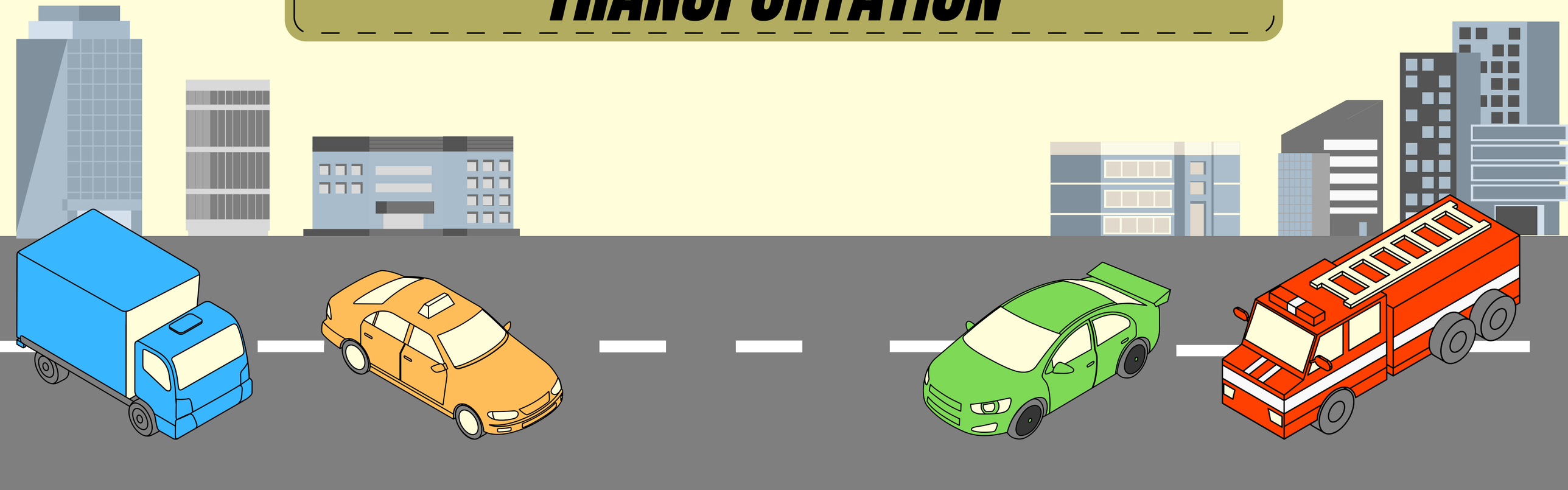
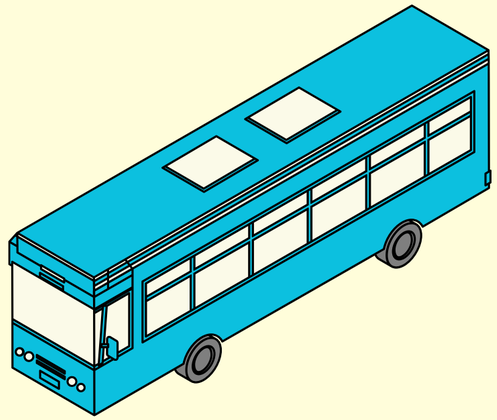
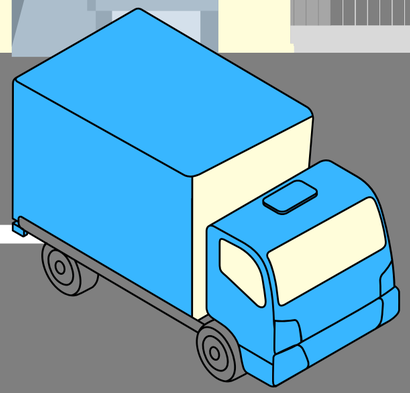
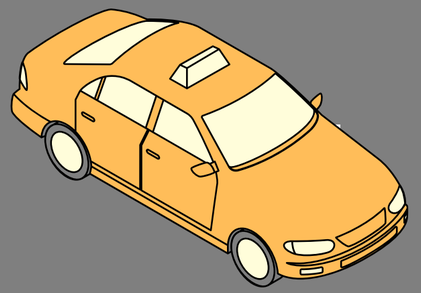
2025 VIRGINIA DATATHON:
LEVERAGING DATA FOR SMOOTHER TRANSPORTATION

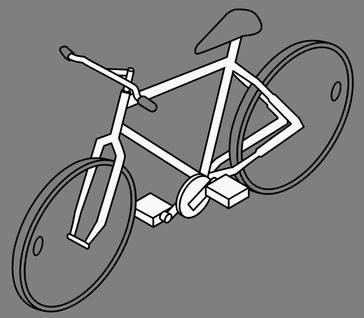




Event Theme







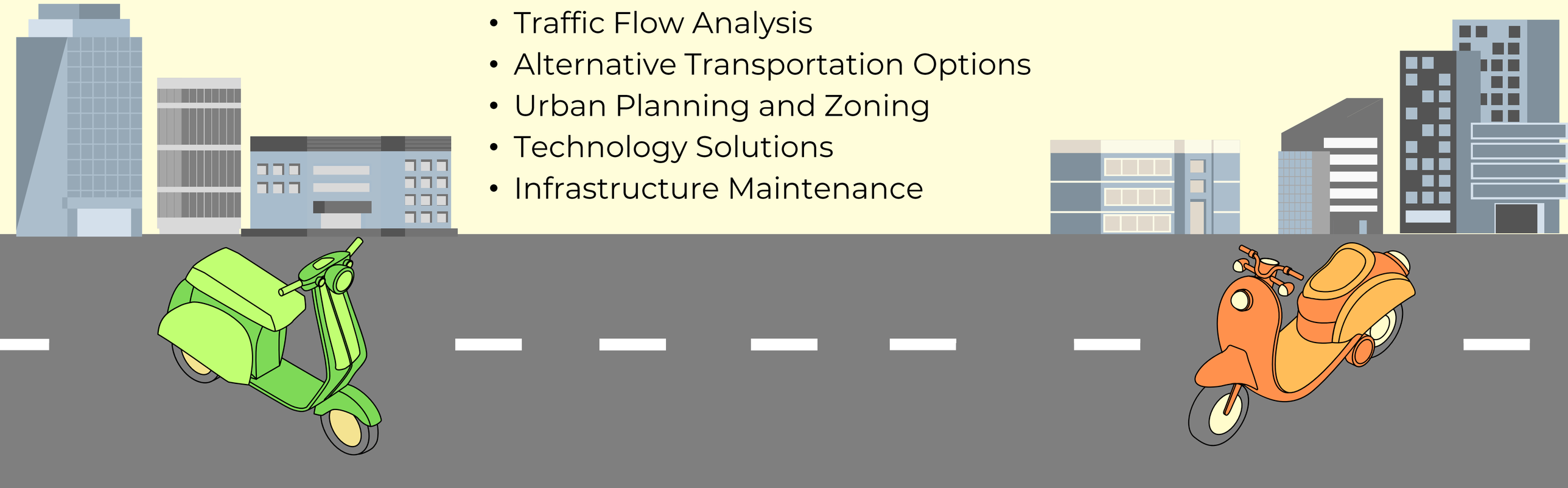
THEME: LEVERAGING DATA FOR SMOOTHER TRANSPORTATION

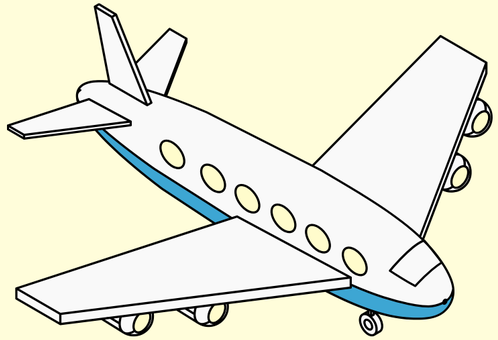
Suggestions from the Secretary of Transportation Team:

- Public Transportation Challenges
- Multimodal Transportation Opportunities
- Supply Chain and Freight Transportation Opportunities

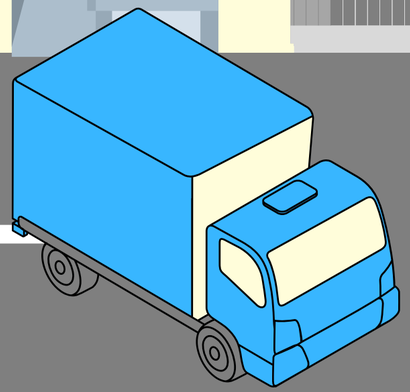
Other Solution Building Suggestions:

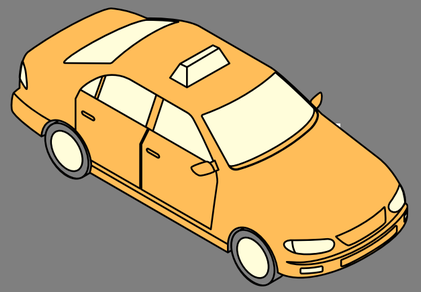
- Traffic Flow Analysis
- Alternative Transportation Options
- Urban Planning and Zoning
- Technology Solutions
- Infrastructure Maintenance

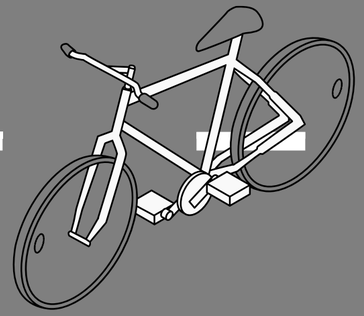


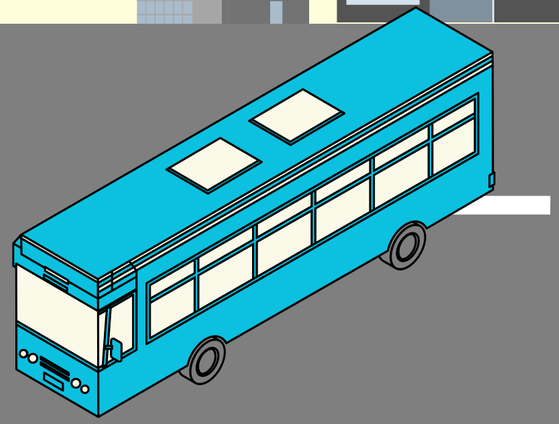


Solution Rules









TEAM PRESENTATIONS

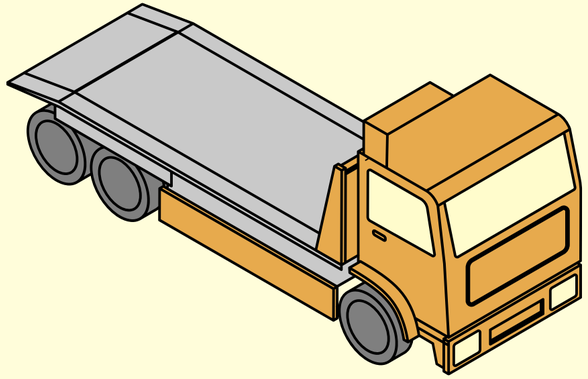
- Presentations will be prerecorded and should not exceed 5 minutes in length.
- Submit your team presentation by noon on Thursday, April 10th.
- Introduce your team's name in the introduction of your presentation.
- State the problem, your solution, how you got there, the value proposition, and value to the community as well as the Commonwealth. Please cite your sources at the end of the presentation (outside of what you used on the ODP).
- Have your team captain upload your video to YouTube with the title format “Team Name, 2025 Datathon”- please make the video public. These videos will be added to ODGA’s YouTube channel on a Datathon 2025 playlist, and solutions will be made available to the public.

TEAM PRESENTATIONS

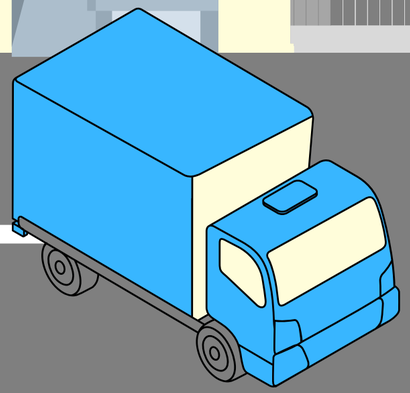
- Once the video is uploaded to YouTube, please send the link to odga@odga.virginia.gov
- You will receive a confirmation email after submitting your presentation.
- “Your participation is your permission” for posting the team presentations to the ODGA YouTube channel.
- Do not include and information in your presentation that indicates what agency, school, or organization your team comes from.

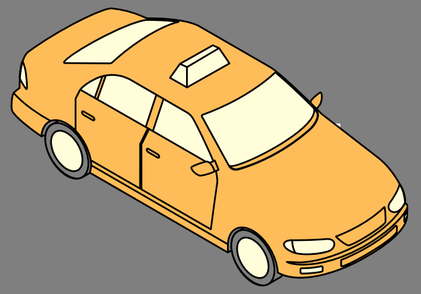
DISQUALIFICATIONS

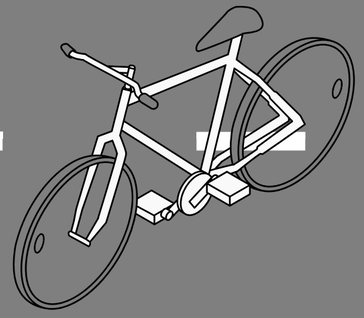
- The presentation indicates what organization, school, or agency the team is from.
- If a team submits a presentation after 12 PM on April 10th.
- If the audio does not work in the video or if it is so quiet that judges will not be able to hear the solution.
- If the video will not play properly or there is a technical issue that prevents the Datathon team from playing the video
- If the video audio is sped up (meaning the audio is playing at faster than normal speed).
- If the presentation is clearly a sales pitch for an organization or company.

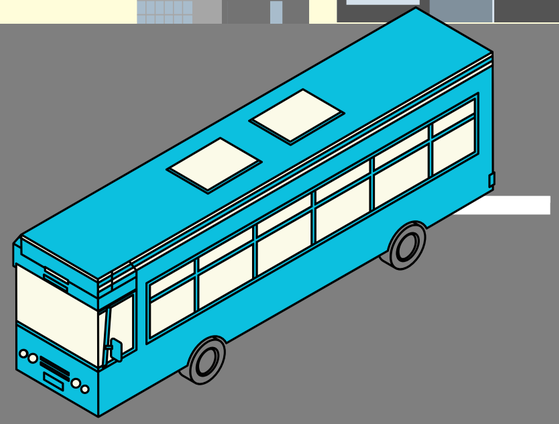


Judging and Awards



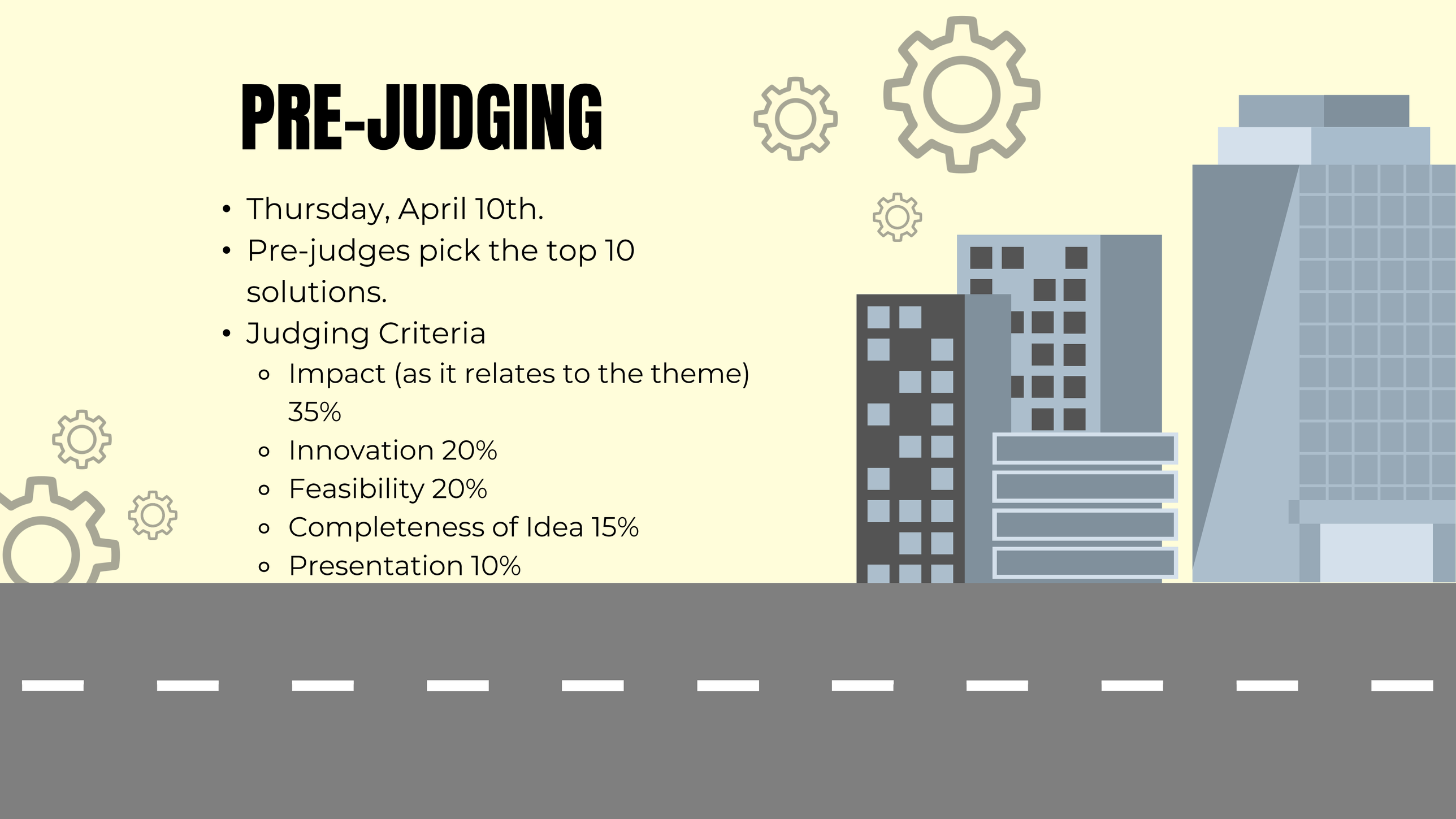






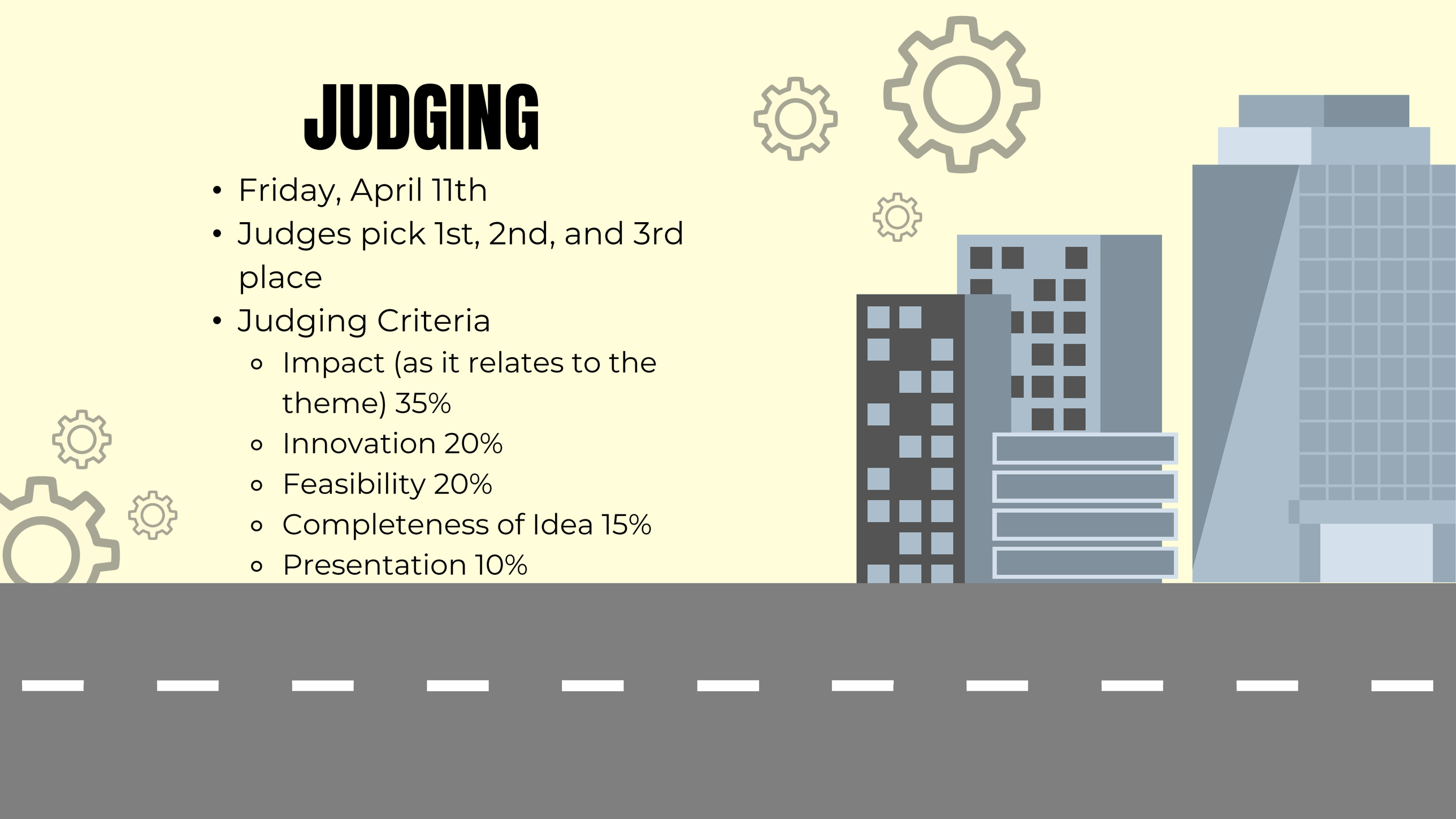
PRE-JUDGING

- Thursday, April 10th.
- Pre-judges pick the top 10 solutions.
- Judging Criteria
  - Impact (as it relates to the theme) 35%
  - Innovation 20%
  - Feasibility 20%
  - Completeness of Idea 15%
  - Presentation 10%



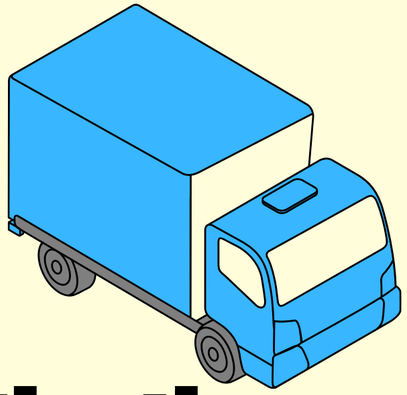
JUDGING

- Friday, April 11th
- Judges pick 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place
- Judging Criteria
  - Impact (as it relates to the theme) 35%
  - Innovation 20%
  - Feasibility 20%
  - Completeness of Idea 15%
  - Presentation 10%

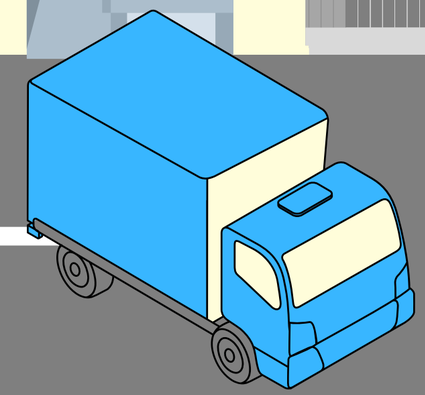


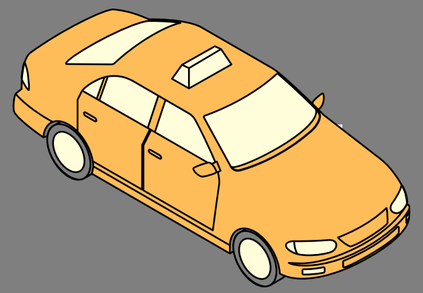
AWARDS

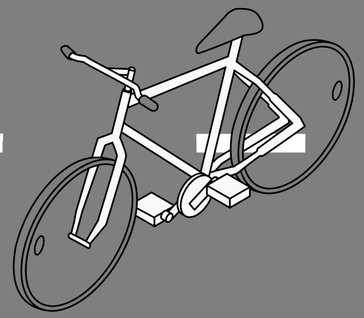
- $500/person Amazon gift card for each 1st place team participant
- $350/person Amazon gift card for each 2nd place team participant
- $150/person Amazon gift card for each 3rd place team participant
- People’s Choice: $100/person Amazon gift card for each participant- this will be limited to the top 10 solutions displayed at the in person portion of the event.

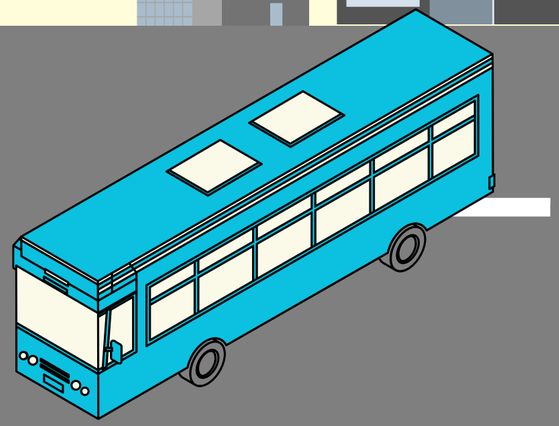


Finding Datathon Data





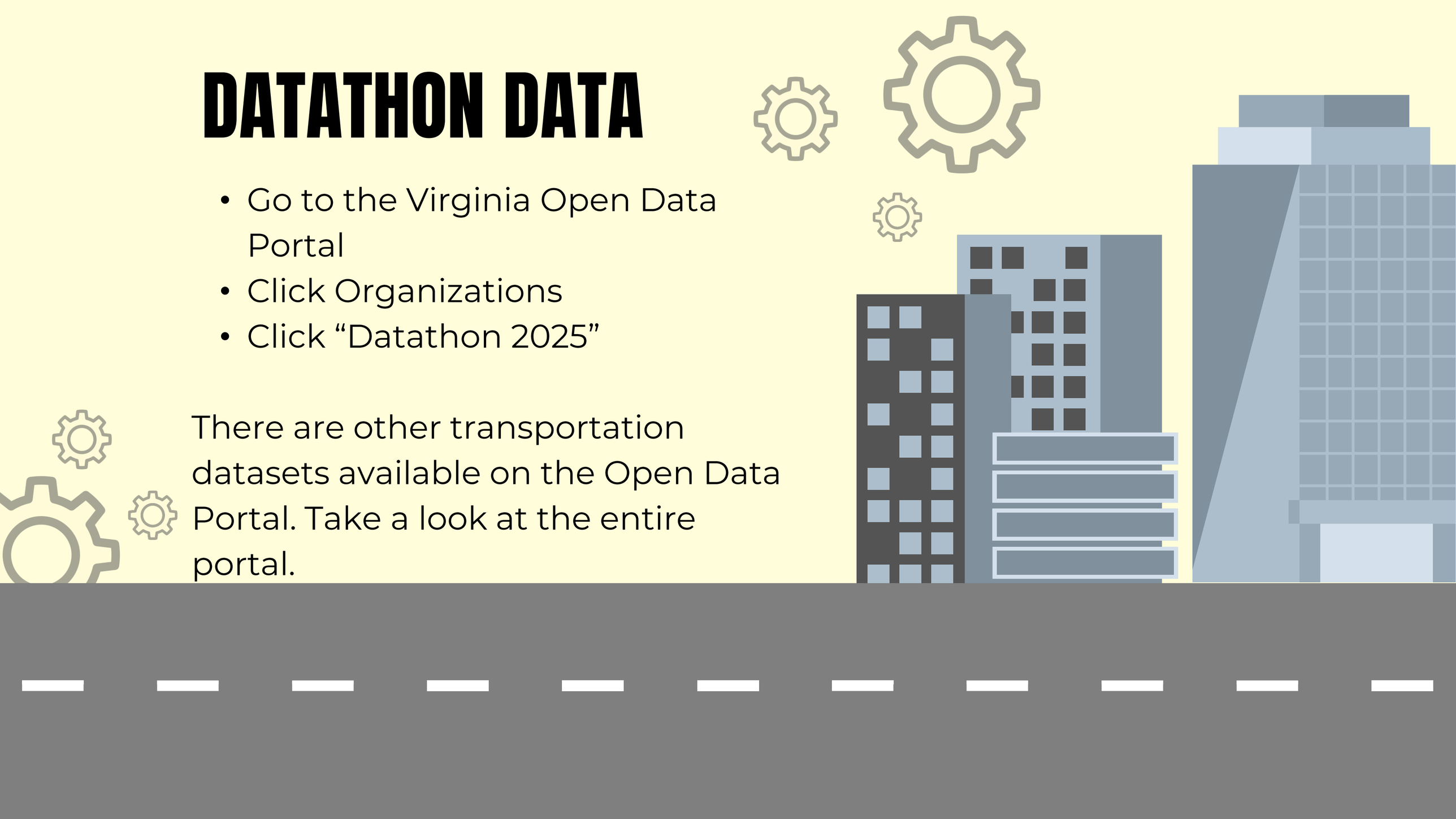




DATATHON DATA

- Go to the Virginia Open Data Portal
- Click Organizations
- Click “Datathon 2025”

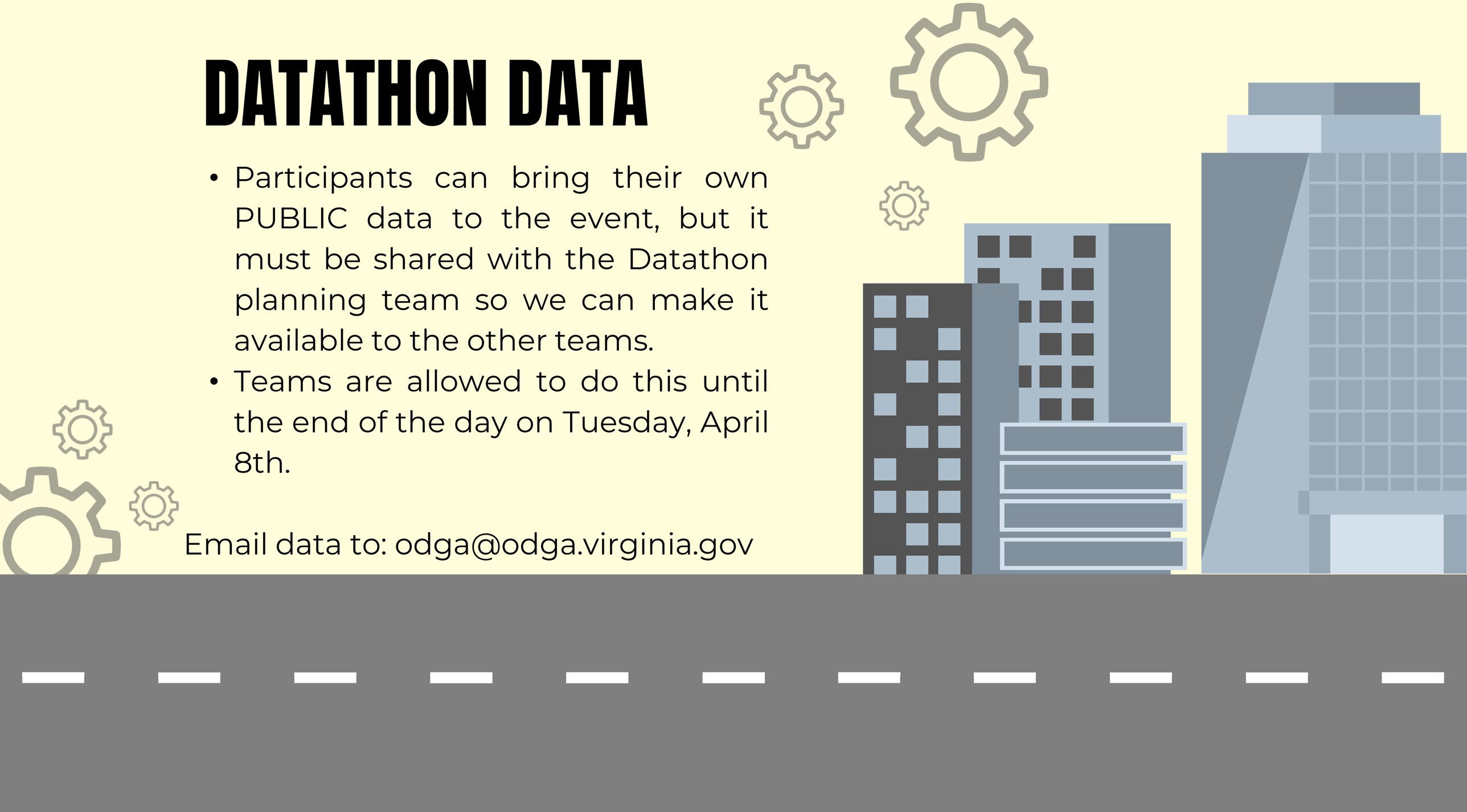
There are other transportation datasets available on the Open Data Portal. Take a look at the entire portal.



DATATHON DATA

- Participants can bring their own PUBLIC data to the event, but it must be shared with the Datathon planning team so we can make it available to the other teams.
- Teams are allowed to do this until the end of the day on Tuesday, April 8th.

Email data to: odga@odga.virginia.gov



HOW THE WEEK WILL WORK

- Friday, April 4th: Virtual Kickoff for Datathon teams
- Saturday, April 5th: Team independent work day
- Sunday, April 6th: Team independent work day
- Monday, April 7th: Subject Matter Expert Session from 12-1:00 PM
- Tuesday, April 8th: Team independent work day
- Wednesday, April 9th: Team independent work day
- Thursday, April 10th: Submissions due to the Datathon team by 12:00 PM
- Friday, April 11th: In-person conclusion of the Datathon

SME SESSION -4/7 12-1 PM

- Meeting 1: Open Data Portal Assistance 12:00-1:00 PM on April 7th

Shwetha Tadimalla, ODGA Data Governance Lead: Expertise in metadata, the Virginia Open Data Portal platform, and locating Datathon data

- Meeting 2: VTRANS Data Assistance 12:00-1:00 on April 7th

Daniel Fourquet, Office of Intermodal Planning and Investment: Expertise in VTRANS data provided for the event and Virginia Transportation Planning

- Meeting 3: Virginia Bike Transportation and Transportation Planning 12:00-1:00 PM on April 7th

Phil Riggan, Virginia Bicycling Federation: Expertise in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, trails, and bicycle routes in the Commonwealth as well as Transportation planning, and active transportation.

SME SESSION -4/7 12-1 PM

- Meeting 4: Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation Data Assistance 12:00-1:00 PM on April 7th

Taylor Holden, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT): Expertise in DRPT data provided for the Datathon

Janet Mineva, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT): Rail Programs Data Specialist

Grace Stankus, Department of Rail and Public Transportation (DRPT): Statewide Transit Planner

- Other Subject Matter Experts available by email or upon request from 12:00-1:00 PM on April 7th:

Payton Lamb, ODGA Data Architect: Expertise in SQL, Data Analysis, and a general data technical expert.

Bernard Karcher, ODGA Data Engineer: Expertise in Excel, SQL, and general data questions.

IN-PERSON CONCLUSION OF THE DATATHON

- Friday, April 11th
- 10:00 AM-2:00 PM- Doors open at 10:00, we'll start around 10:40
- Richmond ACCA Shriners Venue (1712 Bellevue Ave, Richmond, VA 23227)
- Lunch to be provided!
- Parking is free at the venue
- Arrive early- $100 raffle!

THANK YOU TO SPONSORS!

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NHTSA THANK YOU TO DATATHON DATA PROVIDERS!

VB

DRPT
VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF RAIL AND PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

VDOT

VIRGINIA PASSENGER RAIL AUTHORITY

dmv
Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles

U.S. Department of Transportation
1992 bts 2022
Bureau of Transportation Statistics

Office of INTERMODAL Planning and Investment

DANVILLE VIRGINIA

VIRGINIA STATE CRIME COMMISSION

NVTC
NORTHERN VIRGINIA TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

CITY OF HARRISONBURG VIRGINIA
THE CITY OF HARRISONBURG VIRGINIA

CITY 1611 • SHIRE 1634 • MANAGER 1934 • COUNTY OF HENRICO, VIRGINIA

Virginia Bicycling Federation

VDOE

GRTC

THE LEAGUE OF AMERICAN BICYCLISTS
since 1880

BABS
BLACKSTONE AREA BUS SYSTEM

Open Data DC

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY · UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

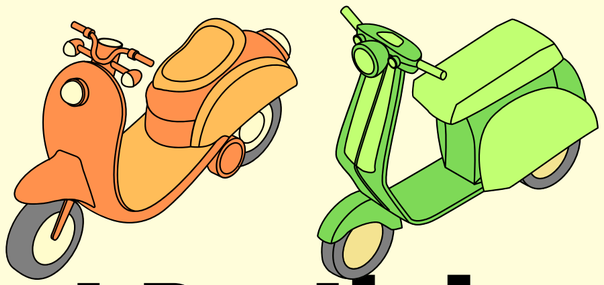
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION · UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

VIRGINIA WORKS

THE PORT OF VIRGINIA

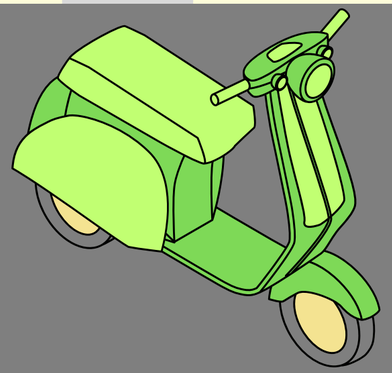
VIRGINIA CLEAN CITIES

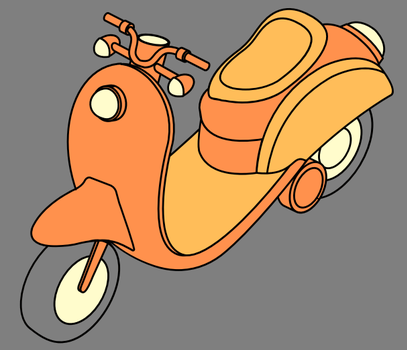
JASMEET'S PRESENTATION



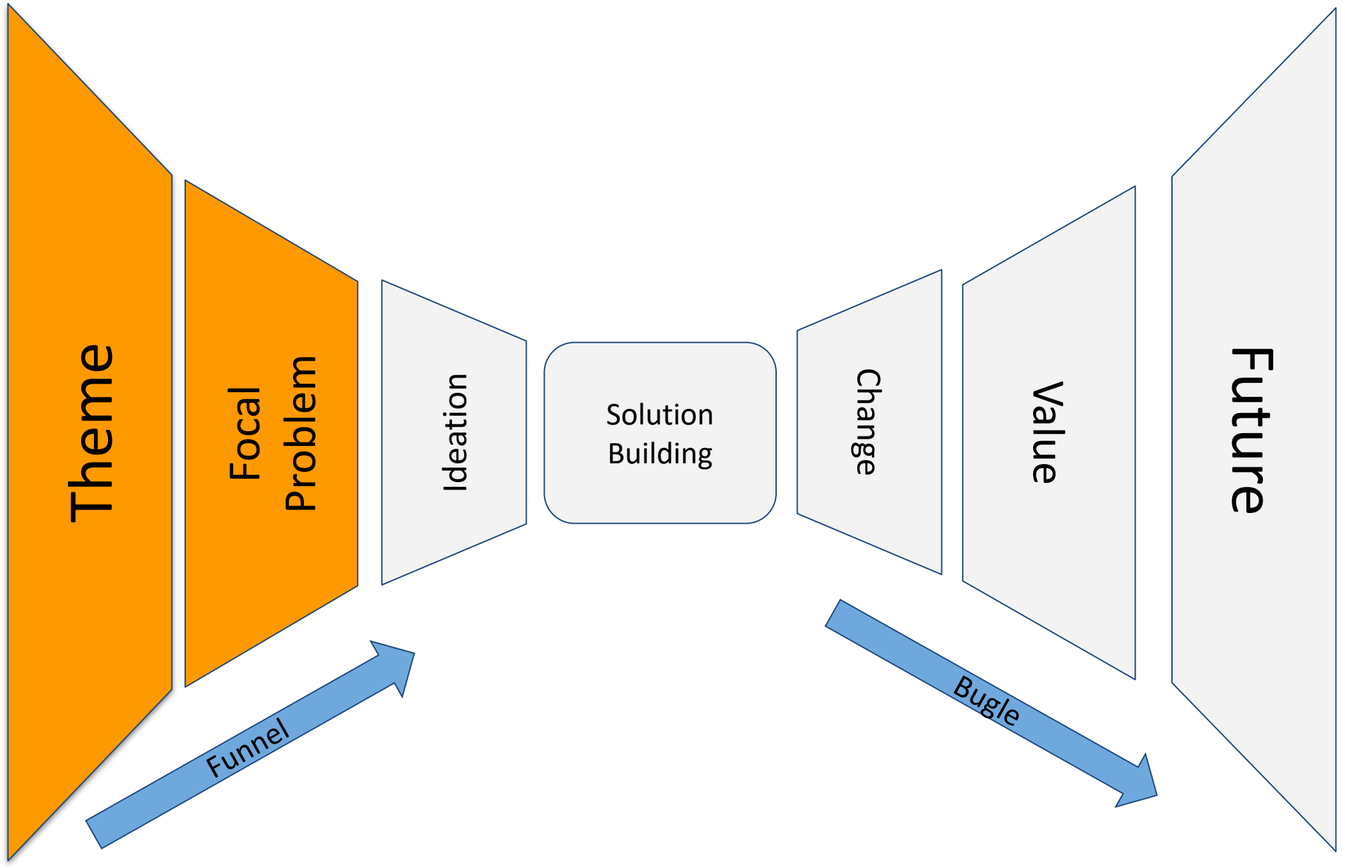
Past Participant Perspective

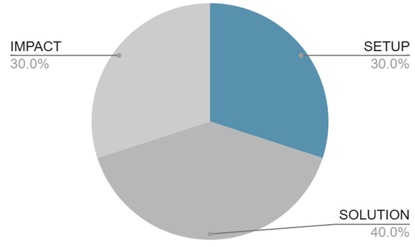
Jasmeet Singh Bhatia



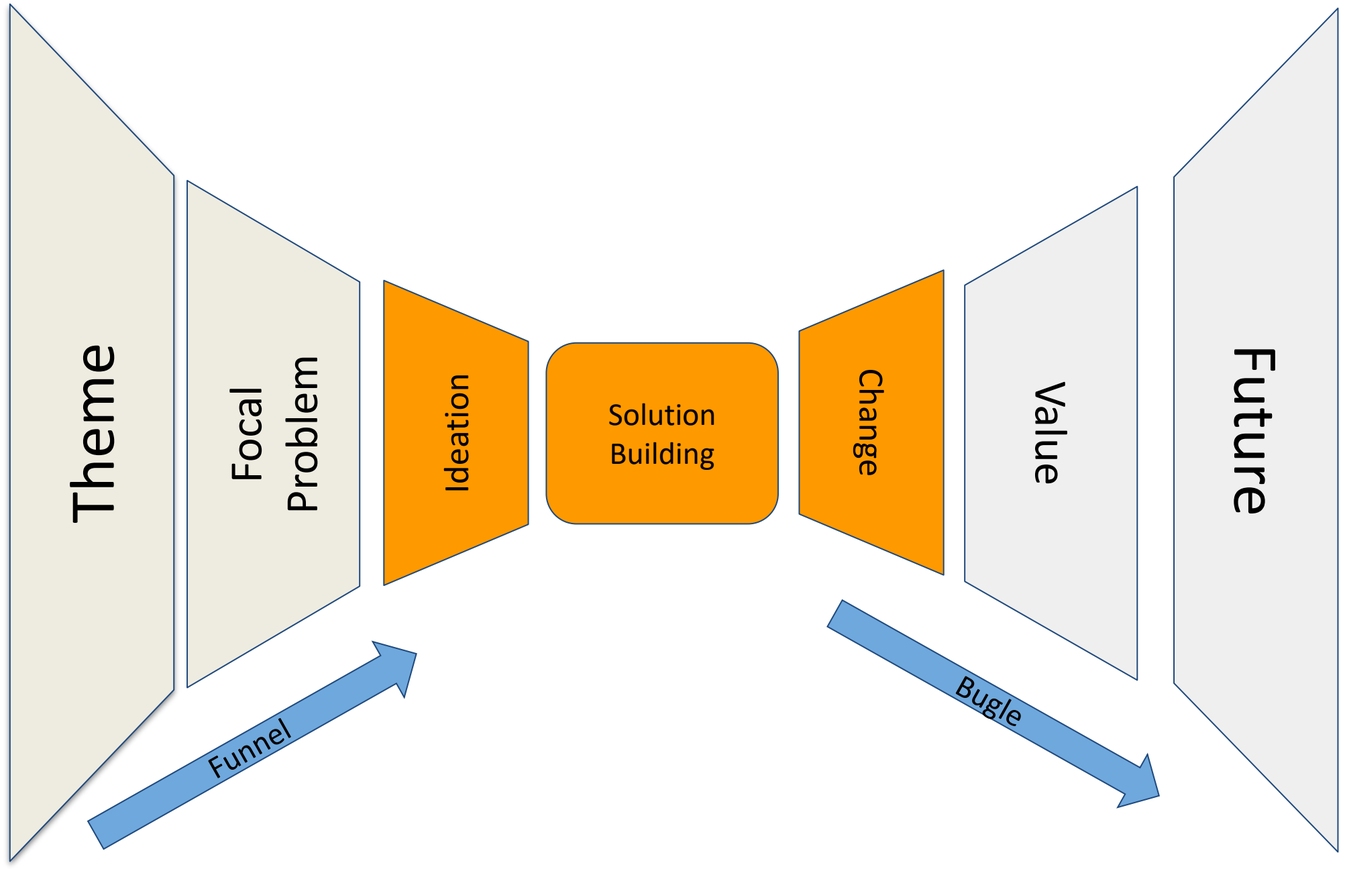


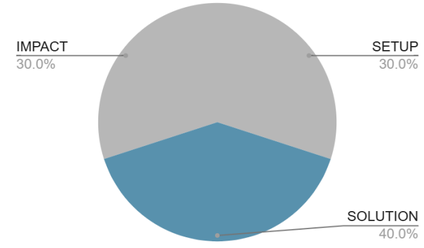
WHY are we here?



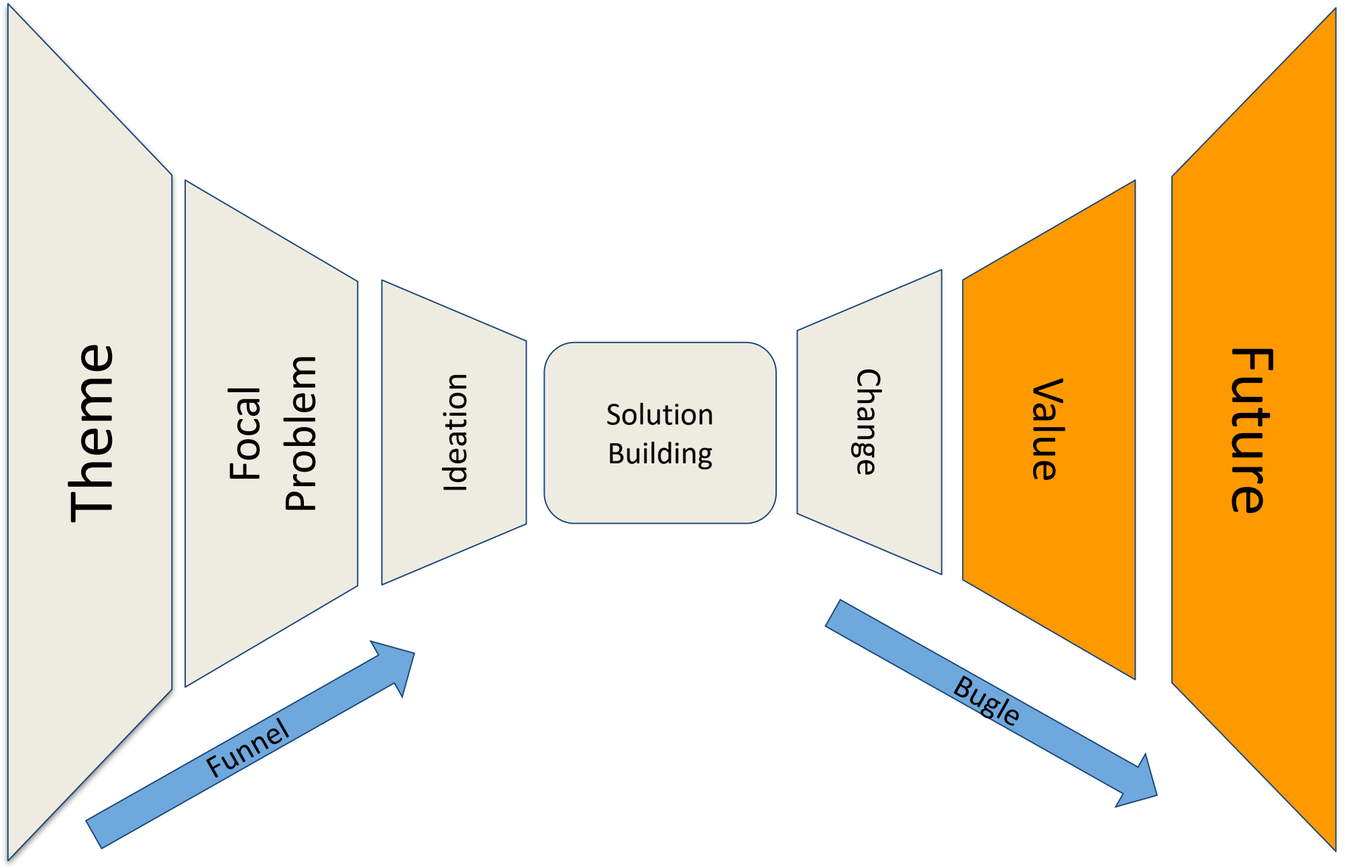


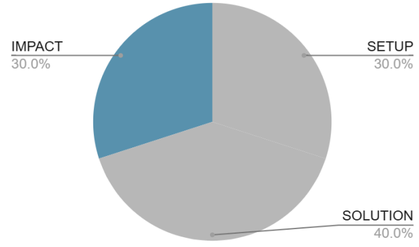
HOW will you solve the problem?





WHAT value are you creating?



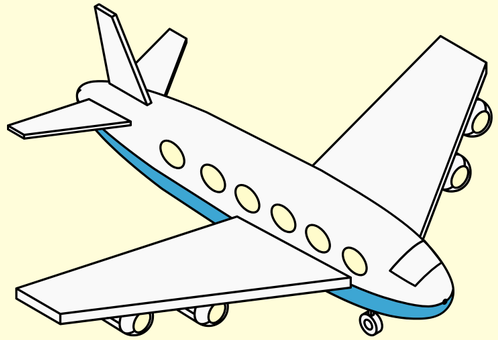


Bringing it all together

- Persuasive cohesive narrative
- Learn about your judges on the ODGA website
- Build an executive summary - synthesize the takeaways

Stories are powerful than statistics...good luck !!

Virginia Datathon

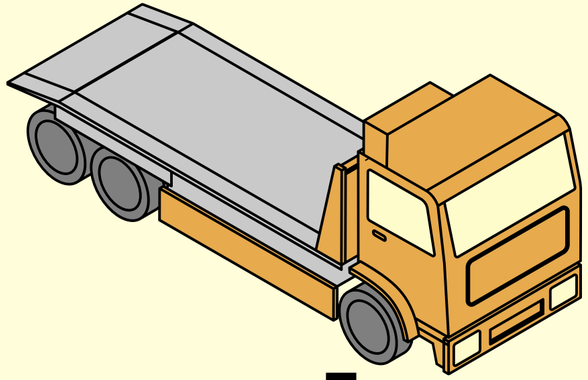
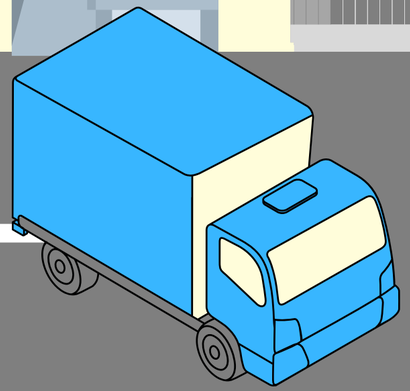
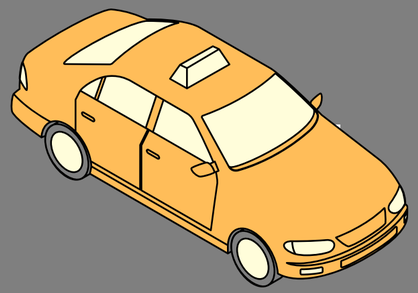
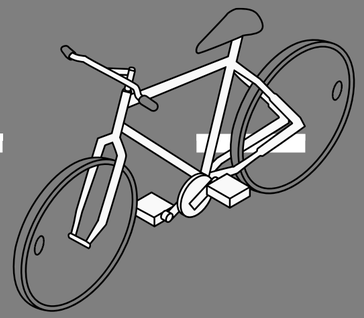
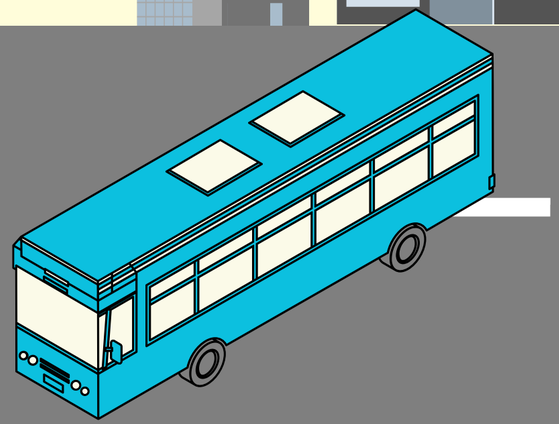


Final Event Reminders

FINAL EVENT REMINDERS

- Datathon data is available NOW!
- Presentations are due Thursday, April 10th at 12 PM! No exceptions.
- Email odga@odga.virginia.gov for questions- we are here to help!
- Most information covered today is available in the participant information page of the Datathon website
- This meeting is going to be posted to YouTube and sent out via email this afternoon.
- Come to the in-person event early! An $100 Amazon gift card is at stake! :)

GOOD LUCK!



Questions?