

**HALIFAX**

# **Bringing Situational Awareness to Halifax**

Esri Regional User Conference  
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# Background

- In 2013 HRM recognized the need for a common operating picture, and begins development of a business case
- At the same time, HRM begins a proof of concept to share Halifax data with the MASAS portal, focused on road closures
- Result was a business case put forward for funding in 2014, based on a traditional “big bang” solution implementation

# Challenges

- Lack of “ready made” solutions in marketplace
- No consistent understanding amongst stakeholders of what “situational awareness” looked like
- Varying degrees of buy-in by stakeholders
- Hey - how many hurricanes do we really get anyway?

# Approach

- Project started small, 2 people, using an agile methodology
- Focused on stakeholders with well understood requirements (EMO)
- Leveraged what we already have – corporate data and COTS templates & tools from Esri
- Work with Esri to integrate any customizations back into the templates & tools
- Focused not just on “big” incidents – tool needs to be useful everyday

# Lesson Learned

- Stakeholders need to see what's in it for them
- Breaking down internal operational silos takes time
- Leverage prototypes to gather requirements – start small
- Build schedule around individual components
- Technology is the easy part – change management is key to adoption
- Operationalized components as they are ready
- Leverage partnership with Esri

# Contact

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**Thank You!**