



The BetterBuy Project and the Data.Gov Acquisition Request for Information (RFI)

What is Data.gov?

In 2009, Data.gov was created by the Office of Governmentwide Policy (OGP) under direction from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) to increase public access to high value, machine readable datasets generated by the Executive Branch of the Federal Government.

In-line with the Obama Administration's goals, the role of Data.gov is to provide openness, transparency and participation of the citizenry through the use of electronic government and technology in the Government.

Data.gov and the BetterBuy Project

GSA has been selected Data.gov for the BetterBuy Project Acquisition in order to acquire feedback from consumers, vendors and citizens to provide solutions on improving Data.gov's data-sharing capabilities using new technologies.

Data.gov datasets will enable the application development community and the public to more easily transform the raw data currently available via Data.gov into "finished good" datasets that can be easily consumed by an online community.

Through content added to the BetterBuy Project Wiki, GSA hopes to gain insight from consumers, vendors, and citizens on the most effective way to improve Data.gov's data storage and hosting. GSA is also seeking comments and improvements on the draft solicitation, providing a forum for questions and commentary prior to making any purchase decision, and technical input into the purchase decision (e.g., potential pricing methodology, Analytical Tools Access Data Security and Backups and Service Level Agreements (SLAs), and data rights).

The Data.gov pilot is using BetterBuy methodology for rapid collaboration, and will result in a procurement in a few weeks. The other BetterBuy pilot project (ClearPath Hosting) is using BetterBuy methodology for market research over a long period.

Data.gov Application Summary

The initial launch of Data.gov included a limited portion of the Federal dataset. Additional datasets were added over time. Site enhancements were also made to provide for seamless access and use of Federal data.

This acquisition will expand current uses of Data.gov to agencies that are eligible for participation, according to security authorization and data-specific information. This service will be accessible via one branded, government-owned application programming interface (API) and will provide agencies with a cost effective mechanism for storing data that will be made available to the public.



The type of information Data.gov provides in its searchable data catalogs provide access to various data sources in three ways, through:

- "raw" data catalogs;
- a tool catalog; and
- a geodata catalog

The objective of this dataset hosting environment through Data.gov is to provide:

- Secondary hosting and storage of data.gov datasets;
- Data extraction tools to routinely migrate and synchronize agency data sets;
- Metadata management services for the hosted datasets; and
- Data discovery services for datasets contained across Data.gov repositories, regardless of specific physical repository.