

For Immediate Release March 21, 2015 **Contact:** Lynda Gledhill (916) 651-9028

## **GovOps Launches Second Phase of Open Data Portal** *Water, Transportation and Economic Datasets Added*

SACRAMENTO -- The Government Operations Agency (GovOps) announced today it has launched the second phase of its one-year open data portal project. The goal of the initiative is to centralize and enhance open data in the state of California.

New datasets from the Department of Transportation, State Water Resources Control Board and Department of Finance are now available on <u>https://greengov.data.ca.gov/</u>. The new datasets give the public access to significant information about water, transportation and the economy and demographics.

"As information on the open data portal expands, so too does the opportunity for government to improve how it does business," said GovOps Secretary Marybel Batjer. "We will continue to bring new information to the portal in order to better serve the people of California."

GovOps launched the open data portal with the CA GreenGov Challenge, a code-a-thon, in October 2015. That challenge produced applications that state government is using to improve services. As new datasets are added, GovOps is also including departments with their own open data portals into the site. This information will allow state departments and anyone interested in using data for civic engagement to create new ways of examining how the state delivers services.

Caltrans, one of the participating departments in the pilot, provided details about 2014 Traffic Volumes and the 2014 Caltrans Performance Monitoring System Congestion Data. The department is also looking to add more datasets to the portal as the pilot moves forward.

"There is a growing recognition of the critical role that data should play in the planning and management of California's complex transportation system," said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. "Data-driven approaches increasingly are how we are going to address congestion and environmental issues in California."

The State Water Board recently launched its first annual Water Dive – a series of data-centered events focused on fostering transparency and collaboration within the Water Boards, state and



local agencies, and the public, to help turn data into knowledge and insight that supports preserving and enhancing California water.

"The State and Regional Water Boards are pleased to be recognized for our ongoing efforts to foster public transparency and collaboration, and our commitment to provide real time, dependable and accurate information on the health of our waterways and our groundwater resources," said State Water Resources Control Board Chair Felicia Marcus. "Information, open to all to use, question, and interpret, leads to better conversation, collaboration and action in dealing with the myriad challenge we face."

The Health and Human Services Agency, State Controller's Office, Franchise Tax Board, State Treasurer's Office, Board of Equalization and Department of Justice have all launched open data portals of their own. The datasets on these portals, along with the datasets in the pilot portal, will eventually be accessible by a centralized, state open data portal, <u>www.opendata.ca.gov</u>, which will serve as a single access point to open data in the state of California.

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