2026 TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH BOARD (TRB) ANNUAL MEETING: SHARING SESSION

Lessons learned from Mark

Mark S. Moran
TPB Program Director, Travel Forecasting and Emissions Analysis

TPB Travel Forecasting Subcommittee
January 23, 2026

National Capital Region
Transportation Planning Board

Agenda Item #6

Transportation Research Board (TRB)

- TRB is one of four program centers within the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine (NASEM).*
- NASEM operate under a congressional charter signed by President Abraham Lincoln in 1863 to advise the nation on issues related to science and technology.
- TRB helps transportation professionals, policymakers, and researchers anticipate emerging challenges & opportunities across all modes of transportation through research, convening, and information exchange.
  - TRB manages more than 500 active cooperative research projects in areas such as highways, transit, airports, and traffic safety.
  - Through its consensus studies, TRB provides independent, evidence-based advice on transportation policy to the federal government. In addition, TRB provides independent reviews and assessments that help inform national research and technology programs.
- TRB is primarily funded through a mix of federal, state, and industry sources, with over 90% coming from federal sources like the USDOT, often funneled through state DOTs. Core funding also comes from state DOTs directly, along with fees, services, and sponsorships from various transportation-related organizations, making it a collaborative model.

* The other three are Center for Advancing Science and Technology (CAST); Center for Health, People, and Places (CHPP); and Gulf Research Program.

TRB Annual Meeting

- Held every year in Washington, D.C. in January
- TRB's volunteer technical committees organize the sessions and workshops at the Annual Meeting.
  - Committee meetings occur during the Annual Meeting, and most are open to the public.
  - With more than 100 committees, almost every transportation mode and topic is represented.
- Attendance at past TRB Annual Meetings: 10k to 14k participants
- 105th Annual Meeting was held January 11 to 15, 2026.

TRB Annual Meeting: Participation by COG/TPB staff

- Meeting attendance: 10 attendees from 3 DTP teams:
  - Planning Data and Research (PDR) Team: Kenneth Joh, Zhuo Yang, Olga Perez, Suraj Vujjini, & Uttara Sutradhar
  - Multimodal Planning (MP) Team: Katherine Rainone & Pierre Gaunaurd
  - Travel Forecasting & Emissions Analysis (TFEA) Team: Feng Xie & Mark Moran
- Others may have attended open committee meetings
- Presentations by TPB staff:
  - Pierre Gaunaurd, co-presented at Lectern Session 3015, “Post-Pandemic Recovery and Intermodal Connectivity in Intercity Transportation: A Case Study of the National Capital Region,” Jan. 13, 8:00 AM - 9:45 AM
  - Kenneth Joh, invited speaker, Lectern Session 2089, “Travel Survey Versus Passive Data: What Is Worth Keeping?” Jan. 12, 1:30 – 3:15 PM
  - Katherine Rainone, an invited speaker, Lectern Session 3087, “Pop-Up Extreme Weather Events: Response Reflections and Resilience Strategies,” Jan. 13, 1:30 PM - 3:15 PM

COG/TPB staff participation with or membership on TRB committees

Standing Committee	COG/TPB Staff	Role
ACH20: Bicycle Transportation Committee	Charlene Howard	Friend
AED16: Technical Committee on Traffic Monitoring	Yu Gao	Friend
AEDP1725: Committee on Travel Survey Methods	Kenneth Joh	Secretary
AAEP25(1): Household Travel Surveys Subcommittee		Member
		Co-Chair
AED40: Geographic Information Science	Charlene Howard	Friend
AEP12: Technical Committee on Travel Behavior and Choices	Zhuo Yang	Friend
AEP15: Transportation Planning Analysis and Application	Timothy Canan	Friend
AEP30: Committee on Traveler Behavior and Values	Nazneen Ferdous	Friend
AEP50: Committee on Transportation Demand Forecasting	Nazneen Ferdous	Friend
AKJ17MR50: Committee on Extreme Weather and Climate Change Adaptation Winter Maintenance and Response to Weather Events	Katherine Rainone	Member
AV012: Technical Committee on Aviation Market Economics and Analysis	Suraj Vujjini	Friend
AV013: Committee on Airport Landside Operations and Planning	Olga Perez	Member
	Suraj Vujjini	Friend
AV020: Committee on Aviation System Planning	Timothy Canan	Friend
AV050: Committee on Airport Terminals and Ground Access	Timothy Canan	Friend

Lessons learned from Mark

Session 2007: Transportation, Land Use, and Economic Development: Innovative Tools and Insights (1/12/26)

- Eluru, Naveen. “Development of an Integrated Framework for Forecasting Future Sociodemographic, Land Use, and Economic Indicator Variables in Florida”
  - Developed a high-fidelity integrated framework for forecasting sociodemographic, land use and economic indicators in Florida, 2030 – 2050, 5-year increments
  - FDOT employs the Florida Standard Urban Transportation Model Structure (FSUTMS)
  - Planning orgs can use the standard travel model or customize the model for local conditions.
  - No comparable standardized socio-economic, land use and economic development model in Florida
  - They developed a standardized, high-res. statewide sociodemographic, LU and econ. dev. model

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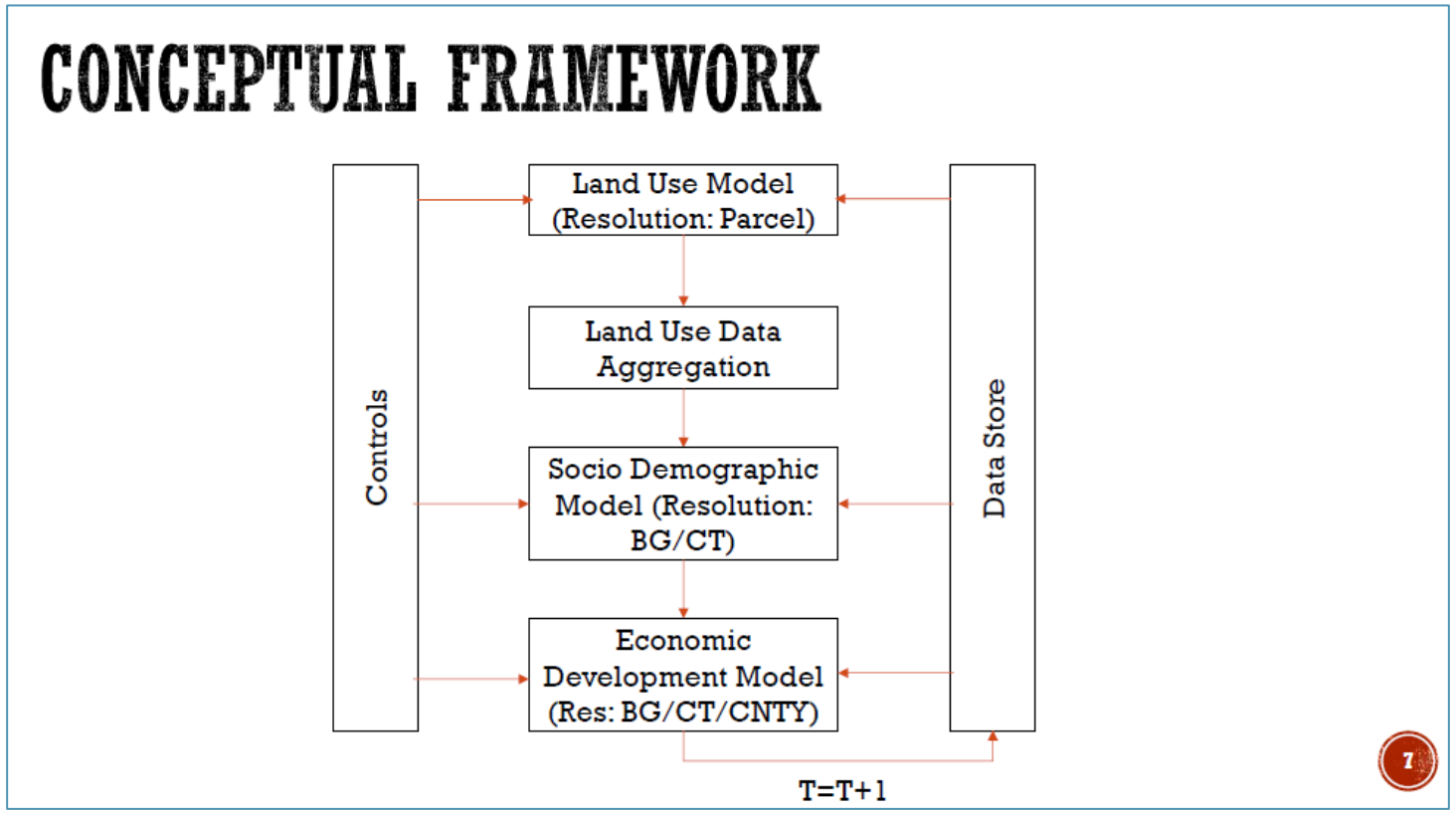

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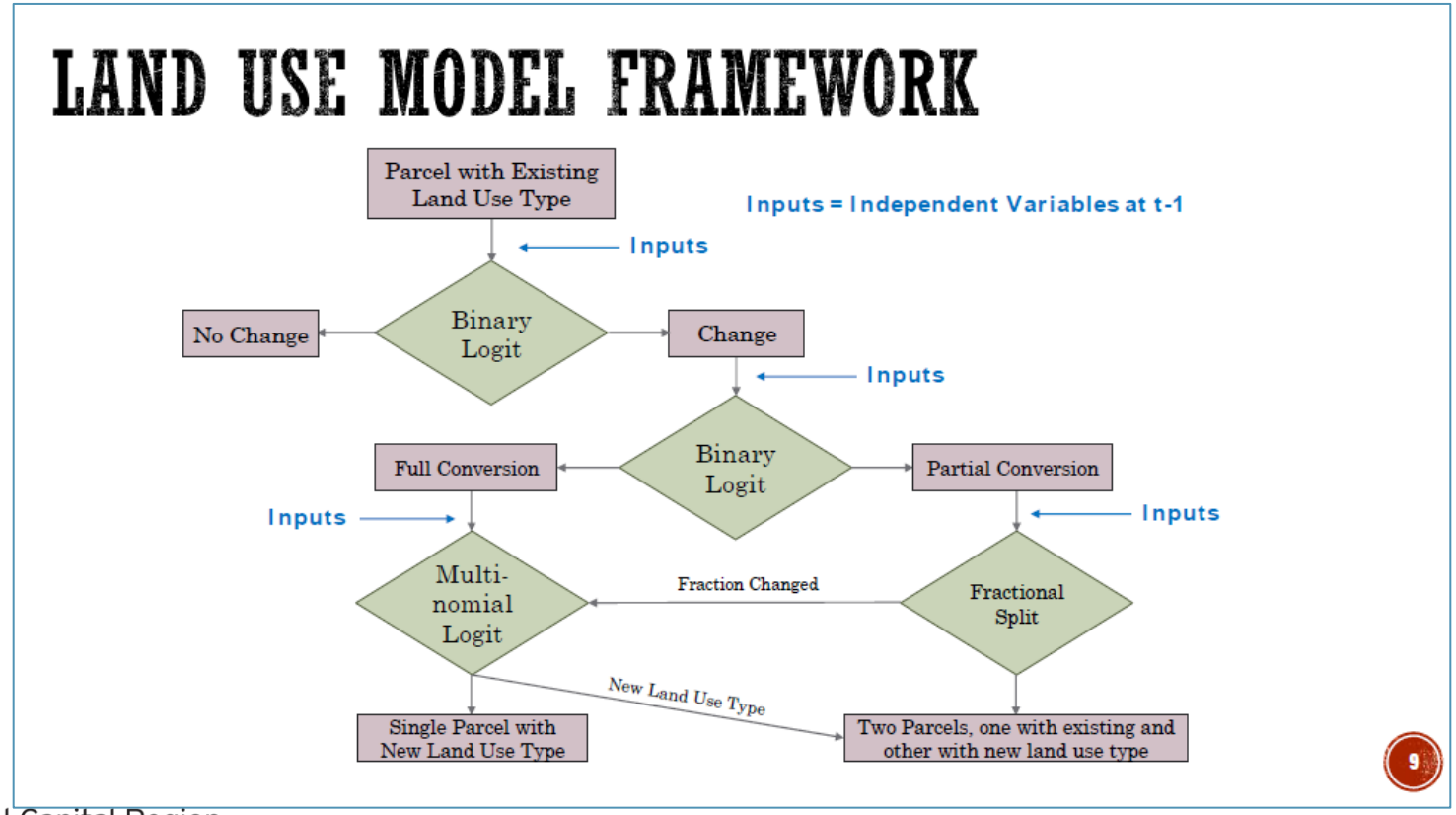


Session 2007: Transportation, Land Use, and Economic Development: Innovative Tools and Insights (1/12/26)

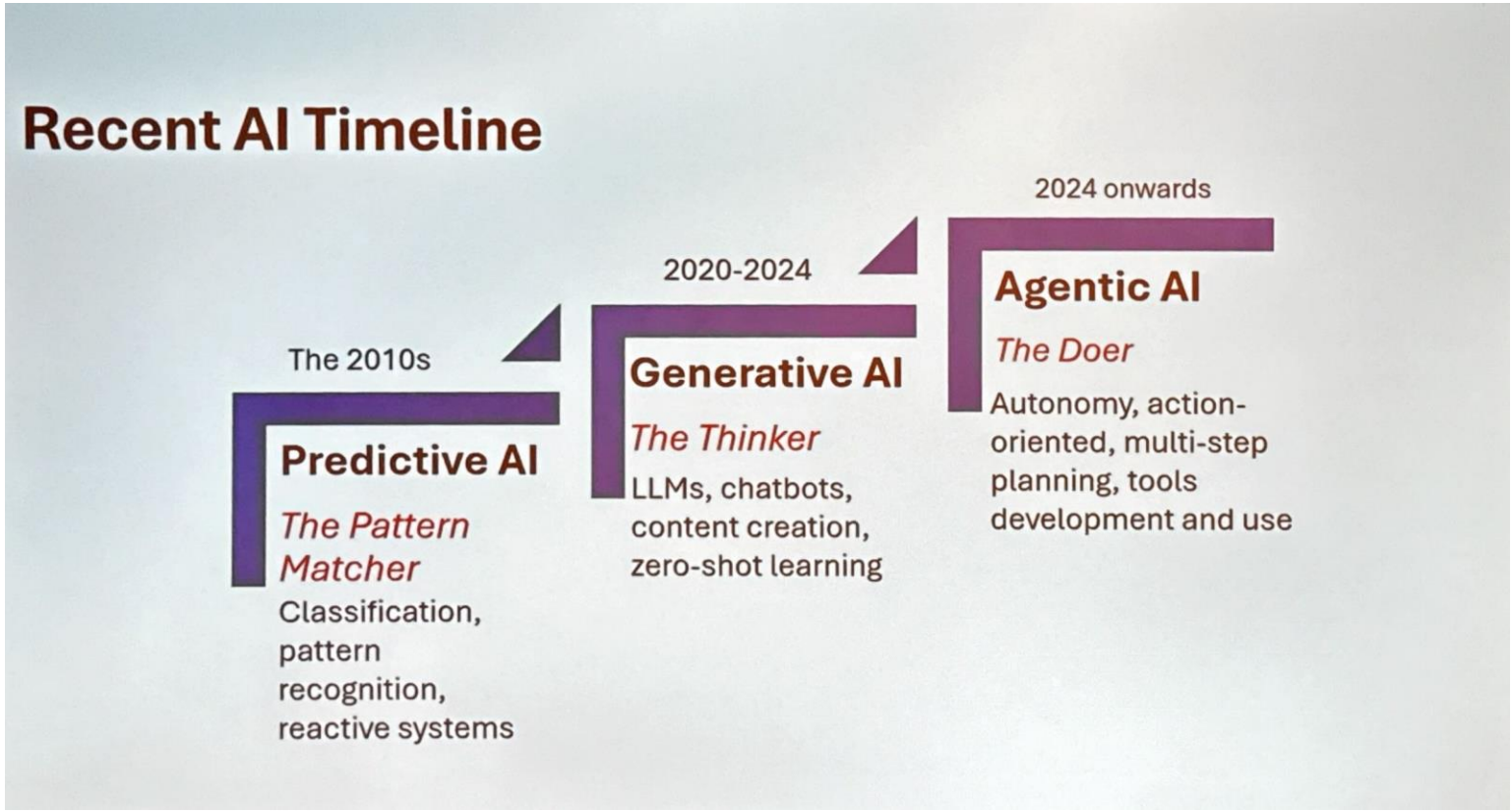
- Lieu, Seung Jae. “Why Do Residents Still Drive and Travel Beyond High-Accessibility Neighborhoods?: Examining the Challenges to the 15-Minute City Concept”
  - 15-min. city/neighborhood: People can access most daily necessities (e.g., school, work, groceries) via a 15-min. bike or walk trip.
  - Recent advances in big data have enabled researchers to evaluate the practicality of 15-min. city concept.
  - Does higher accessibility truly achieve the promise of the 15-min. city?
  - Do some trips extend beyond the 15-min. walkshed, even when people live in areas with high accessibility? (Research finding: Yes)
  - Researchers looked at Chicago, Illinois (1,785 trips, 1,401 individuals)

Session 2089: Travel Surveys Versus Passive Data: What Is Worth Keeping? (1/12/26)

- Moderator: Zachary Patterson, Concordia University
- In Defense of Traditional Household Travel Surveys
  - Stacey Bricka, MacroSys Research and Technology
  - Kenneth Joh, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments
- In Defense of Passive Data
  - Jeffrey LaMondia, Auburn University
  - Jim Hubbell, StreetLight Data
- Be it resolved, within 10 years, household travel surveys will be obsolete
  - Before the debate: 33% of audience agreed
  - After the debate: 10% of audience agreed

Session 2135: Agentic AI in Travel Data and Methods: Potential and Pitfalls (1/12/26)

- Agentic AI 101: Bilal Farooq, Toronto Metropolitan University



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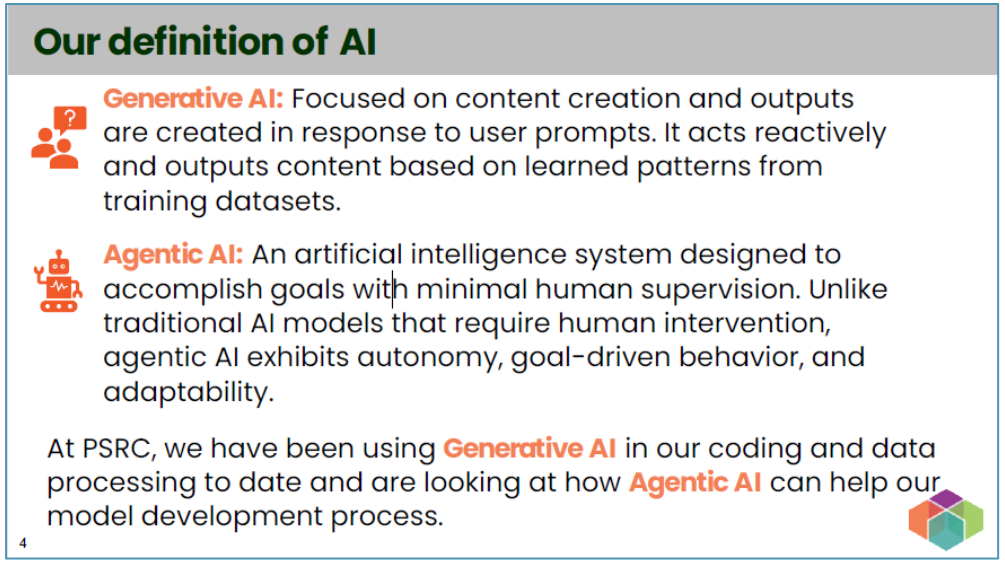
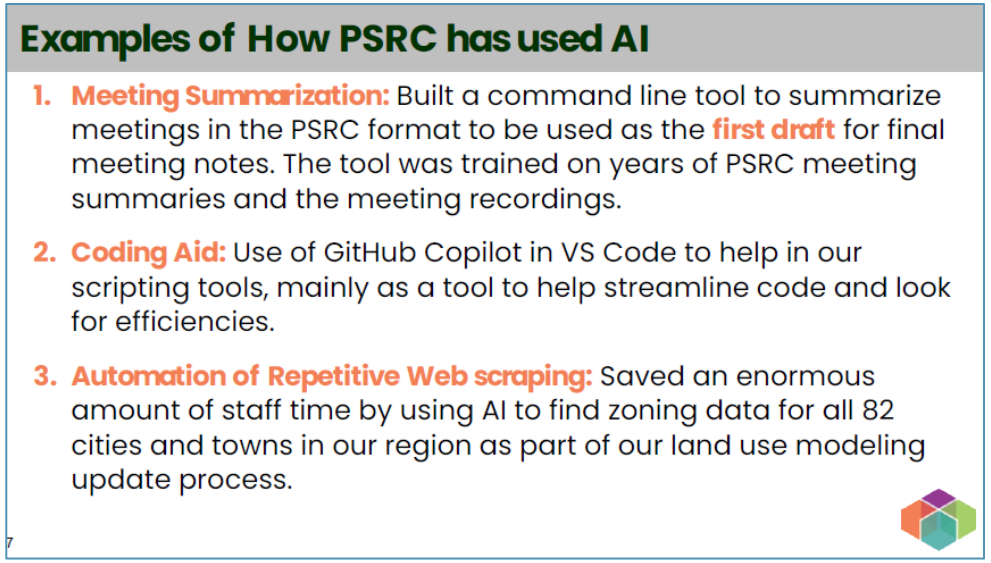
- The Challenges and Opportunities with Agentic AI in Metropolitan Planning Organizations, Craig Helmann, Puget Sound Regional Council





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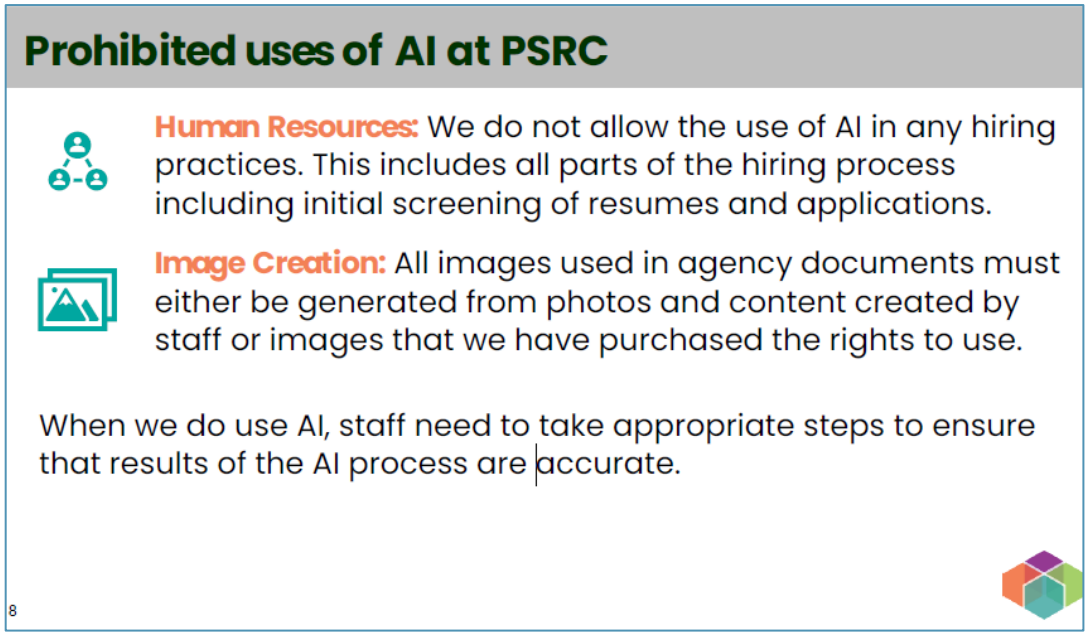

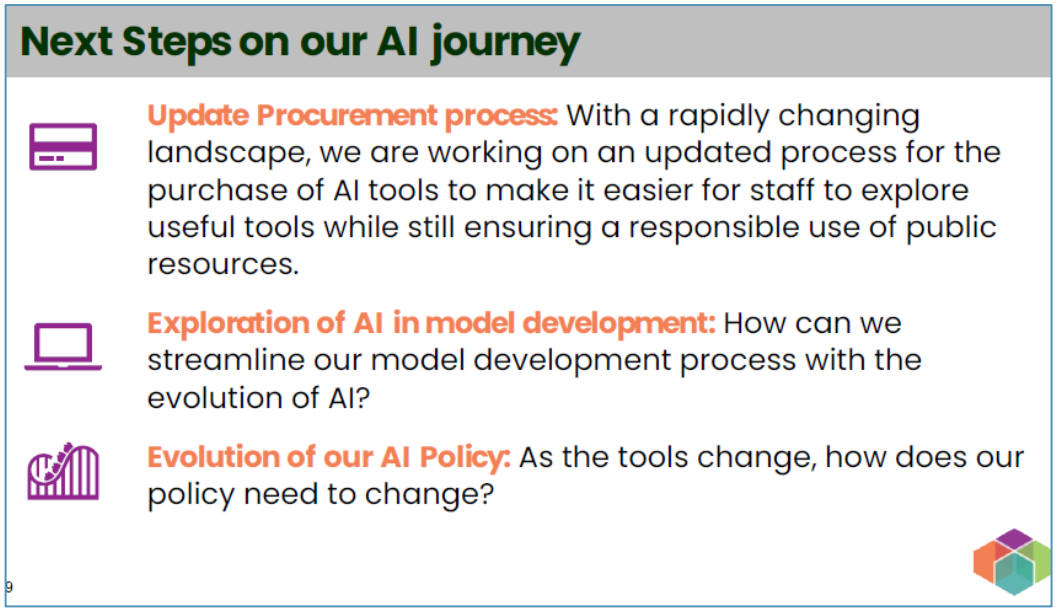

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