

Google Groups

Comments on draft recommendations on FOIA

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Posted in group: **FOIA Advisory Committee**

Hello!

My name is Alexander B. Howard, director of the Digital Democracy Project at Demand Progress Education Fund, a nonprofit focused on open government, among other issues.

I've made many public comments at the FOIA Advisory Committee meetings in this past.

I write today about 3 recommendations that are not in the final draft that should be:

- 1) The White House Office of Management and Budget removed a cross-agency priority goal for the Freedom of Information Act across the U.S. government. The Council should recommend that OMB restore this CAP Goal.
- 2) The Department of Justice took public comment on a "release to one, release to all FOIA policy" but then buried it. The Council should recommend that OIP implement it.
- 3) The US Capitol Police are not subject to FOIA, nor are other legislative support agencies or the courts. The Council should recommend that Congress enact some mechanism by which the public can exercise its right to know across all branches of the US government.

As always, thank you for your attention and service.

Best,
Alex