

Almost Twenty (20) Recent Improvements to the Town Hall Website (9/27/19)

Periodic Reviews:

- Added information about all past periodic reviews to the bottom of each chapter/regulation information page, including what the result of each periodic review was, as well as a link to the periodic review itself.
- Revamped periodic review page to provide on-point information to agencies in order to complete the final column on that page relating to the next scheduled periodic review date for a regulation.
- The periodic review page is more complete now as it reflects when the last periodic review was conducted whether it be through a standard rulemaking action or using the periodic review feature. In addition, the agency is able to better manage its periodic reviews by being able to indicate the next time the chapter will undergo review.
- Made improvements to the periodic review announcement page leveraging the information in the Town Hall database such that agency staff needs to do less work and spend less time creating and submitting a PR announcement.

Agency User Accounts:

- It's easier to tell if you are logged into the Town Hall website as an agency user now. Your name appears at the bottom of the green menu bar in a black font which is easier to see.
- You can now export to excel some of the information about your agency users.
- All VITA COV agency users must now use their COV credentials to log on to the site. This means one less set of credentials to keep track of.
- If you are adding a new agency user as a VITA COV network agency, you must have the employee's alias. The Town Hall now has an easy-to-use tool on the "Manage Users" page that you can use to find an employee's alias.

Public User Accounts:

- It is now possible to modify/delete one's public user account by clicking on a link at the bottom of a Town Hall public notification (instead of having to log into the Town Hall website).

- Clarified wording in Town Hall's Welcome email that the public user's account will not be activated unless they click the link in the email.
- Eliminated all abolished board and repealed chapters from the selection options.

Other:

- Improved and made more uniform the areas of the site where agency contact information is displayed and edited. The ability to specify an agency contact for periodic reviews and guidance document public comment forums has been added.
- New ability to delete mistakes from Town Hall without having to call DPB for assistance, e.g., can delete a mandate at any time or a stage that has never left the agency.
- Agency users can now link regulatory actions to legislative mandates, petitions for rulemaking, and periodic reviews from the action page. Before, this linkage could only be established from the mandate, petition, or periodic review page.
- Can apply the highlight feature to the Proposed Text /RIS project to highlight in yellow how the regulatory text changed from the last stage of the action.
- Repealed chapters and abolished or merged boards have been removed from the agency mailing list feature and many other filters used on Town Hall.
- There is greater transparency in displaying the course of OAG review and the sometimes back-and-forth of a package between the OAG and agency.
- It is easier now to tell whether a chapter or action is exempt or not. An exempt chapter or action has this symbol  beside it wherever it displays on Town Hall.
- When sending an email to public commenters using the Town Hall, you can now edit the email address in the "from" field.