

RE: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

From: "Wilson, Matt B. EOP/OSTP" (b)(6)
To: "Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP" (b)(6), "Baum, Kristina R. EOP/OSTP" (b)(6)
Cc: "Kratsios, Michael J. EOP/OSTP" (b)(6) >, "Parker, Lynne E. EOP/OSTP" (b)(6)
Date: Tue, 17 Mar 2020 08:01:12 -0400
Attachments: Tech Task Force 15Mar20 - Raw Notesv2.docx (27.78 kB)

Elena and Kristina,

If you'd like to get a better handle on this for your own background, read the two highlighted sections in the attached notes. In them, folks from the CDC and a Harvard epidemiologist explain how data can be used. It gets a bit in the weeds, but you may find it useful.

Matt

From: Parker, Lynne E. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:56 AM
To: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP <(b)(6)> Kratsios, Michael J. EOP/OSTP (b)(6); Baum, Kristina R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Wilson, Matt B. EOP/OSTP (b)(6) >
Cc: Parker, Lynne E. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Your suggested sentence is good. If we want more specifics, we can include ideas like understanding and modeling for:

- the impact of mitigation/intervention actions (such as social distancing, telework policies, school closures) on the spread of COVID-19
- supply chain issues at a local/regional level (such as availability of masks and protective gear)
- local/regional travel patterns for better prediction of spread and transmission

From: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Sent: Tuesday, March 17, 2020 7:45 AM
To: Kratsios, Michael J. EOP/OSTP (b)(6); Parker, Lynne E. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Baum, Kristina R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Matt B. EOP/OSTP <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Following up on my note and highlighted question below from last night! Can we say something on background like...

Insights from data can help public health officials, researchers, and scientists improve their understanding of the spread of COVID19 and transmission of the disease.

From: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:59 PM
To: Michael J. EOP/OSTP Kratsios (b)(6); Parker, Lynne E. EOP/OSTP (b)(6); Kristina R. EOP/OSTP Baum (b)(6); Wilson, Matt B. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Update for everyone, WaPo is holding off on running anything tonight and he's going to circle back with me in the morning. I told him off record that the ideas discussed in the meeting regarding the use of geolocation were certainly interesting and we're glad to see companies engaging like this but the proposals were in no way final form. The companies themselves voiced concerns on their end about privacy and violating platform terms.

He walked back several things and so now basically the headline is: The White House is talking with tech companies about ways to utilize aggregate personal data in COVID9 efforts.

I'm totally fine with this.

The only other question he had for me was what are some aspirational uses of data that would be useful in response efforts – **Matt/Lynne can you send me a couple of good ones before 10am tomorrow?**

Thank you all!

From: Romm, Tony (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:35 PM
To: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Cc: Baum, Kristina R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Thanks. Can you hop on the phone one last time because I do want to make sure I'm describing things accurately. (This makes it seem like the government isn't planning to use the data, which I think is the whole point -- to help you guys.) Thanks again

Tony Romm
Tech policy reporter
The Washington Post

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:33 PM
To: Romm, Tony (b)(6) >
Cc: Baum, Kristina R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Subject: RE: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Sorry for the delay – here you go:

Attributable to an OSTP official: We're encouraged by American technology companies looking to leverage aggregate, anonymized data to glean key insights for COVID-19 modeling efforts. We are continuing to engage with a wide variety of companies and industry associations as part of our whole-of-America response.

From: Romm, Tony (b)(6)
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 9:04 PM
To: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Hola, checking back in, thanks a ton

Tony Romm
Tech policy reporter
The Washington Post
tony.romm@washpost.com
(b)(6)

From: Romm, Tony (b)(6) >
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 7:57 PM
To: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP <(b)(6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

Just in advance, how would we attribute this? SAO? Something else? Thanks much.

Tony Romm
Tech policy reporter
The Washington Post
tony.romm@washpost.com
(b)(6)

From: Hernandez, Elena R. EOP/OSTP (b)(6) >
Sent: Monday, March 16, 2020 7:56 PM
To: Romm, Tony <(b)(6)>
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Follow up

CAUTION: EXTERNAL SENDER

I'll be able to send you some written comment on background in next hour

On Mar 16, 2020, at 7:45 PM, Romm, Tony <(b)(6)> wrote:

Hey -- this is coming together quickly. Reaching back out as promised. Any chance we can connect? Thanks.

Tony Romm
Tech policy reporter
The Washington Post
tony.romm@washpost.com
(b)(6)