

American Public Works Association
San Diego & Imperial Counties Chapter

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

Strategies for
Public Works



Where to start?

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San Diego & Imperial Counties Chapter



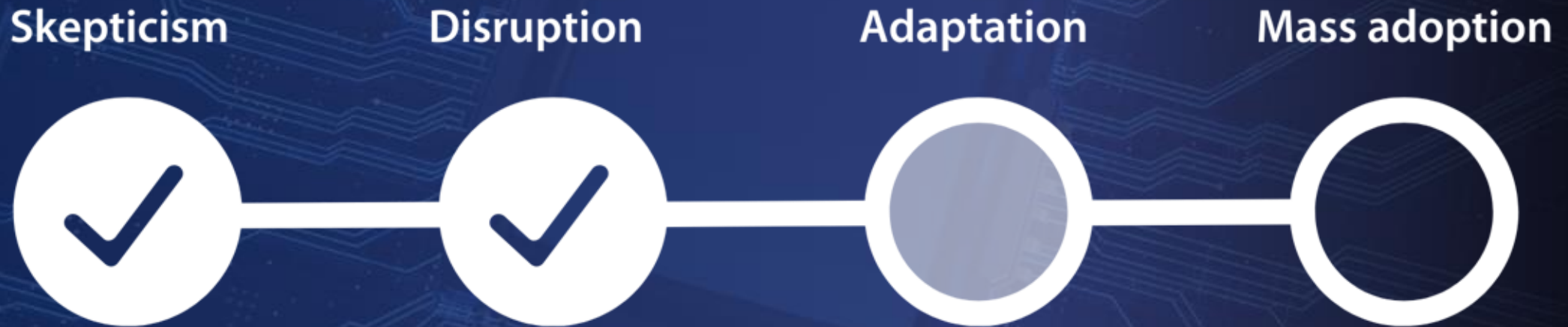
TERMINATOR

DARK FATE

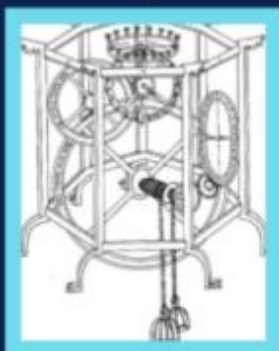
ผู้เขียน: 50 ปีเศษ

23 กุมภาพันธ์ 2019

How these things go...



1300



1450



1550



1712



1876



1903



1927

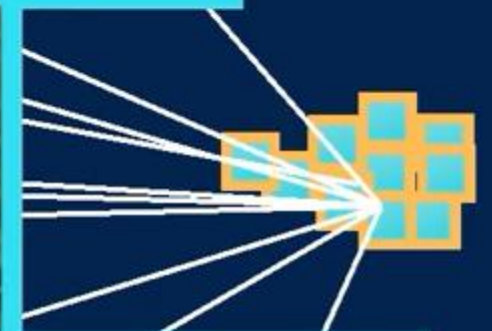
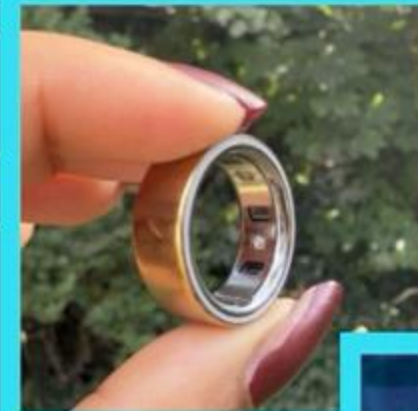
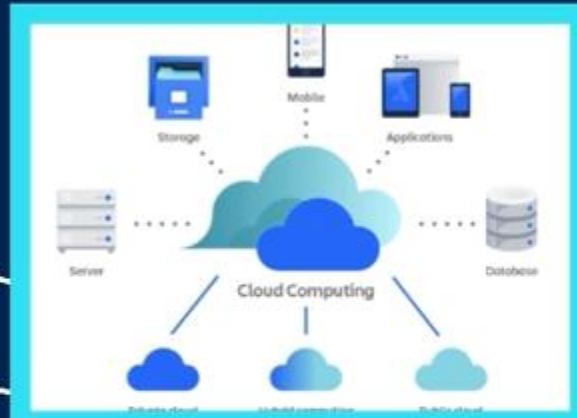
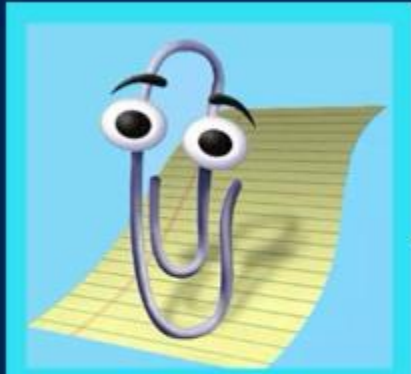


1975



1989





What Does This all Mean

1. Eliminates some jobs but creates entirely new industries
2. Governments and societies struggle to regulate it
3. Eventually, the new technology becomes essential—shaping how people work, communicate and live



Where to start?



Productivity enhancer



Thought partner

Productivity

San Marcos aims to stay LEAN

The city created a new position to ensure revenue is spent 'judiciously' on priorities with residents



STEVE PUTERSKI

APR 06, 2025 • PAID



San Marcos hires new Director of Lean government

News / Mar 2, 2025 / 08:12 PM PST

San Marcos Mayor Rebecca Jones talks continuous improvements of San Marcos. The City hired a new Director of Lean government.

fox5sandiego.com



ALLIE WAGNER
@ALLIEWAGNERTV



Productivity Enhancer

Phase 1

- Ask AI to develop trainings for you and your team
- Start with low-risk tasks
- Find early adopters
- Share successes and use cases

Low Risk Tasks

- Compose an email, resident response, proofread
- Fix the formatting
- First draft of staff report
- Summarize long email thread
- Turn messy meeting notes in a polished summary with action items
- Rewrite critical feedback so it lands as coaching instead of criticism
- Build a knowledge base

Procurement Wiki

[← Back to Chat](#) | [Document Management](#)

Knowledge Base

 **Understanding procurement basics**
Buy-ology 101_Understanding the ... Added Jun 8, 2026

 **Procurement request form instructions**
Procurement request form instruct... Added Jun 8, 2026

 **Informal vendor selection general guide and checklist**
Informal vendor selection general ... Added Jun 8, 2026

 **How to- 4 steps to procurement guide**
How to- 4 steps to procurement g... Added Jun 8, 2026

 **Procurement process overview workflow**
Procurement process overview w... Added Jun 8, 2026

Conversations +

New Conversation

New Conversation

Document Admin

Procurement Assistant

City Staff Knowledge Base

Manage Documents

Ask a question about procurement...

Send

Made with Replit

AI responses are generated based on uploaded procurement documents. Verify critical information.

Delete

Delete

Human in the Loop

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ChatGPT 5.2 >



give me a list of ancillary tasks an executive assistant might handle to lighten the load of the executive she is supporting

Love this idea — it's such a practical way to show how an executive assistant supports strategic work, not just logistics. This kind of list works really well in job descriptions, performance reviews or when you're helping a new city manager or mayor understand how to use their EA effectively.

Here's a clean list you can number later, with wording that fits a municipal executive office like you're used to in San Marcos or Carlsbad.

If you'd like, I can also tailor this for:

- a city manager specifically
- a mayor or elected official
- a senior communication director's executive assistant
- a lean-government framing (showing how these tasks improve service delivery and transparency)

Just say the word and we'll shape it to fit your next job description or org chart 👍



A city manager specifically

SAN MARCOS
Discover Life's Possibilities

Role overview

Core functions

Confidentiality and discretion: Handle sensitive information with sound judgment and integrity

Executive Assistant Desk Manual

Team 1 day before

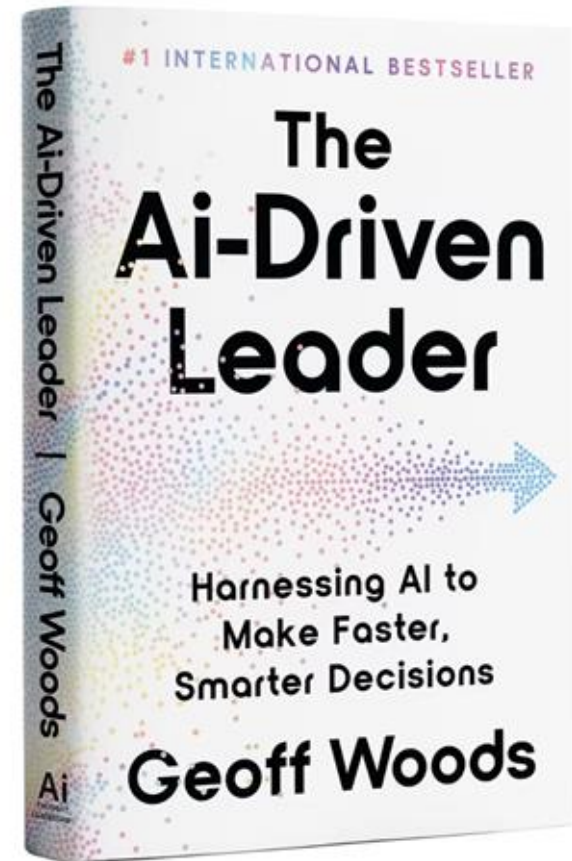
Approach

"off site meetings" → "off-site meetings"



AI as Thought Partner

The real power of AI isn't writing emails faster; it's helping leaders think better, make smarter decisions and focus on strategy instead of operations.



Thought Partner

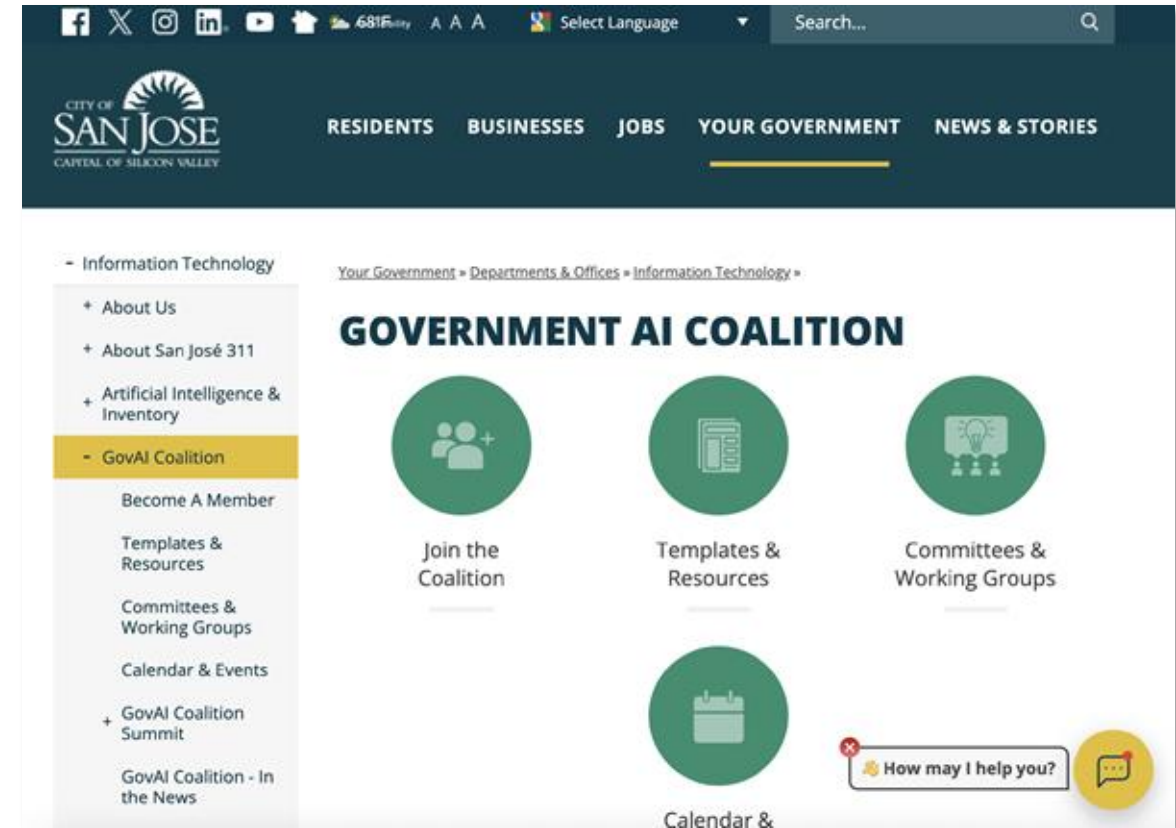
- Executive coach
- Test ideas, find holes
- Iteration loops, second opinions
- Role-play stakeholders
- Develop strategy



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Safety First

1. Follow your policy
2. Always check accuracy
3. Don't inadvertently steal someone's IP
4. Disclose
5. Assume all your information will become public
6. Challenge for bias

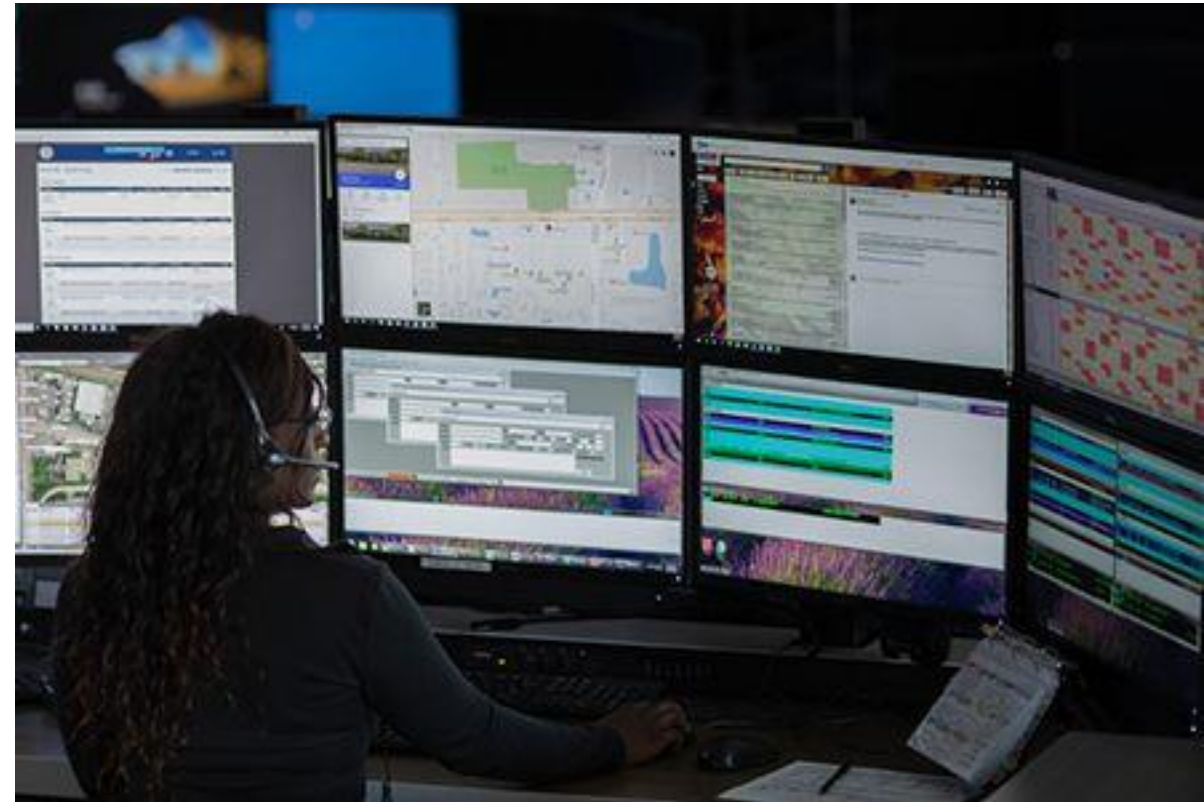


Real World Examples

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AI for Public Works

- Predictive maintenance
- Automate work order process
- Traffic signal optimization
- Asset management
- Smart dispatching
- Synthesizing public input
- Report writing and presentations
- Training at all levels
- Improving data accessibility / ADA
- Customer service



Anthropic Study

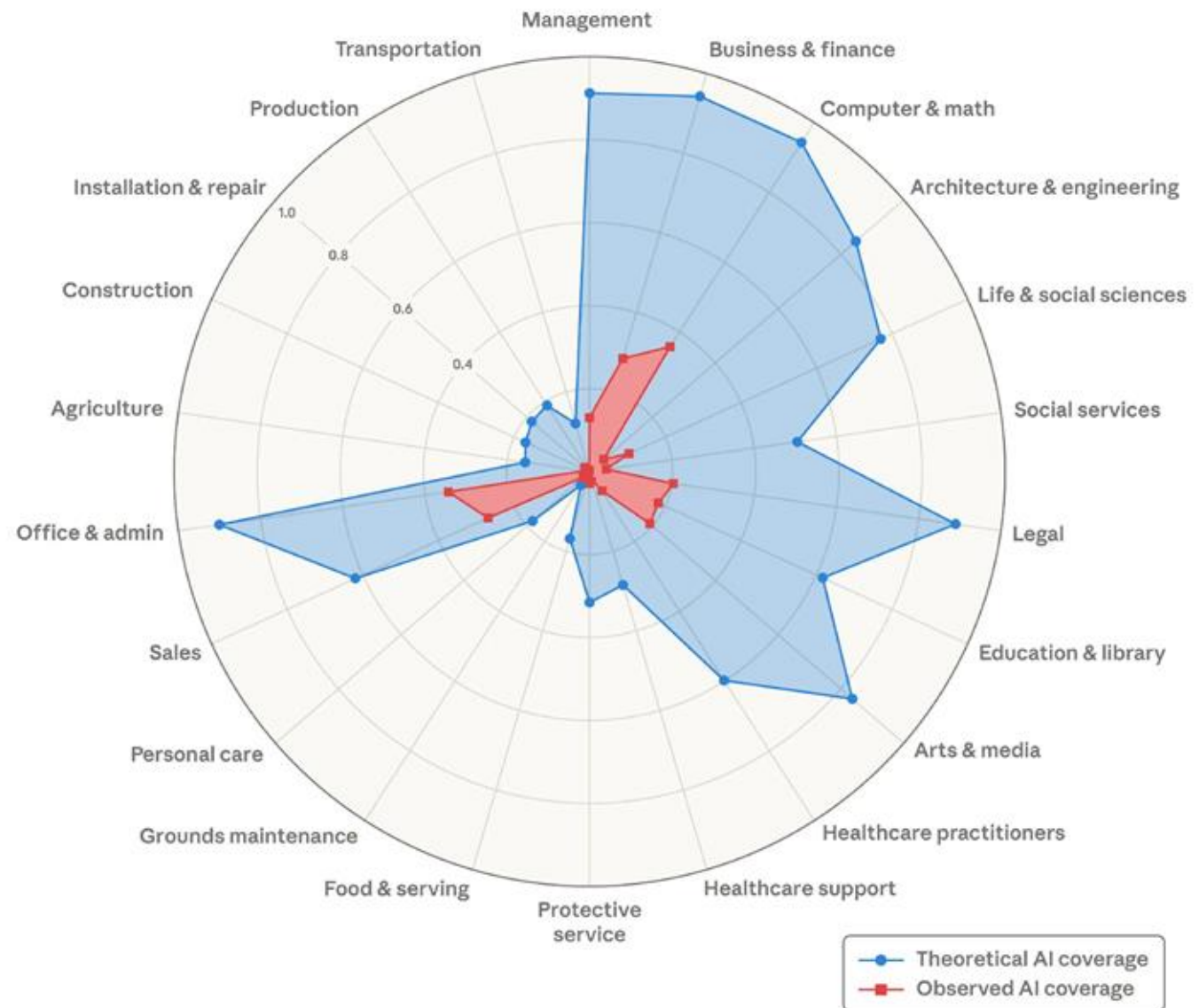
"Labor market impacts of AI: A new measure & early evidence"

Blue = job tasks LLMs could
theoretically perform

Red = job coverage measure
derived from usage data

March 2026

Theoretical capability and observed usage by occupational category



AI Choices

ANTHROPIC  perplexity


Otter.ai


Midjourney

 Claude

 deepseek

 ChatGPT

 Grok

 Gemini

 NotebookLM

 replit

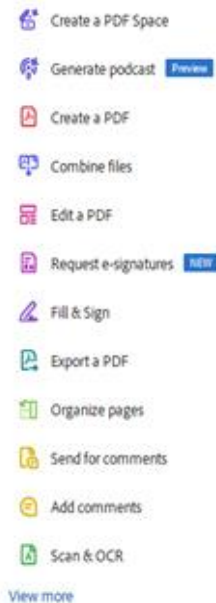
 Copilot

 OPENCLAW

Case Studies

Meeting ADA requirements: April 2026 WCAG 2.1

- Ensure digital accessibility for users with disabilities
- Prepare documents to be accepted by agency webmaster
- AltText descriptions become part of your public record

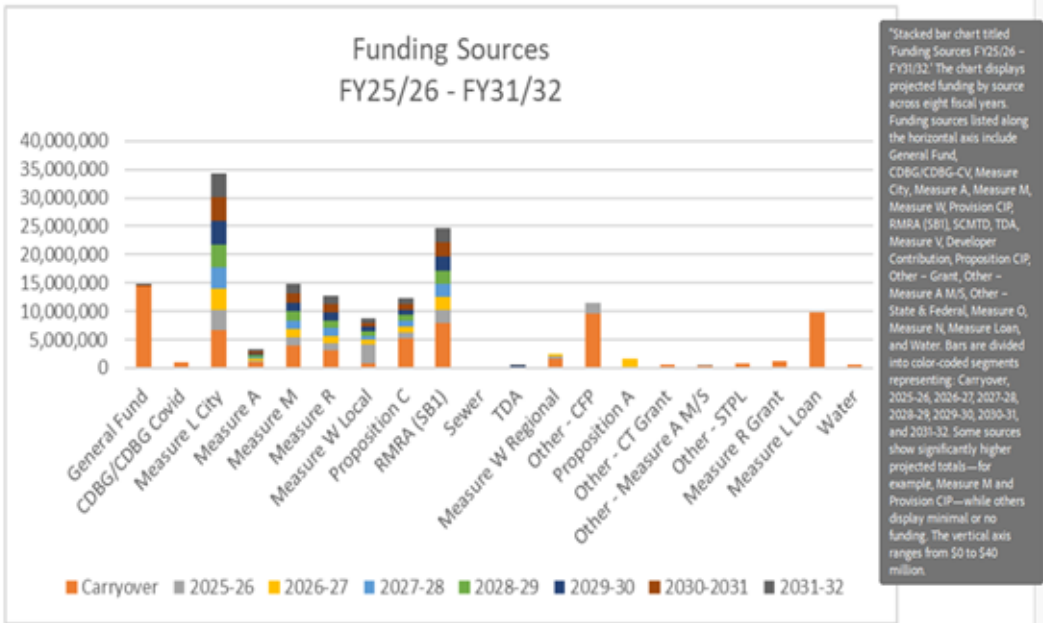


Get PDFs e-signed. Recipients sign online for free.

Request e-signatures

It is noted that approximately \$681,000 of future Measure A funds are not yet allocated to projects pending future decisions on park project prioritization and the relative funding availability timeframe.

The CIP Budget Funding and CIP Budget Expenditures, by source of funds and fiscal year, not including the unfunded values, are shown on the following charts.



THURSDAY, July 9, 2026 | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm

Public Works AI Strategies & Case Studies

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



GABRIELA DOW
Director - Public Affairs &
Community Relations
Ardurra



A man wearing a suit and tie.
Description generated by AI
City of San Marcos

SPONSOR



AGENCY SPOTLIGHT



SPECIAL PRESENTATION

**2026
APWA
INTERNS,
MENTORS,
SPONSORS**

Case Studies

Coding – Replit

- Simple app to summarize projects, resumes, images
- Establish centralized web-based access and standards

The screenshot displays a web application for 'Employee Management'. On the left is a sidebar with navigation links: Dashboard, Search, Employees (highlighted), Projects, References, Generated Resumes, Generate Resume, Resume Templates, and a DATA MANAGEMENT section with Import Data and Export Data. The main content area is titled 'Employee Management' with a subtitle 'Manage employee profiles and specializations' and an 'Add Employee' button. Below this is a search bar and a table of employees. The table has three columns: Employee, Projects & Bios, and Actions. Each row represents an employee with a unique ID, name, title, project count, project types, profile picture, and action icons (edit, delete, etc.).

Employee	Projects & Bios	Actions
RD Ricardo Díaz Digital Design Specialist	1 Project Marketing	  
CK Carmen Kasner SW Regional Operations Director	2 Projects Water	  
SD Susan Duffett Senior Graphic Designer	Water	  
LC Lauren Clulow Graphic Designer	Water	  
YA Yolanda Art Project Coordinator	Water	  
RK Rachel Kulis Assistant Project Manager	12 Projects Water	  
MP Melanie Perry Community Relations Specialist	2 Projects Transportation Water	  
RC Rebecca Cole Strategic Advisor	3 Projects Transportation Water	  
GD Gabriela Dow Strategic Advisor	25 Projects Marketing Transportation Water	  

ResumeBuilder

Fix issue where placeholder text was saved as em...

Completed tasks3 / 3

Checkpoint made 5 months ago

Worked for 3 minutes

The data was lost for the three new fields on the Edit Employee page. Can you restore the data I entered earlier?

5 months ago

2 messages & 5 actions

Worked for 44 seconds

Wrong. No data was ever entered for Lauren Clulow for the three new fields. And there is no data there for her. See attached screenshot with no data for her.

5 months ago

3 messages & 5 actions

Checkpoint made 5 months ago

Worked for 45 seconds

Yes. Check the employee edit form to see if there's a bug causing placeholder text to be saved as real data and I will add the data again tomorrow.

5 months ago

19 actions

Bug Found and Fixed!

I found the exact issue causing placeholder text to be saved as real data in the employee edit form.

The Problem:

The form initialization was incomplete - it was missing the three new fields (Education, Awards, Professional Affiliations) in her initial...

Make, test, iterate...

Build

Preview

Console

replit.dev/employees

Resume Builder

Fast + Bespoke = Wins!

Dashboard

Search

Employees

Projects

References

Generated Resumes

Generate Resume

Resume Templates

DATA MANAGEMENT

Import Data

Export Data

Employee Management

Manage employee profiles and specializations

Quick Generate

Add Employee

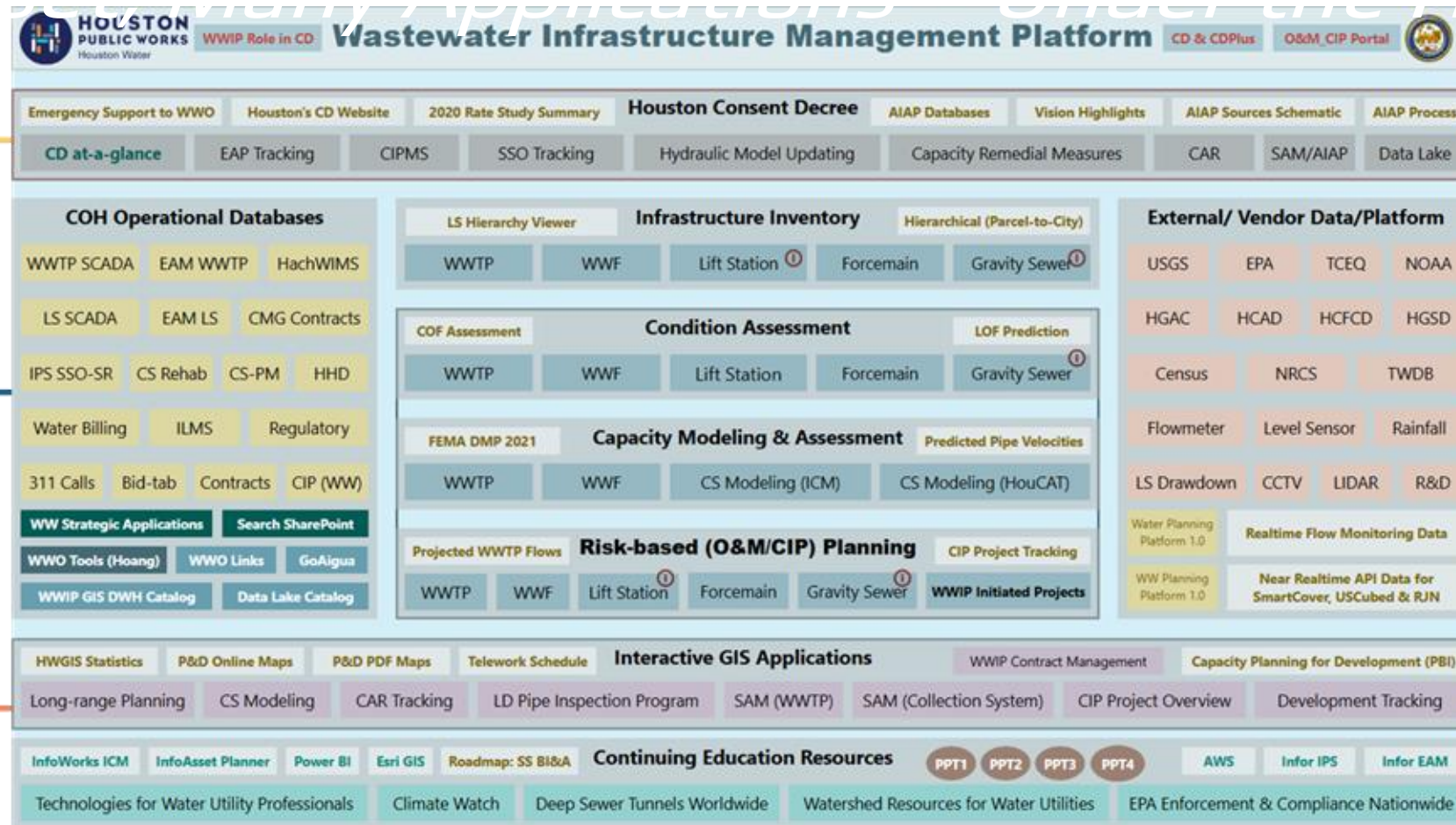
Employee Management

Manage employee profiles and specializations

Search employees...

Employee	Projects & Bios	Action
LC Lauren Clulow Graphic Designer	Water	  
YA Yolanda Art Project Coordinator	Water	  
RK Rachel Kulis Assistant Project Manager	Water	  
MP Melanie Perry Community Relations Specialist	Water	  
RC Rebecca Cole Strategic Advisor	3 Projects Transportation Water	  
GD Gabriela Dow Strategic Advisor	10 Projects Marketing Transportation Water	  

Houston's Advanced Infrastructure Analytics:



Historical to
Real time

Automatically
Updated

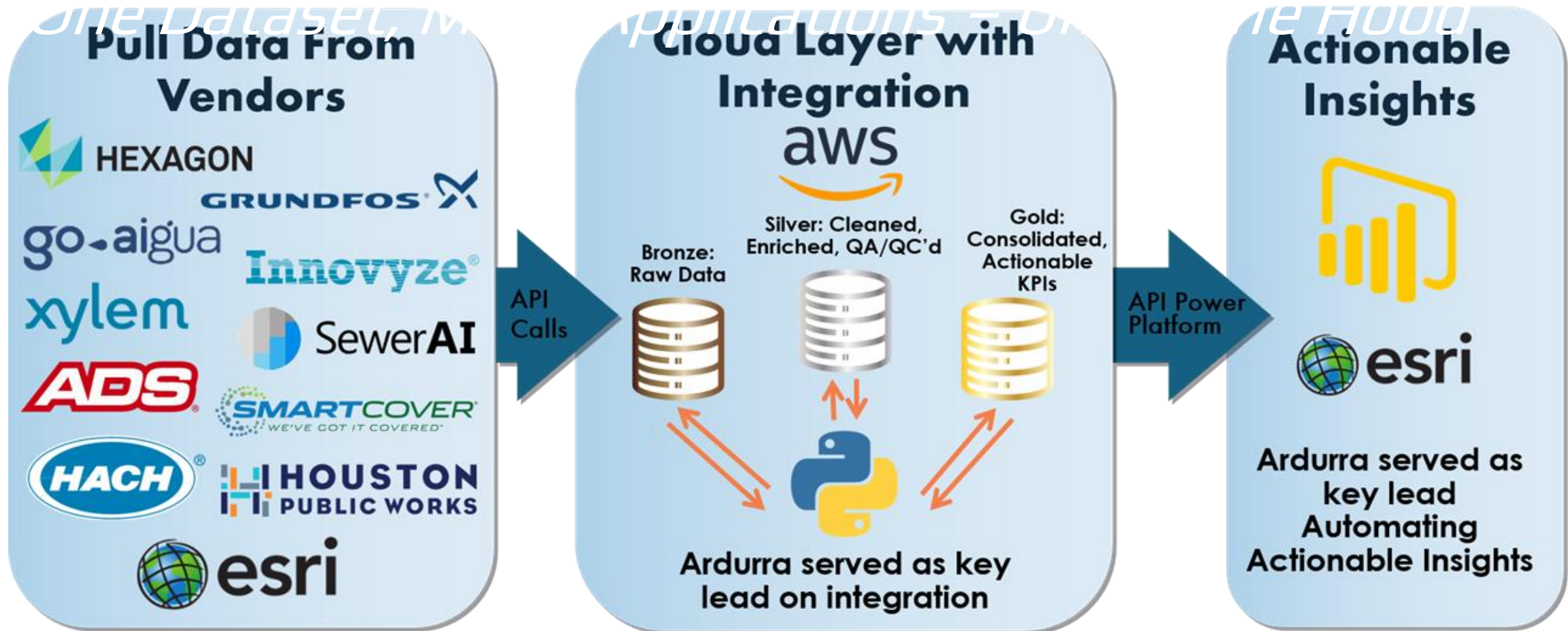
Used by Planning
and Operations
and Consultants

100s of
Databases

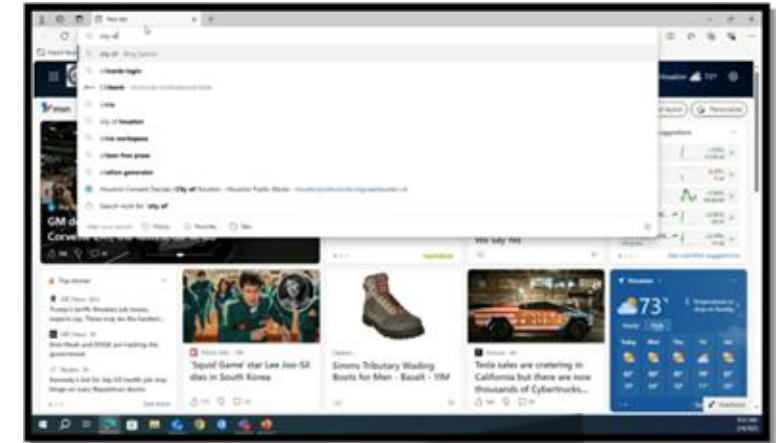
Organized by
Function, Asset
Hierarchy, and
Audience

Many
Vendors

Houston's Advanced Infrastructure Analytics:



Retrieval-Augmented Generation = Trusted

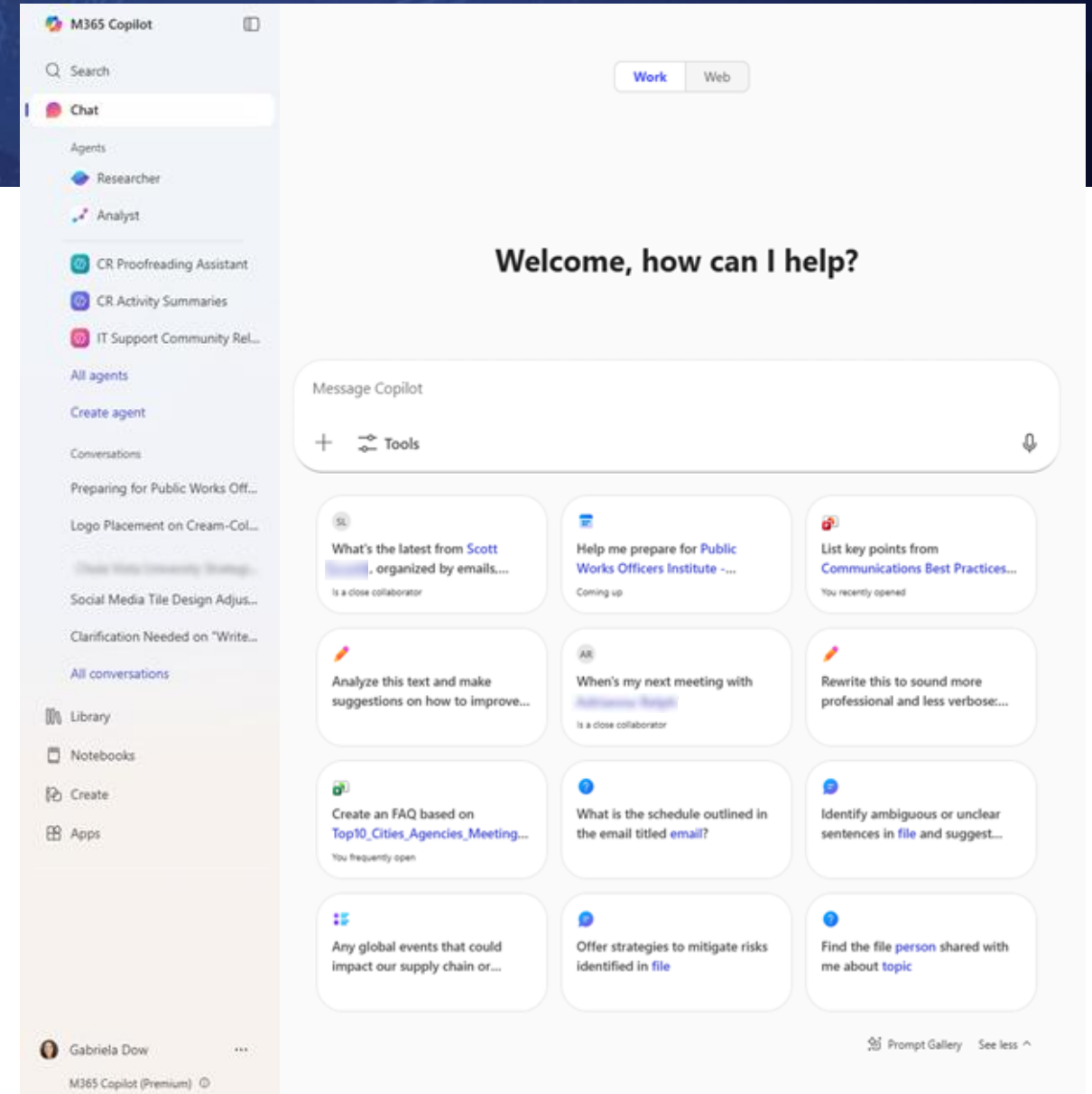


Method/ Model	Time	Correctness
ChatGPT	1 minute	Wrong – made up answer
WWAI (RAG enabled)	3 minutes	Right – prompted pieces that required more thought
DatArdurra (RAG enabled)	2 minutes	Right – prompted pieces of question that required more thought
Me	3 minutes	Wrong – looked at incorrect row for hair salon (human error – trying to go fast)
Reality	N/A	Question Itself Needed Work (Importance of Prompt Engineering)

Case Studies

Creating AI Agents

- QA / QC, proofing
- Summarizing information
- Language translation glossaries





Build your “stack”

- Co-Pilot
- Claude and ChatGPT
- Google's NotebookLM
- Sora
- Replit
- Grok

Thank you!

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