



Sent: May 26, 2009

Subject: The White House Open Government Initiative

On January 21, President Obama signed his very first memorandum focusing on transparency and open government. Last week, the White House invited the public to contribute its expertise to crafting final recommendations on open government. Now is your turn to [participate in this exciting initiative](#).

According to the White House,

"The goal is to experiment with mechanisms for effective citizen participation in order to complement the know-how of government employees with the expertise and intelligence of the American people.

Much of the expertise we need can be found among the nation's citizens. From economic recovery and health care reform to environmental protection and homeland security, we must ensure that government makes the best possible decisions informed by the best possible expertise and information. With today's tools, we can create a two-way dialogue between the American people and their government and develop policy that benefits from the diverse perspectives of an engaged citizenry."

The White House is inviting citizens to participate in a 3 stage process to inform the development of open government recommendations. The first stage, brainstorming, is now underway and you can participate [here](#). The second stage, discussion, will start on June 5. The third stage, drafting, will begin on June 15.

Please share this with your colleagues and networks.

And we look forward to seeing many of you at the [No Better Time conference](#) in July in New Hampshire. If you haven't registered yet, it is [not too late!](#)