Session Abstracts

The Modern GIS Hub: Transparency, Trust, and Fewer FOIA Requests
Presented by Crystal Williams, McLean County GIS Consortium

Description: Local governments are under increasing pressure to provide clear, accessible information to the public without overwhelming staff or creating new administrative burdens. This session explores how the McLean County GIS Consortium built a modern, multi-agency ArcGIS Hub designed to improve transparency, streamline public access, and strengthen community trust. Crystal Williams, GIS Director for the Consortium, will share how her team organized datasets, coordinated with partner agencies, and made intentional decisions about what to host directly on the Hub versus what to deliver through existing tools like the McGIS Viewer. Attendees will learn practical strategies for structuring open data, improving access to authoritative information, and designing Hub experiences that answer common questions before they become formal requests.
Keywords: *local government, FOIA, open data, transparency, hub*

Managing the Right-of-Way as a Shared System: Connecting GIS, Assets, and Activity
Presented by Matt Harman, AtomAI Solutions, Inc.

Description: Right-of-way corridors are some of the most complex and collaborative environments public agencies manage. They bring together transportation infrastructure, utilities, permits, maintenance activity, capital projects, and field operations, often across multiple departments and outside partners. Yet the data behind that work is frequently fragmented across GIS, asset systems, permitting tools, and spreadsheets. This session explores how agencies can manage the right-of-way as a connected system rather than a series of disconnected tasks. Using real-world examples from Chicago, San Diego, Seattle and more we'll examine how modern, map-centric platforms like AtomAI combine ArcGIS, Google Maps, asset data, permits, and field activity into a shared operational picture.
Keywords: *ROW Coordination, ROW Permitting, Asset Management*