



# **OPRA and the Municipal Web Site**

**Morris Enyeart, Ed.D.  
City Connections LLC  
1414 Carlisle Road  
North Brunswick, NJ 08902  
Copyright 2002**

**Presentation at the 87<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
New Jersey State League of Municipalities**



# The Open Public Records Act (OPRA)

## Defines Government Records as:

- Printed Documents
- Handwritten Documents
- Books, Maps and Photographs
- Tape and Video Recordings
- **Computer Records**
- **Electronically Stored Information**



# **The Open Public Records Act (OPRA)**

## **EXCEPTIONS**

- **Where a record does not exist and one must be created to respond to a request.**
- **Information that would jeopardize security.**



# The Open Public Records Act (OPRA)

## What Should Be On The Municipal Web Site?

- **OPRA Logo link to:**
  - Information about public records
  - How the public requests information
  - Schedule of fees
  - Request Form (paper vs. electronic form)
  - Denial and Appeal Process
  - Links to State of NJ Opra Web Site
  - Names and locations of records custodians and sub-custodians.



# **The Open Public Records Act (OPRA)**

## **What parts of the Web Site need to be considered?**

- **E-Mail – The contents decide.**
- **Cookies – No for Cookies, but Yes for Reports**
- **Web Pages – Yes, if part of an official site**
- **CGI/Perl or other programs – No, security issue**
- **Databases – not the database itself but content may be**



# The Open Public Records Act (OPRA)

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

- Open Public Records Act [www.nj.gov/opra](http://www.nj.gov/opra)
- Government Records Council [www.nj.gov.grc](http://www.nj.gov.grc)
- NJSLOM Mayors Letter  
[www.cityconnections.com/njleag/ml081402.html](http://www.cityconnections.com/njleag/ml081402.html)
- NJSLOM OPRA Information Web Page  
[www.cityconnections.com/njleag/accpub.html](http://www.cityconnections.com/njleag/accpub.html)