

Google Public Sector

# Leaders Connect

May 14, 2026 · Austin, TX



Thursday, May 14, 2026

9 AM CDT  
1 HR

## Registration & Breakfast

10 AM CDT  
30 MINS

## Welcome & Opening



**John Hoffman**  
Chief Technology Officer for DIR and  
the Deputy Chief Information  
Officer  
**State of Texas**

A New Era of AI in the Southwest: Academia and research organizations have entered a new era of innovation. AI-powered agents are not just automating tasks, but fundamentally reshaping how organizations operate, innovate and engage. Google Public Sector's Head of Southwest Sales, Charlene Gorman, will set the stage by defining this new era of AI, previewing the hands-on learning opportunities attendees will participate in, and sitting down with a regional government leader to discuss how AI is already accelerating mission outcomes at their organization.

10:30 AM CDT  
1 HR

## The State of AI: Breaking Down Silos Across Campuses and Communities



**Michael Leary**  
Interim Chief Information Officer  
and Vice President for Information  
Technology  
**Texas A&M University**



**Ahn Selissen**  
Chief Information Officer  
**Texas Department of  
Transportation**



**Daniel Vera**  
Director of IT  
**City of Edinburg**



**Steve Lujan**  
Head of Southwest Customer  
Engineering  
**Google Public Sector**

As Southwest state, local, and higher education leaders accelerate AI adoption, the demand for secure, seamless digital experiences has never been higher. This opening session explores how Agentic AI and modern cloud platforms empower both government and higher education leaders to break down data silos. Join Google Public Sector and regional innovators to learn how they're transforming their communities with AI and how discover how cross-sector collaboration can accelerate services, strengthen cybersecurity, and unlock new possibilities for groundbreaking research and public service.

11:30 AM CDT  
45 MINS

## Gemini Enterprise: The New Front Door for AI



**Charles Elliott**  
Senior Research Engineering Lead  
**Google Public Sector**

12:15 PM CDT  
1 HR

## Networking Lunch

1:15 PM CDT  
1 HR, 30 MINS

## Labs

In this interactive Lab, attendees will see how Gemini Enterprise can scale agency capacity by using natural language instructions to build agents for internal workflows and policy synthesis. Participants will leave this session with hands-on experience creating agents that reason across text, audio, and images using natural language instructions and tools to bring back to their departments.

2:45 PM CDT  
15 MINS

## Networking Break

3 PM CDT  
15 MINS

## Return to Main Room

3:15 PM CDT  
45 MINS

## The Art of the Possible: Accelerating Mission Outcomes with AI



**Joe Greenfield**  
Management Analyst  
Texas DMV



**Michael Keough**  
CIO  
Region 16 Education Service  
Center



**Matthew Russell**  
Assistant Director, Educational  
Technologies  
University of Texas

Cap off your day with a forward-looking discussion featuring state and local government leaders. Inspired by the day's hands-on AI Labs, these leaders will share their visions for the future of their cities, agencies, and institutions. This session will move beyond current challenges to explore the 'art of the possible,' showcasing how the agentic AI solutions explored today can be applied to real-world use cases to redefine public service and accelerate mission outcomes. Join us for a glimpse into the next generation of government innovation.

4 PM CDT  
1 HR

## Networking Reception