

An aerial photograph of San Francisco at dusk. The city lights are visible, and the San Francisco City Hall is prominently featured in the center, illuminated. The word "CIVIC BRIDGE" is overlaid in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. A white arch graphic is positioned above the text, spanning from the 'C' to the 'B'.

# CIVIC BRIDGE

2025 Cohort 1 | Mayor's Office of Innovation



# Civic Bridge 2025 Cohort 1: *Improving City service delivery & accountability*

## **FOCUS AREA FOR 2025 COHORT**

This year, priority was made to source and match projects that focus on:

- Redesigning or rethinking how an existing service is delivered
- Implementing goal setting and performance measurement for a service or program

## **COHORT INSIGHTS**

- Projects were scoped to be in service of key outcomes outlined in the strategic plans for the participating departments.
- All project proposals were evaluated and approved by a review committee of City Dept partners (COIT, Digital Services, DT, DataSF, CON) .
- Each project deliverable has the potential to provide scalable insights for other City Depts facing similar service delivery and impact measurement challenges.

## **COHORT PROJECTS**

### **San Francisco Public Library (SFPL) & Adobe**

SFPL plans to work with Adobe to develop a consistent method to collect actionable feedback from patrons of its public programming to measure impact and inform long-term operational decisions. Adobe will develop user-friendly feedback tools to source patron input and define a set of key performance indicators (KPIs) to measure tangible outcomes and qualitative community impact in line with the Library's Vision 2030 strategic plan.

### **San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) & ZS Associates**

SFMTA plans to work with ZS Associates to improve SFMTA's customer service, outreach, and engagement. ZS Associates will develop a journey map for SFMTA's Public Outreach and Engagement Team Strategy (POETS) public engagement feedback loop, identify key performance metrics for each feedback milestone, and provide recommendations on how to approach measuring performance over time to inform iterative development of POETS.

# Appendix

# Program overview

Civic Bridge is a 16-week, cohort-based program that connects City Departments with pro bono teams to tackle civic challenges. Volunteers are expected to dedicate 20% of their time to the project over the 16-week timeframe. The program leverages tools, methodologies, and skill sets of pro bono teams of skilled volunteers to deliver implementable and valuable solutions.



City Department

+



Skilled volunteer team

=



High-impact  
deliverable

# Civic Bridge impact

2015 - 2025

**87** total projects

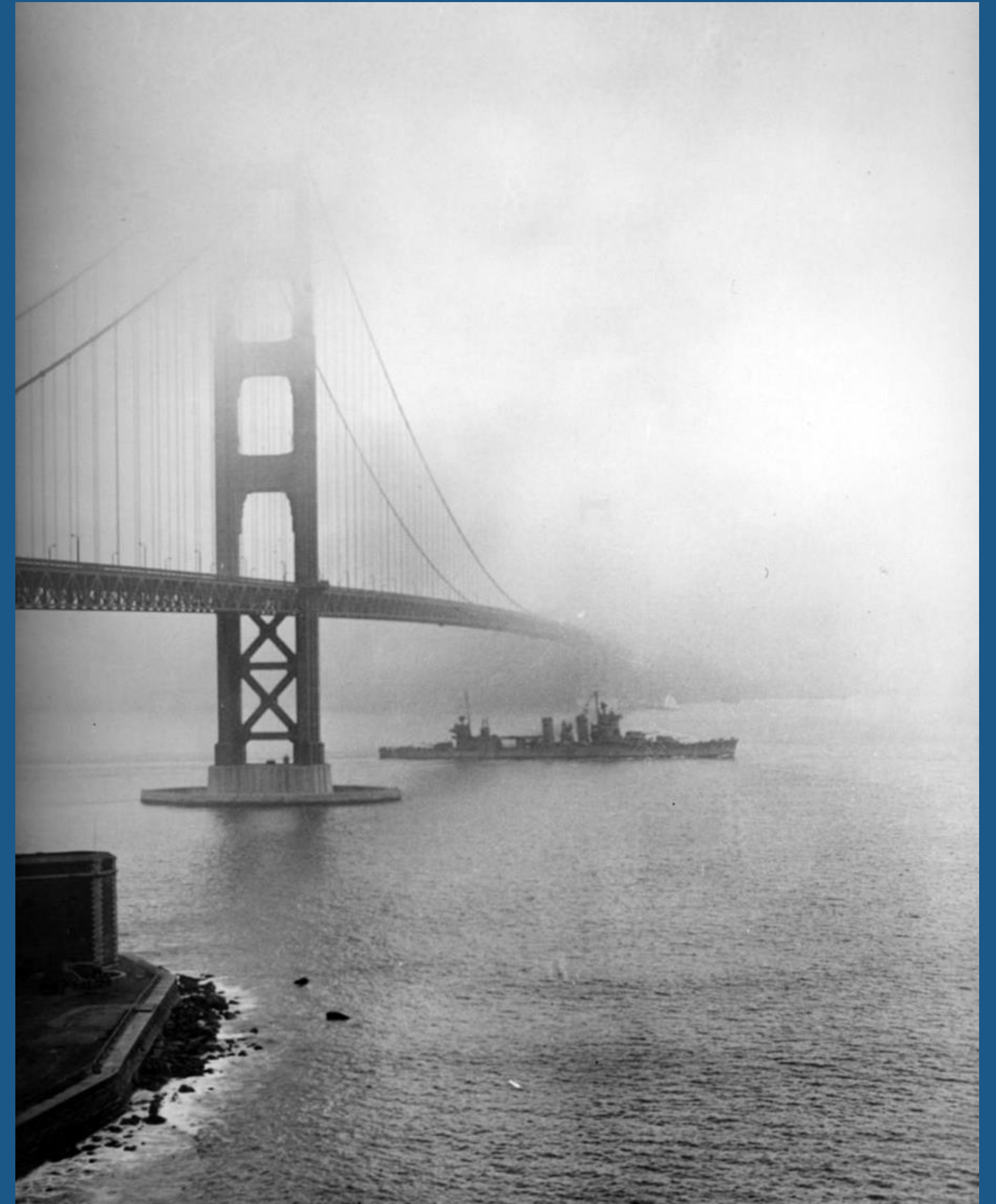
**35** City departments

**29** pro bono partners

**55,742** volunteer hours

**868** total participants

**\$8.75M** fair-market value of pro bono work





# Criteria for a successful project



## **A clear challenge statement**

What is the problem you're trying to solve and what will "success" look like?



## **Potential for impact**

Why is the project important? What impact will it have on the lives of residents?



## **Alignment with Mayoral priorities**

This year's cohort is focused on economic recovery, revitalization, and resilience.



## **Leadership support**

The challenge should be "mission critical" not just "nice to have" for Department leadership. The project should have the support of your Department head so the Department can carry forward the Civic Bridge solution/deliverable.



## **Internal champion**

At least one City lead to serve as primary point of contact for the pro bono team, help guide/manage the collaboration, and ensure the work is aligned with the Dept's North Star.

# Project types



## **User Research & Design**

Focuses on understanding the end users of a government service or program, e.g. user research plan, stakeholder engagement



## **Strategy & Service Execution**

Focuses on execution of components of strategies for a City department, e.g. pilot/program design, service blueprint, operational frameworks, scenario planning



## **Data Synthesis & Modeling**

Focuses on leveraging data to solve a particular challenge or need



## **Communications & Content**

Focuses on improving a City Department's communications and outreach, e.g. content for a marketing campaign



## **Technology Prototyping**

Focuses on targeted, high need, technology implementation needs, e.g. website wireframe, process map

# The process

## Pre-Program

### Sourcing projects

MOI sourced project proposals from City Depts that have leadership support, dedicated resources, and potential for impact

### Selecting

Project proposals were evaluated by a review committee of City Dept partners (COIT, Digital Services, DataSF, DT, CON)

### Matching

Selected projects were shared with pro bono ecosystem through MOI outreach to past partners and organizations that have indicated interest in participating in the program.

Pro bono partners then indicated which projects they were interested in working on (no more than 3 projects). MOI matched partners with projects based on pro bono skill sets/expertise and interest

## 16-Week Project

### Define

Refine project scope and define project plan

### Discovery

Understand the challenge and government landscape

### Design

Synthesize insights and create concepts for solutions

### Delivery

Deliver actionable solutions and create an implementation roadmap

## Post-Program

### Share

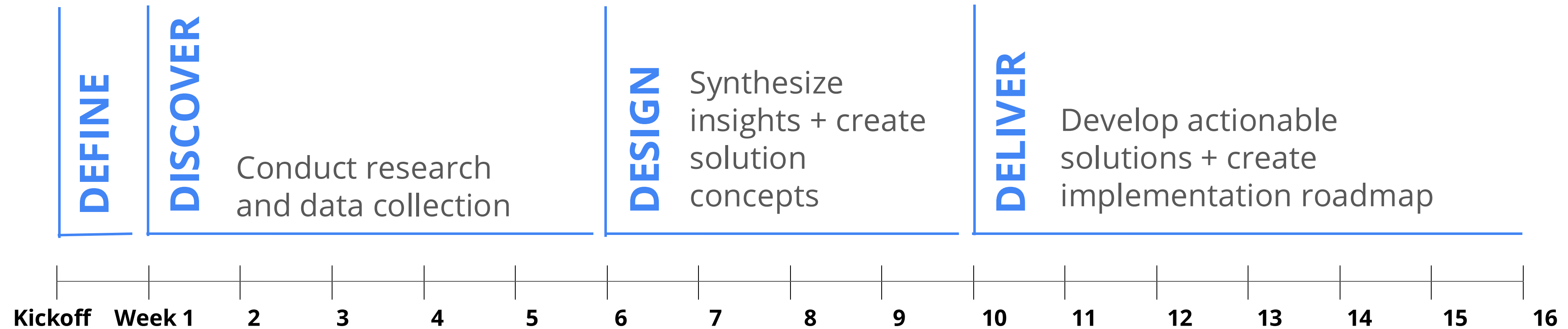
Project teams showcase their project work to key stakeholders

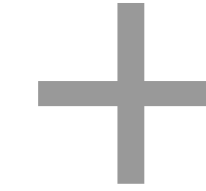
### MOI support

As needed, MOI support City Dept implement the Civic Bridge deliverable



# Program phases + key events





## CHALLENGE

The San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) sought to understand best practices and develop tools to help them integrate the many change initiatives into their strategic plan

## SERVICES

Through Civic Bridge, Accenture consultants contributed their skills in strategic planning, stakeholder interviews, and workshop facilitation to deliver a Change Management Charter, and a tactical tool to help SFPD prioritize strategy initiatives and associated stakeholder and communications considerations.

## OUTCOMES

- ✓ The team gathered data to understand the challenge through stakeholder interviews and reviewing “lessons learned” from past efforts
- ✓ They facilitated workshops with SFPD staff and SMEs to create a shared version of change management success, governance, and principles
- ✓ They developed a Change Management Charter and a tactical tool which they refined with SFPD feedback





Office of Contract  
Administration



CHALLENGE

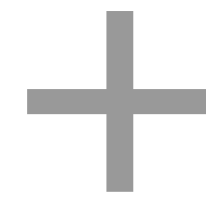
The Office of Contract Administration (OCA) wanted to better understand the needs and pain points of bidders and suppliers as they sought to improve the contracting process

SERVICES

Through Civic Bridge, Zendesk volunteers contributed their skills in user research, service design, and strategy to surface barriers facing bidders and suppliers, as well as stakeholder Departments, and to deliver recommendations for a more streamlined contracting experience

OUTCOMES

- ✓ The team gathered data to understand the challenge through stakeholder Department interviews and currently available resources
- ✓ They designed and launched a survey to bidders and suppliers, then synthesized key takeaways and trends from ~100 responses
- ✓ They developed recommendations on how the contracting and compliance process may be streamlined and for a One-Stop-Shop.



## CHALLENGE

The Department of Children, Youth and their Families (DCYF) wanted to raise awareness about the presence of children in San Francisco and their rights as part of their efforts towards a more inclusive and representative city.

## SERVICES

Through Civic Bridge, Salesforce volunteers use their skills in communications and partnership-building to develop a communication toolkit and strategy for the Department.

## OUTCOMES

- ✓ The team collected more context and data about the challenge through interviews with City and UNICEF stakeholders.
- ✓ They interviewed residents in San Francisco to get a baseline of what they viewed as a “child-friendly” city and inform the strategy deliverable
- ✓ They developed a communications toolkit that included content calendars, partner engagement timelines and tools, and marketing best practices





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## CHALLENGE

SFMTA needed support on capturing disparate TNC data in a dashboard so they could better analyze the data and ensure equitable access to ride-hailing services for people using wheelchairs.

## SERVICES

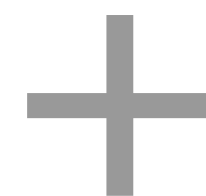
Through Civic Bridge, ZS consultants contributed their skills in data processing, transformation, analysis, and visualization to build a user-friendly dashboard in Tableau.

## OUTCOMES

- ✓ The team extensively interviewed SFMTA and SFCTA staff to understand the current data landscape and needs
- ✓ They designed a prototype blueprint based on use cases and what data variables were most important
- ✓ They developed two data dashboards on Tableau, one for internal City use and the other to be public-facing. The dashboards included statewide data and a focus on user-centered design.



San Francisco  
Rent Board



**Civic  
Consulting**  
alliance

## CHALLENGE

Rent Board needed support in better sharing their services and available resources to San Franciscans renters and tenants

## SERVICES

Through Civic Bridge, Civic Consulting Alliance volunteers contributed their skills in website design, content development, and strategic thinking to launch a new, more accessible website for Rent Board.

## OUTCOMES

- ✓ The team used the Pareto principle to the Rent Board's current website and call volume to determine the major areas of confusion
- ✓ They worked with City staff and attorneys to translate dense, legal rental language to more layman terms
- ✓ They worked with Digital Services to design the website's layout to make resources more discoverable
- ✓ They launched the new, more accessible website on sf.gov