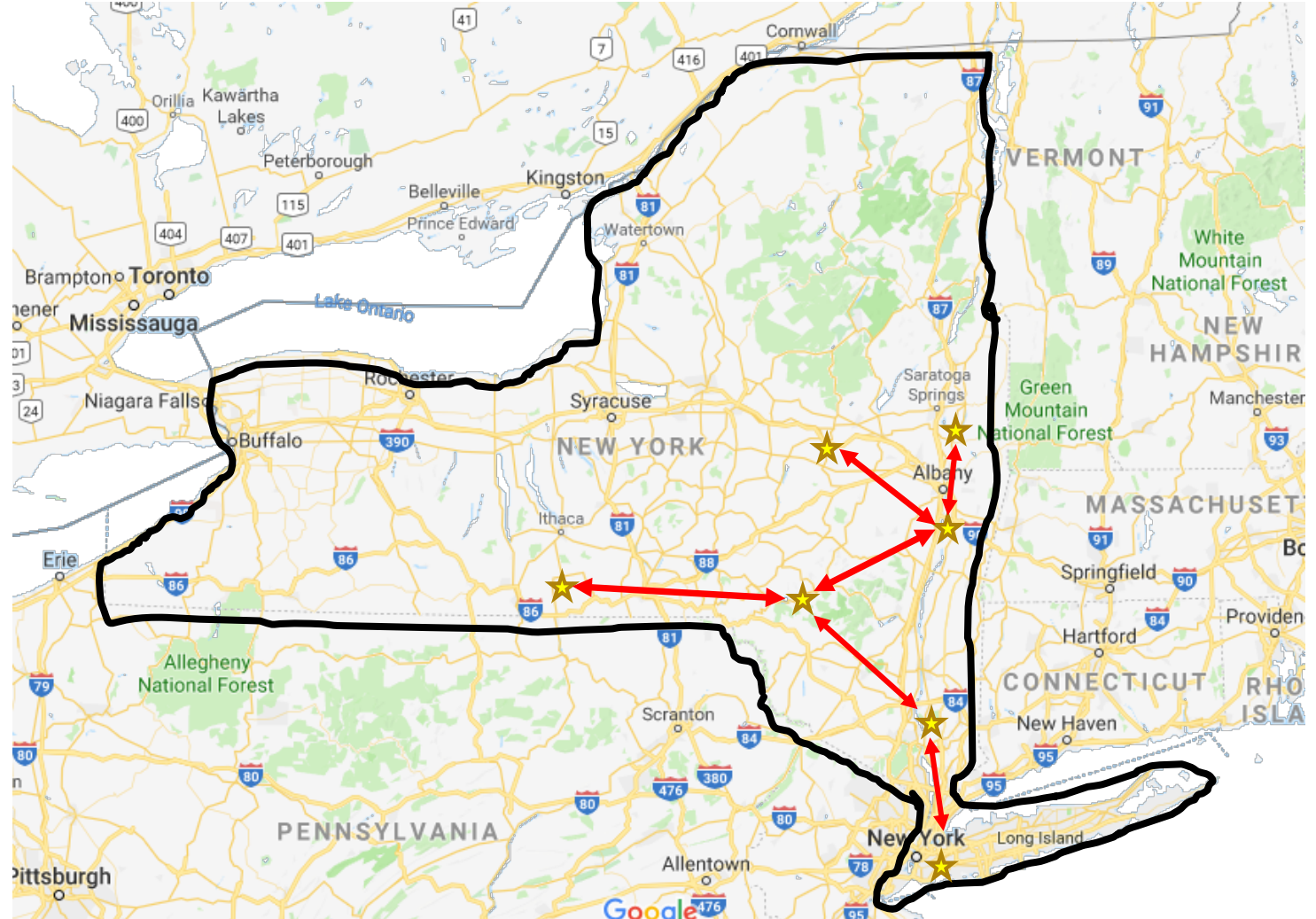


Search and Link Statewide



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- ▶ Search actors statewide
- ▶ Link actors statewide



Data Completeness and Quality

OWNER INFORMATION

Owner full name (individual, LLC, government, bank)

Owner mailing address

Name of person responsible for structure

Contact telephone number for person responsible for building

Listing of all properties assigned to owner

Listing of all properties assigned to this responsible party

PROPERTY INFORMATION

Property address

Property section/block/lot

Property type

Tax information

Property insurance company name

Property insurance company contact telephone number

Determination of Vacant

History of code violations

Status of current code violations

History of building permits

Status of current permits

- ▶ Dedicated time to developing data collection processes within the municipalities to ensure data quality.

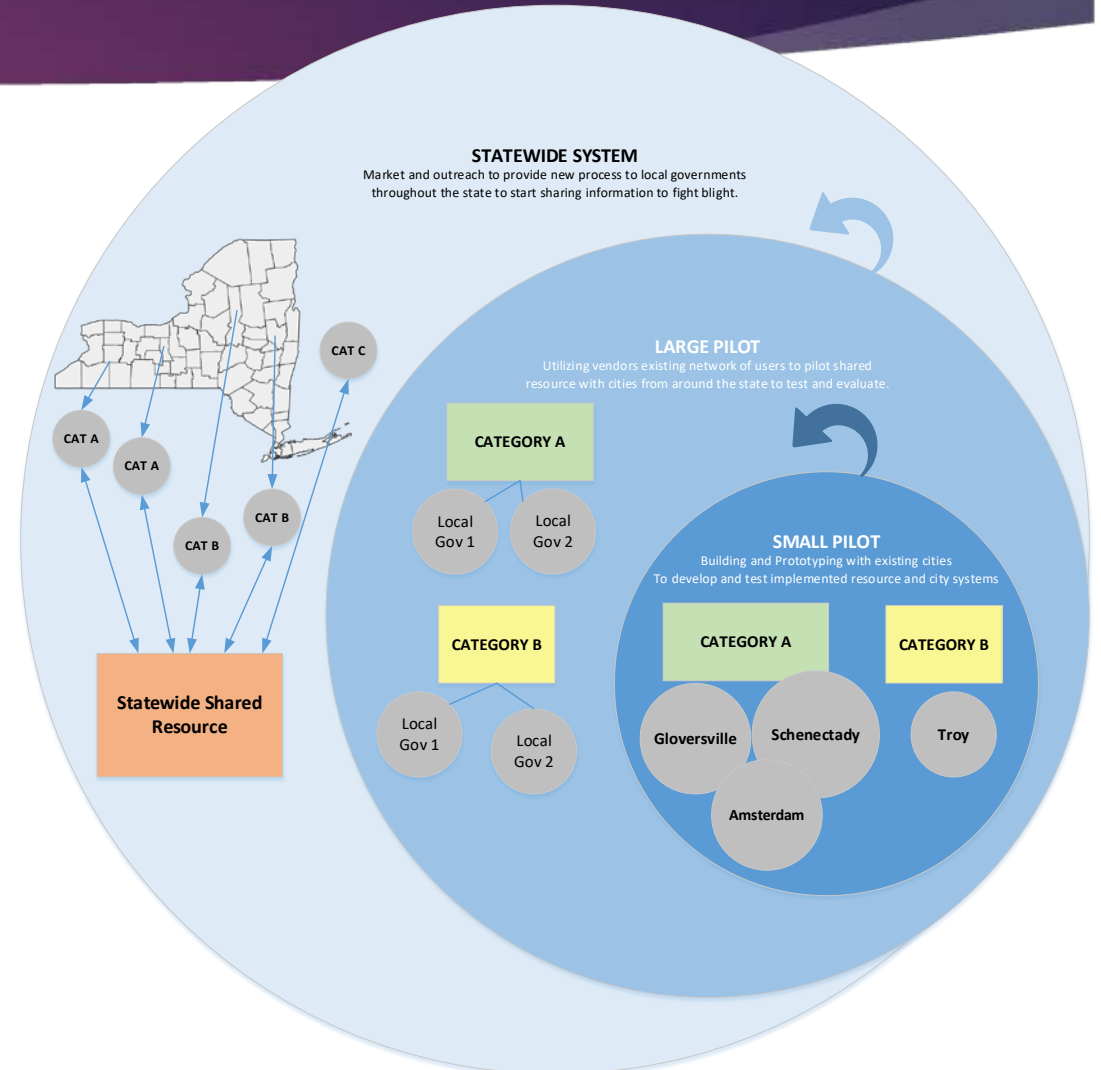
2019

- ▶ C.O.D.E. Functions Completed
- ▶ Added Datasets
- ▶ Large Pilot
- ▶ Statewide Deployment
- ▶ Systematic Governance

CATEGORY A – Local Governments that will use Muncity as the operating system and be part of the shared resource.

CATEGORY B – Local Governments that will NOT use Muncity as the operating system but will provide and access data in the shared resource.

CATEGORY C - State Agencies and non profits that want access to the data in the shared resource (this work is part of the membership model that is not yet developed)





Thank You!

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