NEW WAVE AI AND GIS

DATA-RICH SOLUTIONS FOR THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY

with Esri's Anika-Aduesa Smart and Jhonatan Garrido-Lecca

TUESDAY, MARCH 24, 2026

Boxed Lunch: 11:40 a.m.
Talk: 12:00–12:40 p.m.
Q&A: 12:40–1:10 p.m.

University of Redlands, Casa Loma Room
1230 E Brockton Ave, Redlands, CA 92374

RSVP by March 19
(in-person or virtual):
tinyurl.com/CSB-MS-Esri

In the transportation sector, challenges include passenger safety, service gap detection, fleet health monitoring, and demand forecasting. Addressing these challenges requires AI to drive real-time operational awareness, predictive and prescriptive location analytics, and spatially informed decision-making at scale. The decision to adopt AI involves technical, organizational, and accountability considerations.

The speakers will show how pairing ArcGIS location intelligence with AI enables transportation agencies to ingest and synthesize massive volumes of structured and unstructured data. This pairing accelerates decision-making and shifts agencies from hindsight to foresight throughout the transit lifecycle.

A case study of Raleigh's digital-twin project will illustrate how AI-driven analytics on GIS-linked traffic-sensor data reveal congestion hotspots and speed-violation patterns. These insights allow the city to fine-tune signal timing and safety interventions.

By embedding spatial context through enterprise GIS and adhering to responsible GeoAI practices, transit agencies can plan, operate, and maintain safer, more resilient, and more adaptive systems while effectively managing AI risks and accountability issues.

ANIKA-ADUESA SMART, DIRECTOR, PUBLIC TRANSIT SOLUTIONS, ESRI

With her domain expertise, Anika is transforming GIS practice in transit and mobility from "just maps" into location intelligence. Her slogan, "good data, better technology, best practices," aptly summarizes her call for geospatial enablement.

At Esri, she shows how transit can embed location analytics in non-traditional areas like real estate, marketing, equity, security, and sustainability, so that GIS becomes an institutional capability. In her previous work at LA Metro, she radically changed the industry's view of GIS, even leading HR to understand its value in supporting effective workflows.

She holds a bachelor's in mathematics with a concentration in statistics from Columbia University and, soon, an Executive Master's in GIS from the University of Redlands.

JHONATAN GARRIDO-LECCA, M.S., LEAD SOLUTION ENGINEER, ESRI

At Esri, Jhonatan spearheads initiatives bridging geospatial intelligence with the modern cloud data and AI stack. He specializes in integrating ArcGIS toolkits into environments like Databricks, Microsoft Fabric, Snowflake, AWS, and GCP.

His work focuses on engineering high-scale workflows, such as integrating next-gen AI frameworks into agentic applications. His approach connects backend data engineering to the final 'aha!' moment in the user experience.

He holds an M.S. in GIS from the University of Redlands and a certificate in machine learning from the University of California, Riverside, and teaches GIS, visualization, and data science at the University of Redlands and Cal Poly Pomona.

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