

# Open Government and E-Government: Democratic Challenges from a Public Value Perspective

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This paper considers open government (OG) within the context of e-government and its broader implications for the future of public administration. It argues that the current US Administration's Open Government Initiative blurs traditional distinctions between e-democracy and e-government by incorporating historically democratic practices, now enabled by emerging technology, within administrative agencies. The paper considers how transparency, participation, and collaboration function as democratic practices in administrative agencies, suggesting that these processes are instrumental attributes of administrative action and decision making, rather than the objective of administrative action, as they appear to be currently treated. It proposes alternatively that planning and assessing OG be addressed within a "public value" framework.