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— SEPTEMBER 10 —

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Subject to Change

Speakers:

- Adam Stratton, Director, Solar Business Development, **Acciona Energy USA Global LLC**
- Adrian Pearmine, Western Director of Mobility Technologies, **STV**
- AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, **Kahua**
- Ana Isabel Mendoza, GIS Specialist, **McLean County Government**
- Bethany Bennick, Deputy Team Lead for Water & Wastewater Technologies | Global Environmental Technology Team, **U.S. Department of Commerce**
- Bill Selbig, Research Hydrologist, Upper Midwest Water Science Center, **USGS**
- Brian Daly, Program Manager, Department of Environment and Sustainability, **Cook County**
- Brian Katamay, Long Term Control Planner, **City of Aurora**
- Chris Meister, Executive Director, **Illinois Finance Authority**
- Dareen Salama, Co-Founder and CEO, **Gryps**
- Earl Jackson | Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer, Department of Transportation & Infrastructure, **City & County of Denver**
- Ebonie Davis, Public Contracts Unit Administrator, **Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR)**
- Elbert Walters III, Executive Director, **Powering Chicago**
- Elizabeth Granato, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Asset Management, **Cook County Government**
- Emily Eichholzer, Project Manager of Collections & Pumping, **City of Naperville**
- Eric Boria, Senior Technical Analyst and Project Manager, **GTI Energy**
- Eric Paul Dennis, Research Associate of Infrastructure Policy, **Citizens Research Council of Michigan**
- Eze Phil-Ebosie, Director of Engineering, **ComEd**
- Feng Huang, Manager, DER Interconnection, **ComEd**
- Hapreet Suji, Manager - Capital Programs, **OnIndus**
- Jacqueline Umbles, Public Affairs, Department of Procurement Services, **City of Chicago**
- Jana Williams, Assistant Procurement Officer, **City of Chicago**
- Jim Doten, Carbon Sequestration Program Manager, **City of Minneapolis**
- Joe Shacter Director, Program Management, **Amtrak Chicago Hub Improvement Program**
- JuanPablo Prieto, Director, Diversity Programs, **Chicago Transit Authority**
- Karl Frisk, Operations Manager, **Peoples Gas**
- Kevin Campbell, Director – Maintenance Operations, **City of Chicago, Department of Fleet & Facility Management (2FM)**
- Khurshid Hoda, Director, Engineering Programs and Services, **Village of Orland Park**
- KiSeok Jeon, VP, Digital Advisory, **STV**
- Lindsay Bayley, Program Lead, Safe & Complete Streets, **Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning**
- Mark McElroy, Director, Analytics, **STV**
- Misty Brown, Senior Manager, Outreach Programs, **Chicago Transit Authority**
- Neha Soni, Senior Planner, **Cook County Department of Transportation & Highways**
- Nick Caravella, Director of Growth and Industry Strategy, **Avicado Construction Technology Services**
- Norman Ruano, Deputy Director, Illinois Works, **Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity**
- Patrick Mohney, Senior Lands Program Manager, **Michigan Department of Natural Resources**
- Rajeev Jain, Principal Specialist, Research Software Engineering, **Argonne National Laboratory**
- Ricardo Magallon Manager, Air Inspection Division, Department of Environment and Sustainability, **Cook County**

- Richard Fisher, Principal Civil Engineer, **Metropolitan Water Reclamation District**
- Sayeh Amirshaghghi, Chief Water Engineer, Department of Water Management, **City of Chicago**
- Sean Keane, Parking & Mobility Services Manager, Development Services Department, **Village of Oak Park**
- Shannon Stokes, Deputy General Counsel/Ethics Officer, **Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services**
- Soliman Khudeira, Section Chief of Major Projects, **CDOT**
- Suzanne Mosher, Acting Senior Director, Program Management, **Amtrak Chicago Hub Improvement Program**
- Ted Gibbs, Director and Counsel for Administrative Hearings, **Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulias**
- Tim Kingsland, HSD Coordinator, **Hobart Sanitary/Storm Water District**
- Ty Warner, Executive Director, **NIRPC**
- William White, Software Engineering Lead, **STV**

	<u>September 9th</u>
6:00-8:00pm	<u>Pre-Event Reception</u> Hotel Chicago Downtown, Autograph Collection 333 N Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60654
	<u>September 10th</u>
7:00am	<u>Main Event</u> Hotel Chicago Downtown, Autograph Collection 333 N Dearborn St, Chicago, IL 60654 <u>Registration Opens</u>
7:50-8:00	<u>Opening Remarks</u>
8:00-8:40	<u>Panel: Revolutionizing Public Infrastructure: The Impact of AI and Machine Learning</u> In an era of rapid technological advancement, the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) is transforming public infrastructure projects. This panel will explore the multifaceted roles these technologies play in enhancing the efficiency, sustainability, and resilience of public infrastructure. Experts from diverse fields will discuss how AI and ML are being leveraged to optimize project planning, streamline construction processes, and improve maintenance strategies. Key topics will include predictive analytics for infrastructure health monitoring, autonomous construction vehicles, and AI-driven project management tools. Attendees will gain insights into the latest innovations, practical applications, and future trends shaping the infrastructure landscape. Join us to understand how AI and ML are not just augmenting but fundamentally reshaping the infrastructure of our communities, paving the way for smarter, safer, and more sustainable public spaces.

	<p>Moderator: KiSeok Jeon, VP, Digital Advisory, STV</p> <p>Panelists: Brian Katamay, Long Term Control Planner, City of Aurora Mark McElroy, Director, Analytics, STV Rajeev Jain, Principal Specialist, Research Software Engineering, Argonne National Laboratory Ty Warner, Executive Director, NIRPC</p>
8:40-9:20	<p><u>Panel: Adapting Infrastructure for a Changing Climate: Strategies and Innovations by Public Agencies</u></p> <p>As the impacts of climate change become increasingly evident, public agencies are at the forefront of developing and implementing strategies to ensure infrastructure resilience and sustainability. This panel will bring together experts from government, academia, and industry to discuss how public agencies are proactively accounting for climate change in infrastructure development. Topics will include climate risk assessments, the integration of green infrastructure, and the adoption of adaptive design principles. Panelists will share case studies and best practices from projects that have successfully incorporated climate resilience measures. Attendees will learn about innovative policy frameworks, funding mechanisms, and collaborative efforts that are driving climate-responsive infrastructure planning and development. Join us to explore how public agencies are leading the charge in creating infrastructure that can withstand and adapt to the challenges of a changing climate, ensuring long-term safety and functionality for communities.</p> <p>Moderator: Bethany Bennick, Deputy Team Lead for Water & Wastewater Technologies Global Environmental Technology Team, U.S. Department of Commerce</p> <p>Panelists: Bill Selbig, Research Hydrologist, Upper Midwest Water Science Center, USGS Brian Daly, Program Manager, Department of Environment and Sustainability, Cook County Earl Jackson Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer, Department of Transportation & Infrastructure, City & County of Denver Jim Doten, Carbon Sequestration Program Manager, City of Minneapolis Richard Fisher, Principal Civil Engineer, Metropolitan Water Reclamation District</p>
9:20-9:40	<p><u>Panel: Reimagining Utility Infrastructure in the Midwest: Challenges and Innovations</u></p> <p>Utility infrastructure in the Midwest faces a unique set of challenges and opportunities, driven by factors such as aging systems, population shifts, economic changes, and evolving environmental regulations. This panel will delve into the complexities of developing and maintaining robust utility infrastructure in this</p>

	<p>region, highlighting specific case studies to illustrate key points. Experts from utilities, regulatory bodies, and industry will discuss topics such as grid modernization, water infrastructure resilience, and the integration of renewable energy sources. Attendees will gain insights into innovative solutions being implemented to address aging infrastructure, enhance energy efficiency, and improve service reliability. Additionally, the panel will explore collaborative approaches between public and private sectors to overcome regulatory and financial hurdles. Join us to understand how the Midwest is navigating its utility infrastructure challenges and leveraging new opportunities to build a sustainable and resilient future.</p> <p>Moderator: AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, Kahua</p> <p>Panelists: Eze Phil-Ebosie, Director of Engineering, ComEd Ricardo Magallon Manager, Air Inspection Division, Department of Environment and Sustainability, Cook County</p>
9:40-10:00	<p><u>Presentation: Decarbonizing Energy at WEC Energy Group</u></p> <p>WEC Energy Group (WEC) is one of the largest energy providers in the country, serving 4.7 million customers across the Midwest. This includes multiple generation, storage, transmission and distribution networks for electricity and natural gas. WEC has set aggressive goals to decarbonize this energy by reducing carbon emissions in electric generation and decreasing methane emissions in natural gas distribution. This presentation will discuss details of how these goals will be achieved through a combination of utilizing different fuel sources, upgrading or replacing equipment and implementing new technologies while still ensuring safety, reliability and satisfaction for customers.</p> <p>Presenter: Karl Frisk, Operations Manager, Peoples Gas</p>
10:00-10:20	<p><u>Morning Networking Break</u></p>
10:20-10:40	<p><u>Presentation: Selected Programs and Sample Projects - Chicago Department of Transportation</u></p> <p>This presentation will cover selected standing programs at CDOT. The presentation will also provide details on selected major projects, and cover implemented design and construction innovations. Application of the Self-Propelled Modular Transporters (SPMT) in a project will be shown. SPMT's is used to accelerate the construction schedule with minimum disturbance to the stakeholders. After the structure is assembled on the side of the road, SPMT's carries it and places it in its final location. Other implemented innovations include the usage of computer software to model an entire structure or the structural components, which has</p>

	<p>proven to be highly efficient for the design team, the construction management team, and the contractor.</p> <p>Speaker: Soliman Khudeira, Section Chief of Major Projects, CDOT</p>
<p>10:40-11:00</p>	<p><u>Presentation: New State of Illinois Incentive Program for Contractors—the Illinois Works Bid Credit Program</u></p> <p>This presentation will cover the newly released Bid Credit Program at the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) Office of Illinois Works. This program is the final program of the Illinois Works portfolio of programs being implemented to bring equity and sustainability to the Illinois construction workforce, and it is a strategic part of the Governor’s \$45 billion Rebuild Illinois infrastructure plan that is presently being executed throughout the state. The Bid Credit Program is an incentive program for all contractors and subcontractors in the State of Illinois. This voluntary program allows contractors and subcontractors to earn generous amounts of bid credits or “virtual dollars” by hiring and retaining Illinois Works Pre-apprenticeship Program graduates and is applicable to all construction trades. Bid credits will be paid based on the construction trade the graduate is employed in and can be banked in the contractors’ Bid Credit bank account for up to ten years. The contractor can redeem their bid credits or pool them with other contractors and or subcontractors to bid on a future state-funded capital projects to make their bids more competitive. Registration for the program and all requests are submitted online, and data collection has been streamlined to make the program as simple as possible with contractor’s having 24/7 access to their account. Monthly, a registry of all participating contractors and subcontractors of the program will be published on our the program’s webpage promoting the networking of all contractors.</p> <p>Presenter: Norman Ruano, Deputy Director, Illinois Works, Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity</p>
<p>11:00-11:20</p>	<p><u>Presentation: MEGA Project Update: Chicago Hub Improvement Program (CHIP)</u></p> <p>Work on Amtrak’s top National Network Priority is underway! CHIP will provide faster, safer, and more reliable service to support the Midwest’s growing ridership. CHIP will transform regional and long-distance passenger rail service, connect job centers, reduce our carbon footprint and more. The presentation will include updates on both the Chicago Union Station and Infrastructure Improvement components of CHIP, with some of those components now approaching construction readiness, and others well into concept studies and preliminary engineering. Upcoming funding strategies and local agency partnerships will also be discussed, including Amtrak’s potential applications for the upcoming Federal State Partnership grant program to be announced early this fall.</p> <p>Presenters:</p>

	<p>Joe Shacter Director, Program Management, Amtrak Chicago Hub Improvement Program</p> <p>Suzanne Mosher, Acting Senior Director, Program Management, Amtrak Chicago Hub Improvement Program</p>
<p>11:20-11:50</p>	<p><u>Panel: Pathways to Renewable Energy and Net Zero in the Midwest</u></p> <p>The transition to renewable energy and the pursuit of net-zero emissions are reshaping the energy landscape in the Midwest. This panel will explore the innovative strategies and initiatives driving this transformation in the region's energy infrastructure. Experts from energy companies, government agencies, and research institutions will discuss the current state and prospects of renewable energy deployment, grid modernization, and energy storage solutions. Key topics will include the integration of wind and solar power, advancements in battery technology, and policy frameworks supporting the net-zero transition. Through detailed case studies, attendees will learn about successful projects and best practices that are setting the Midwest on a path to a sustainable energy future. The panel will also address challenges such as regulatory barriers, financing, and community engagement. Join us to gain a comprehensive understanding of how the Midwest is harnessing renewable energy to achieve ambitious net-zero goals, ensuring a cleaner, more resilient energy infrastructure for generations to come.</p> <p>Moderator: Nick Caravella, Director of Growth and Industry Strategy, Avicado Construction Technology Services</p> <p>Panelists: Adam Stratton, Director, Solar Business Development, Acciona Energy USA Global LLC Elizabeth Granato, Bureau Chief, Bureau of Asset Management, Cook County Government Feng Huang, Manager, DER Interconnection, ComEd</p>
<p>11:50-12:20</p>	<p><u>Panel: The Quest to Improve Data Quality</u></p> <p>It has been said that 2.5 quintillion bytes of data are collected daily on projects, yet 96% of that data remains unused in both building and managing capital assets. Why might you ask? For the vast majority, the issue remains a lack of trust in the data quality. In fact, it is estimated that poor data quality is costing companies a combined \$3 trillion per year.</p> <p>However, every challenge creates an opportunity. Listen in as this panel journeys through the steps they took to improve data quality. From navigating the ever-changing landscape of technology solutions to breaking down silos across dozens of applications, these individuals have done the work to rebuild trust in their analytics. Learn how you too can restore faith in your data, limit the waste and ultimately improve decision making across your asset portfolio.</p>

	<p>Moderator: AJ Waters, Chief Evangelist, Kahua</p> <p>Panelists: Dareen Salama, Co-Founder and CEO, Gryps Hapreet Suji, Manager - Capital Programs, OnIndus William White, Software Engineering Lead, STV</p>
12:20-1:00	<p><u>Panel: Urban Transformation: The Impact of New Mobility Solutions on City Landscapes</u></p> <p>As cities grapple with increasing congestion and pollution, new mobility solutions are emerging as transformative forces reshaping urban landscapes. This panel will examine the innovative mobility technologies and strategies that are redefining transportation in modern cities. Experts from urban planning, transportation technology, and policy development will discuss the integration of electric vehicles, shared mobility services, autonomous transportation, and smart infrastructure. Key topics will include the role of mobility-as-a-service (MaaS) platforms, the deployment of micro-mobility options like e-scooters and bikes, and the development of smart traffic management systems. Attendees will gain insights into how these solutions are enhancing connectivity, reducing environmental impact, and improving quality of life for city residents. Through case studies and real-world examples, the panel will explore the challenges and opportunities in implementing new mobility solutions, including regulatory hurdles, technological advancements, and the need for cross-sector collaboration. Join us to discover how the future of urban mobility is being shaped today, creating more efficient, sustainable, and livable cities.</p> <p>Moderator: Adrian Pearmine, Western Director of Mobility Technologies, STV</p> <p>Panelists: Ana Isabel Mendoza, GIS Specialist, McLean County Government Kevin Campbell, Director – Maintenance Operations, City of Chicago, Department of Fleet & Facility Management (2FM) Lindsay Bayley, Program Lead, Safe & Complete Streets, Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning Neha Soni, Senior Planner, Cook County Department of Transportation & Highways Sean Keane, Parking & Mobility Services Manager, Development Services Department, Village of Oak Park</p>
1:00-2:00	<p><u>Lunch</u></p>
2:00-2:20	<p><u>Presentation: EV Infrastructure</u></p> <p>Presenter: Elbert Walters III, Executive Director, Powering Chicago</p>

<p>2:20-2:40</p>	<p><u>Presentation: How The Chicago Transit Authority Promotes Equity in Infrastructure and Contracting</u></p> <p>CTA's Diversity Programs creates an environment of diversity, equity, and inclusion by promoting dialogue with the contracting community and other stakeholders that will improve the Chicago Transit Authority's (CTA's) ability to level the playing field and establish diversity as a critical component of the CTA's contracting practices. Diversity is a core value of the CTA. This is evidenced as the CTA was one of the five First Mover Agencies to commit to The Equity in Infrastructure Project (EIP), designed to improve public contracting practices by creating more opportunities for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUBs) to build generational wealth and reduce the racial wealth gap by creating more prime, joint venture and equity contracting opportunities for these firms.</p> <p>The CTA puts actions to words with its Building Small Businesses (BSB) program. The program is administered by Ascend HI, a consortium of DBE firms and BIPOC-led non-profits formed to increase pathways to capital and procurement for diverse and small businesses. BSB components are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capital Sourcing and Placement • Financial Management • Technical Assistance • Procurement Connections <p>The Building Small Businesses program has assisted over 30 firms in accessing \$14M in capital.</p> <p>Presenter: JuanPablo Prieto, Director, Diversity Programs, Chicago Transit Authority Misty Brown, Senior Manager, Outreach Programs, Chicago Transit Authority</p>
<p>2:40-3:20</p>	<p><u>Panel: Challenges and Solutions for Public Works Directors in the Midwest</u></p> <p>Public works directors in the Midwest face a unique set of challenges as they strive to maintain and improve essential infrastructure amidst changing environmental, economic, and social conditions. This panel will bring together experienced public works professionals to discuss the pressing issues they encounter and the innovative strategies they employ to address them. Key topics will include aging infrastructure, budget constraints, workforce shortages, and the impacts of climate change. Panelists will share insights on balancing immediate needs with long-term planning, leveraging technology for efficient project management, and fostering community engagement and support. Through real-world case studies and best practices, attendees will learn about successful approaches to overcoming regulatory and funding obstacles, enhancing infrastructure resilience, and promoting sustainability. Join us to gain a deeper understanding of the complexities facing public works directors in the Midwest and to explore collaborative solutions that can drive the future of public infrastructure in the region.</p>

	<p>Moderator: Jacqueline Umbles, Public Affairs, Department of Procurement Services, City of Chicago</p> <p>Panelists: Jana Williams, Assistant Procurement Officer, City of Chicago Khurshid Hoda, Director, Engineering Programs and Services, Village of Orland Park Patrick Mohney, Senior Lands Program Manager, Michigan Department of Natural Resources Ted Gibbs, Director and Counsel for Administrative Hearings, Secretary of State Alexi Giannoulis</p>
3:20-3:40	<u>Afternoon Break</u>
3:40-4:00	<p><u>Panel: Equity in Infrastructure: Bridging Gaps and Building Futures in the Midwest</u></p> <p>The Midwest faces unique challenges and opportunities in developing equitable infrastructure. This panel will explore strategies to ensure that infrastructure investments promote inclusivity, accessibility, and economic growth for all communities. Experts from government, private sector, and community organizations will discuss innovative approaches to address disparities in transportation, housing, and public services. By examining successful case studies and identifying best practices, this panel aims to create a roadmap for equitable infrastructure development that benefits every Midwestern resident. Participants will gain insights into policy frameworks, funding mechanisms, and collaborative efforts that can drive equitable outcomes and sustainable development in the region.</p> <p>Moderator: Ebonie Davis, Public Contracts Unit Administrator, Illinois Department of Human Rights (IDHR)</p> <p>Panelists: Eric Boria, Senior Technical Analyst and Project Manager, GTI Energy Shannon Stokes, Deputy General Counsel/Ethics Officer, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services</p>
4:00-4:20	<p><u>Presentation: Illinois Finance Authority & Climate Bank</u></p> <p>Illinois Finance Authority & Climate Bank (“IFA”) is currently in award or documentation of close to \$390 million in federal grants, some in partnership with other Illinois agencies such as the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency, on behalf of the state of Illinois. This presentation will cover select financial assistance programs, products, and services presently offered by the IFA, including the Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Open Market Initiative and State Small Business Credit Initiative, as well as those that will be introduced in subsequent years. IFA will leverage these funds and its services to accelerate investment into clean energy projects in Illinois in a manner reflective of the diversity of the State.</p>

	<p>Presenter: Chris Meister, Executive Director, Illinois Finance Authority</p>
<p>4:20-4:40</p>	<p><u>Presentation: Evaluating Statewide Road Funding and Pavement Condition</u></p> <p>Many state-level highway policy discussions include comparing states in terms of funding levels and system condition. The Citizens Research Council of Michigan has created a composite Pavement Condition Index combining multiple pavement condition metrics reported by the Federal Highway Administration using the latest available data. We have also created a composite Road Funding Index using highway programs funding data from 2012 to 2021. Evaluation of these Index scores suggest a wide range in the ability of states to best utilize their funding levels to obtain quality road conditions. We conclude that factors unrelated to funding may be more controlled in achieving a good quality road network.</p> <p>Presenter: Eric Paul Dennis, Research Associate of Infrastructure Policy, Citizens Research Council of Michigan</p>
<p>4:40-5:10</p>	<p><u>Panel: Innovative Approaches to Water Infrastructure in the Midwest: Challenges, Solutions, and Future Directions</u></p> <p>This panel explores the critical issues surrounding water infrastructure in the Midwest, a region facing unique challenges due to aging systems, climate change, and increasing demand. Experts from various fields will discuss the current state of water infrastructure, highlighting successful projects, innovative technologies, and policy frameworks that are addressing these challenges. The panel will also delve into the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of water infrastructure investments, offering insights into sustainable practices and future directions. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the strategies needed to ensure reliable, efficient, and resilient water systems in the Midwest.</p> <p>Panelists: Sayeh Amirshaghghi, Chief Water Engineer, Department of Water Management, City of Chicago Tim Kingsland, HSD Coordinator, Hobart Sanitary/Storm Water District</p>
<p>5:10-5:30</p>	<p><u>Presentation: Getting the Most out of Manhole Rehabilitation Contracts – City of Naperville</u></p> <p>This presentation will cover the City of Naperville’s inspection processes around CIP Manhole Rehabilitation projects. By utilizing extensive internal inspection practices, the City of Naperville receives the best possible final product from our contractors. Ultimately, these rehabilitated manholes reduce inflow/infiltration into the sanitary sewer system mitigating the treatment of clean water at wastewater treatment plant.</p>

	Presenter: Emily Eichholzer, Project Manager of Collections & Pumping, City of Naperville
5:30	<u>Event Close and Closing Reception</u>