



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

THE DIRECTOR

January 15, 2025

M-25-06

MEMORANDUM FOR HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

FROM: Shalanda D. Young  
Director

SUBJECT: Re-establishing the Chief Data Officer Council

Over the past thirty-five years, the Federal Government has established various interagency forums for the purpose of identifying emerging issues, sharing best practices, and developing solutions to common problems facing their communities. Similarly, since the passage of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018<sup>1</sup> (hereinafter “Evidence Act”), there has been a concerted effort across the Federal Government to develop and employ data as a strategic asset. The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is committed to ensuring that there continues to be a government-wide body helping to implement Title II of the Evidence Act, known as the Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary (OPEN) Government Data Act of 2018 (hereinafter “OPEN Government Data Act”). OMB is also committed to maintaining a venue for department and agency Chief Data Officers to coordinate and collaborate on issues related to data policy, management, and governance among themselves, as well as with other agency officials who conduct data-related activities.

The OPEN Government Data Act required the establishment of a Chief Data Officer Council (hereinafter “CDO Council”) to serve as an interagency forum for improving coordination, transparency, and accountability in the Executive Branch’s implementation of data policy. The Act provided for the termination of the CDO Council two years after the Comptroller General’s submission of a report on the Council’s efforts to strengthen evidence-building activities. That report was submitted on December 15, 2022. Accordingly, the statutory provisions establishing the CDO Council expired on December 15, 2024.

To carry on the important work described above, and pursuant to the statutory authority of the Director of OMB to oversee the use of information resources,<sup>2</sup> this Memorandum re-establishes the CDO Council to continue its efforts to improve the management, use, protection,

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<sup>1</sup> Pub. L. No. 115-435 (2019).

<sup>2</sup> 44 U.S.C. § 3504(a)(1).

dissemination, and generation of data in government decision-making and operations. Consistent with the OPEN Government Data Act and OMB Memorandum M-19-23,<sup>3</sup> the functions of the re-established CDO Council shall be to

- (1) establish government-wide best practices for the use, protection, dissemination, and generation of data;
- (2) promote and encourage data sharing agreements between agencies;
- (3) identify ways in which agencies can improve upon the production of evidence for use in policymaking;
- (4) consult with the public and engage with private users of Government data and other stakeholders on how to improve access to data assets of the Federal Government; and
- (5) identify and evaluate new technology solutions for improving the collection and use of data.

The re-established CDO Council shall retain the membership and leadership structure that existed immediately prior to December 15, 2024. The CDO Council shall include all agency Chief Data Officers, the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government (or designee), the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (or designee), and an Ex Officio Member (to represent all Chief Information Officers and Evaluation Officers). Consistent with its role as established in the OPEN Government Data Act, OMB shall continue to lead the CDO Council and shall designate a Chair from among the Council's members.

The CDO Council's Executive Committee, in consultation with the Office of Shared Solutions and Performance Improvement at the General Services Administration, shall submit to the Director of OMB an implementation plan for the re-established CDO Council, which shall include revisions to the June 2020 charter.<sup>4</sup> The goals, structure, roles, and responsibilities of the re-established CDO Council should build upon the lessons learned from the initial implementation.

The CDO Council shares responsibilities with other interagency councils that conduct data-related activities. As a result, the CDO Council shall engage and coordinate with the Chief Information Officers Council, Evaluation Officer Council, Chief FOIA Officers Council, Federal Privacy Council, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officers Council, Interagency Council on Statistical Policy, and other relevant interagency councils. OMB will also continue to facilitate coordination among these councils in order to ensure that their activities are complementary and carried out efficiently and effectively.

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<sup>3</sup> Off. of Mgmt. & Budget, Exec. Off. of the President, OMB Memorandum M-19-23, *Phase 1 Implementation of the Foundations for Evidence-Based Policymaking Act of 2018: Learning Agendas, Personnel, and Planning Guidance* (July 10, 2019), available at [www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/M-19-23.pdf](http://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/M-19-23.pdf).

<sup>4</sup> Fed. Chief Data Offs.' Council, Federal Chief Data Officers' (CDO) Council Charter (June 2020), available at [www.cdo.gov/assets/documents/cdo-council-charter-061820.pdf](http://www.cdo.gov/assets/documents/cdo-council-charter-061820.pdf).