2019 Biennial Open Government Survey Highlights

“Open Record Laws need to be enforced. There needs to be an outside party to oversee the process and force everyone to follow the law.”

“There are times where records custodians see the FOIA deadlines required by our state Open Records law as mere suggestions.”

“Few newsrooms have any money/initiative to fight public records access denials.”

“Entities know newspapers can’t afford to sue. They know they’re wrong but that they can get away with it.”

“The fake news mentality does not help!”

“Our state government keeps creating more exceptions to disclosure based on ‘security.’”

“They have a blatant disregard for the process and know that there is no repercussion for not complying.”

“The open data movement that promised to revolutionize access to government information appears to have stalled.”

“Still a reluctance to provide public records on a timely basis.”

“Fewer record requests done as there are fewer journalists doing watchdog reporting.”

“Media outlets often pass on expensive challenges to FOIA violations.”

“I requested a public document crucially related to a breaking news event. It was one page and the spokeswoman could see it on her screen. I received it six months later.”