# Data Centers: A Virtual Hot Topic Workshop to Revisit the Fundamentals and Expand Your Understanding

## MONDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 2026

## AGENDA

10:00 a.m. – 10:10 a.m. **Welcome, Sponsor Spotlight and Introduction to the Day**

We'll start the workshop by welcoming attendees, reviewing what to expect from the day, and offering timely Aim updates.

**Speaker:**
**Matt Greller,** Chief Executive Officer, Aim

10:10 a.m. – 10:55 a.m. **Workshop:** Understanding Data Centers: What Local Leaders Need to Know

This workshop provides local leaders with a foundational understanding of what data centers are, why they are growing in number and size, and why they matter to communities. Participants will learn about the opportunities associated with data center development, as well as key considerations related to energy demands, water usage, infrastructure needs, and potential impacts on local utilities and resources. Featuring perspectives from some of the industry's leading hyperscalers, the session will highlight important questions municipal leaders should ask when evaluating development proposals. Attendees will gain the background knowledge needed to engage in informed conversations and prepare for deeper discussions throughout the day.

Speaker:
**Brad Tietz,** Director of Government Affairs – Midwest, Data Center Coalition, Google Member

10:55 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. **Break**

11:00 a.m. – 11:45 a.m. **Workshop:** Indiana's Data Center Landscape: A State Perspective on Energy, Infrastructure, and Development

As data center development continues to expand across Indiana, understanding the state's role in supporting and managing this growth is increasingly important for municipal leaders. Join Secretary Suzanne Jaworowski for an overview of her role and how the State of Indiana can serve as a resource to communities navigating data center development. The discussion will explore statewide priorities, emerging policy and regulatory considerations, coordination among state agencies, and the opportunities and challenges associated with continued growth. Attendees will gain insight into Indiana's evolving data center landscape, the state's approach to development, and how municipalities can work with state officials to make informed decisions that align with their communities' long-term interests.

Speaker:
**Suzanne Jaworowski,** Secretary of Energy and Natural Resources, State of Indiana

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. **Lunch Break**

12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m. **Workshop:** Data Center Development: Planning, Zoning, and Legal Considerations

As data center development continues to expand, city and town leaders must evaluate whether their existing planning, zoning, and legal frameworks are equipped to address the unique challenges these projects present. This session will

explore considerations for updating local ordinances, the use of development moratoria, confidentiality agreements (NDAs), and other legal and policy tools available to municipalities. Participants will also examine the potential benefits, challenges, and tradeoffs associated with data center development to help their communities make informed, strategic decisions.

**Speaker:**
**Brandon Dickinson**, Managing Associate, Dentons

1:00 p.m. – 1:05 p.m. **Break**

1:05 p.m. – 1:50 p.m. **Workshop:** The Economic and Civic Impacts – Before, During and After Construction

The economic and civic impacts of data center projects are highly dependent on setting expectations early on with potential project users or developers. With a strategic approach, the positive impacts should span during and after construction. How projects can spur local job growth, increase investment, address existing and new infrastructure, and advance community priorities throughout the development lifecycle are on the list for discussion. Speaking from a position of experience, panelists will talk about how to increase potential benefits, address challenges, and build strategies for maximizing positive outcomes for their communities.

**Speakers:**
**Tom Dermody,** Mayor, LaPorte
**Matt Gentry,** Mayor, Lebanon
**Cloteal LaBroi,** Director, Infrastructure Government Affairs, Microsoft

1:50 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. **Adjourn**