



Fast-track infrastructure & development projects

A geographic approach
to streamlined permitting



The power of the geographic approach

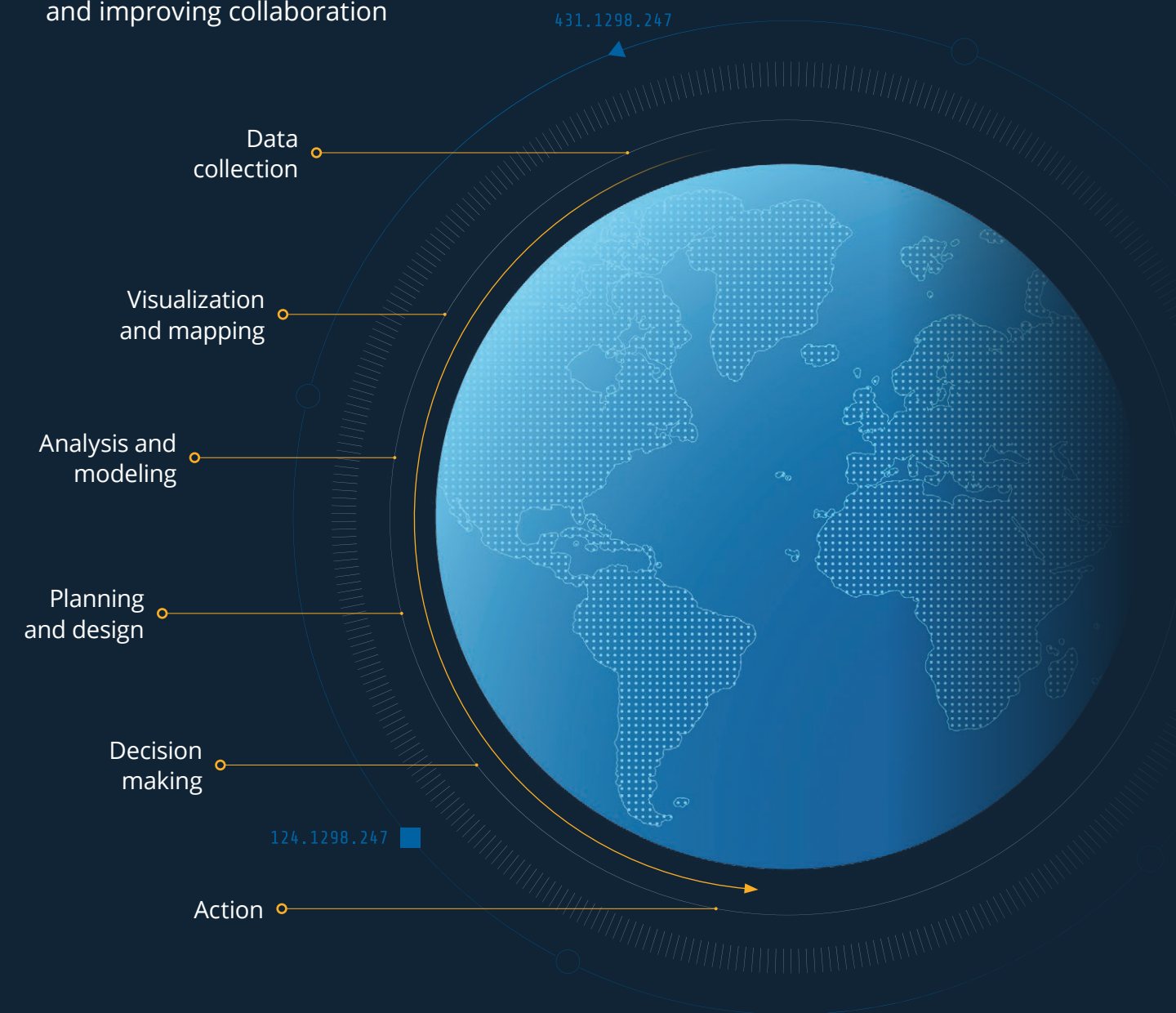
Permitting is a location-based workflow. Built by Esri®, ArcGIS®, the world's most powerful GIS software, is the mission-critical, enterprise IT business system that turns location data into insight, powering better decision-making and delivering significant business value. Trimble® Unity Permit is built to work with ArcGIS mapping and spatial capabilities.

- ArcGIS enables the use of The Geographic Approach, a framework and process integrating all factors, creating better understanding, finding superior solutions and improving collaboration.
- Your GIS data provides detailed insight into critical factors for decisions related to permitting.
- Without GIS-based permitting, your ability to consistently and efficiently meet the growing and evolving needs of your community is severely hampered.
- ArcGIS and Trimble Unity Permit allow agencies to attach permits to any location, corridor, asset, or feature.

GIS and the geographic approach to permitting

Provide the framework and process

Integrating all tech factors, creating understanding, finding solutions and improving collaboration





Industry leaders partnering to deliver innovative, customer-driven solutions

Esri and Trimble have been in business for a combined 100+ years and 25+ years of partnership. We are not just industry leaders; we have and continue to define and expand our industries with longevity, powered by a core commitment to serve our customers' needs with solutions that solve problems, improve organizations, and enhance communities.

Agencies face common challenges with their permitting processes:

Inefficiencies

70% of municipalities report that permitting processes are inefficient and outdated.

Poor public perception

62% of the public find the permitting process overly complex and difficult to navigate.

Lack of regulatory compliance

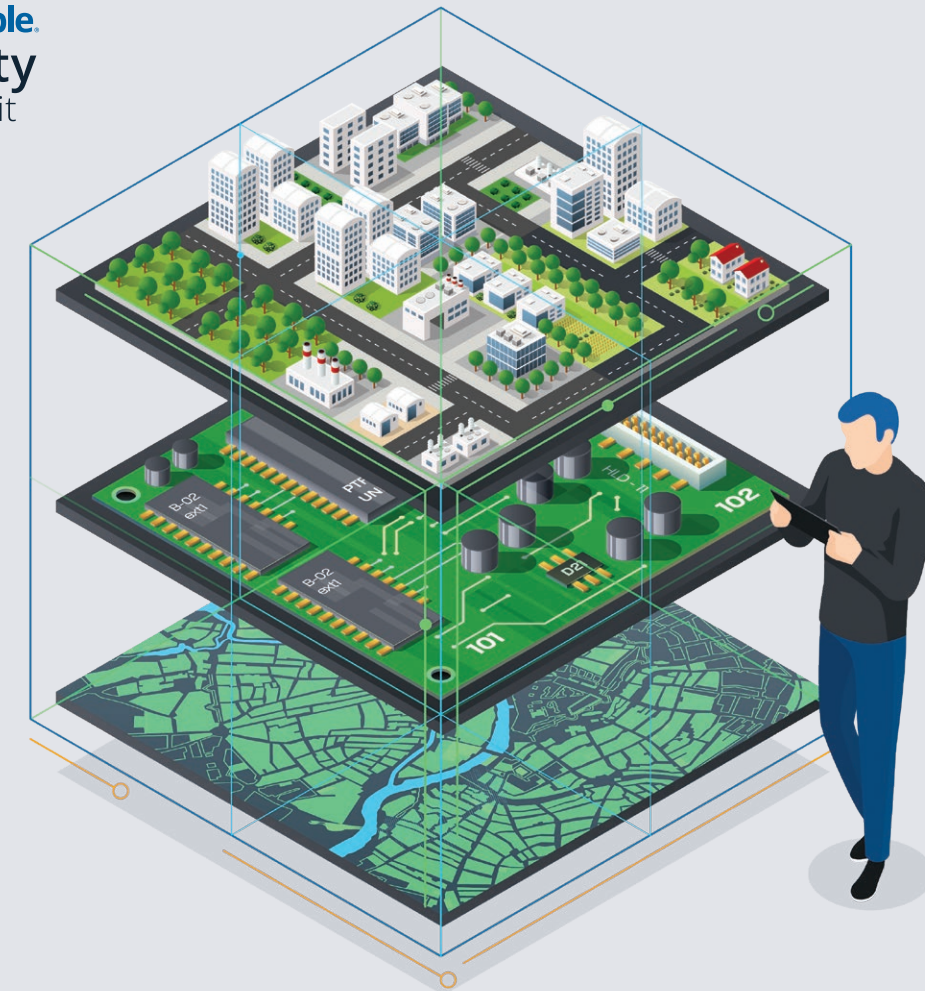
\$1M average annual fines on compliance failure.

The effects of these challenges ripple outward, negatively impacting organizational finances, service delivery, and public trust.



Esri and Trimble share more than **25 years** of partnership

Trimble Unity Permit is a paperless, GIS-based permitting system that solves common challenges



Challenge	Solution
Inefficiencies	Streamlines digital workflows that improve efficiency, reduce errors, and promote improved decision-making.
Poor public perception	Stakeholder coordination allows residents, contractors and others to submit and track applications online with a user-friendly portal.
Lack of regulatory compliance	Built-in compliance and reduced liability automatically enforces required steps, applies location-based rules, and creates audit-ready records that protect agencies from costly compliance gaps.

Make permitting faster and more predictable

Modernizing permitting requires more than digitizing forms. Agencies need connected, automated workflows that reduce the manual effort for permitting. A GIS-based system allows staff to route, review, approve, and track work consistently while giving teams real-time access to the information they need. With Trimble Unity Permit and ArcGIS working together, agencies gain a clearer, faster, and more predictable permitting process.

Streamlined digital workflows provide

- A fully digital, paperless workflow that standardizes submissions, reviews, approvals, inspections and payments.
- Configurable templates, workflows, and notifications that adapt to each agency's processes.
- Connected, GIS-driven workflows that give field and office staff access to accurate location-based information.
- Automated routing that reduces bottlenecks and ensures tasks reach the right reviewer at the right time.



The seamless integration between ArcGIS and Trimble has significantly increased our efficiency, enhanced our visibility of work activities, and streamlined our asset management and permitting workflows.

Tammy Wambeam

GIS/IT Administrator, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities

SLCDPU now saves between 10-20 hours each month in their permitting workflows



Trimble Unity Permit workflow





Replace confusion with clarity

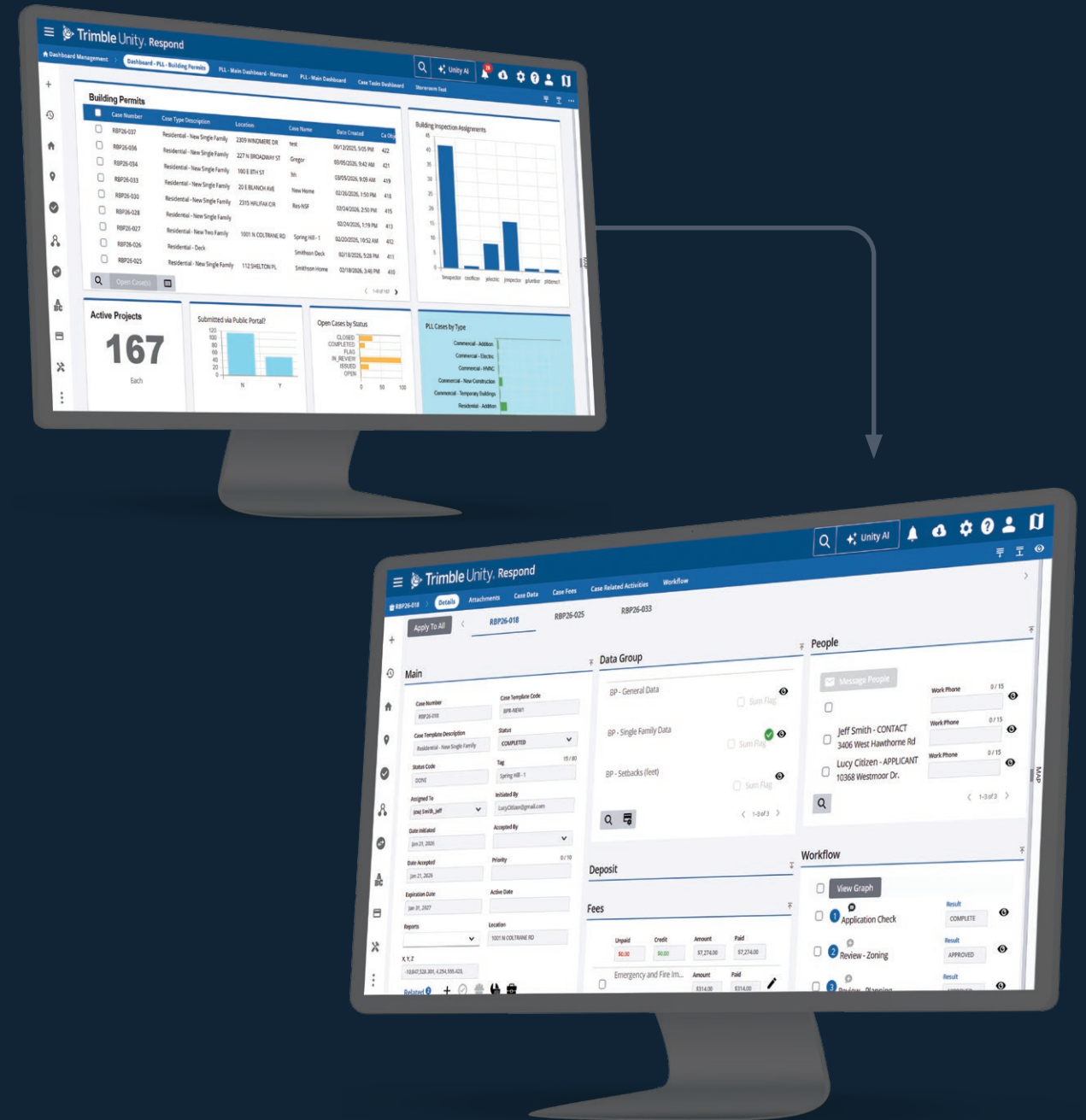
In disconnected permitting processes, communication deficits between departments and the public are common. A GIS-based permitting system creates one shared view of activity, impacts, and status, unifying insights for the public and contractors. By replacing confusion with clarity, agencies improve both communication and public perception.

Stakeholder coordination provides

- Public-facing, online applications and payments improve service and reduce time spent managing requests.
- Configured workflows and automated notifications speed up the process and boost customer satisfaction.
- Build public trust while enhancing responsiveness, service, and sustainability.
- Take direct control of every stage of the permitting process.
- Easily identify conflicts or overlapping projects that could disrupt service or delay timelines.
- Improve alignment between planning, engineering, utilities, and public works staff.
- Enhance transparency and encourage public engagement with real-time data access.

“Even if you're a developer based out of state, you can apply for building permits through our portal instead of traveling to our office with a piece of paper. We're processing north of a million dollars per year, applicants can pay online and later log in to check their approval status. There's a lot more transparency in our processes.”

Nathan Smith
Geospatial Services Manager, City of Round Rock, Texas





Deliver peace of mind with built-in safeguards

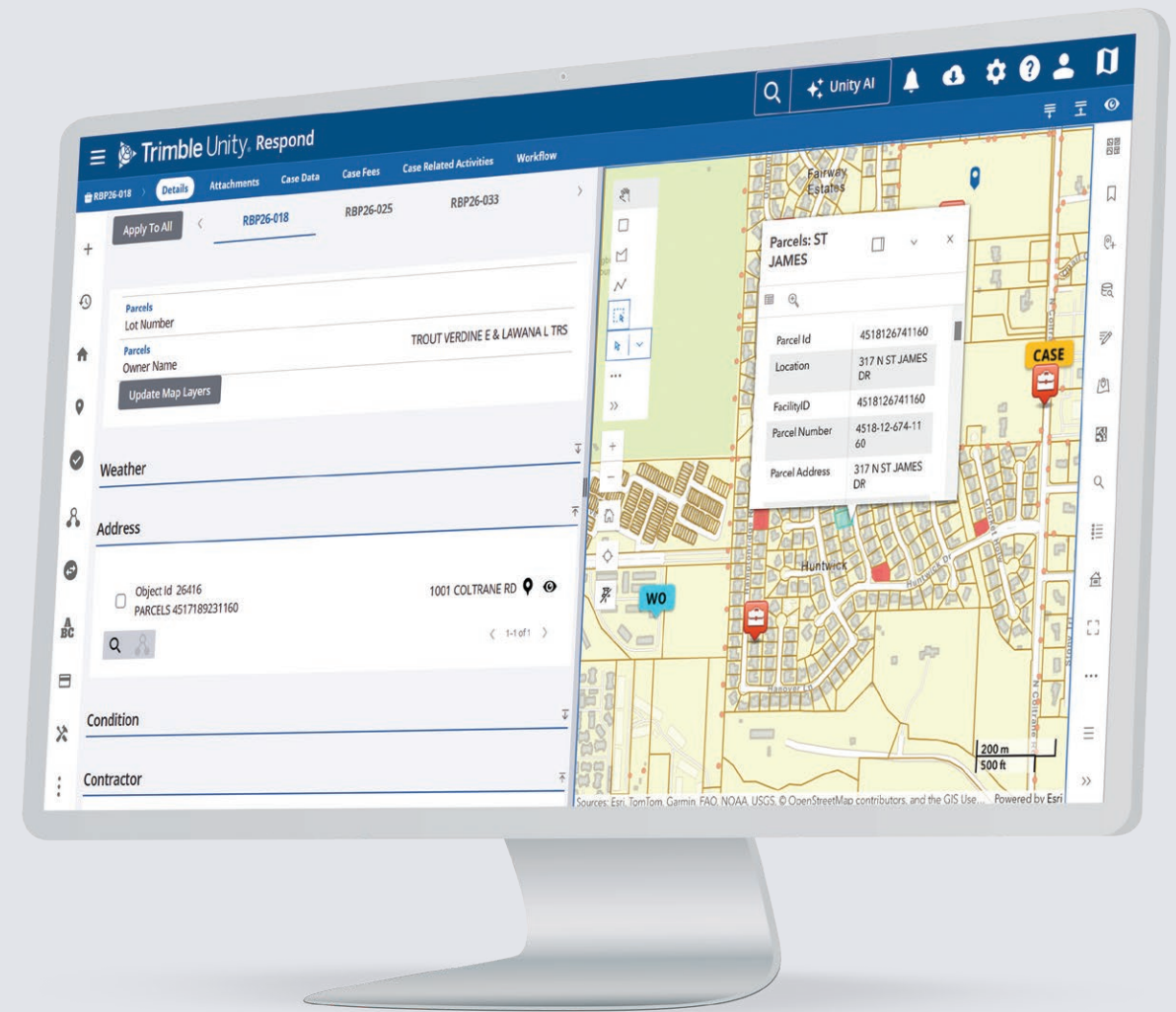
Even when agencies follow regulations, manual permitting processes can leave dangerous gaps in documentation. A GIS-based system automatically enforces workflow steps, validates required information, and ties every action to an exact location, reducing the risk of missed tasks or incomplete records. Trimble Unity Permit ensures that regulatory requirements are consistently met before a permit is issued, with built-in controls that strengthen oversight. This level of structure limits liability and provides a defensible record of compliance.

What built-in compliance and reduced liability provides

- Strict workflow milestones that require specific tasks, reviews, and inspections before moving forward.
- Mandatory checklists and field validations that prevent incomplete submissions and skipped steps.
- Geospatial rule enforcement that automatically restricts or allows permits based on flood zones, protected areas, or other spatial constraints.
- Audit trails that chronologically capture interactions, decisions, and data editing for instant audit readiness.
- Accurate, GIS-anchored documentation that reduces liability and supports regulatory confidence.

“ ... Trimble Unity Permit is being leveraged for reporting and regulatory compliance, helping us ensure that the services we provide are safe and sustainable and meet government regulations for water quality and FOG (fats, oils and grease), EPA regulations for lead and copper, and FEMA reporting.”

Tammy Wambeam
GIS/IT Administrator, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities





Trimble Unity & ArcGIS

Trimble Unity Permit brings comprehensive permitting information together so teams can see the complete picture behind every request. This centralized view supports stronger decisions, improves compliance confidence, and helps staff work with more certainty across the community.

ArcGIS and Trimble Unity provide

- Shared data that supports building, planning, engineering, utilities, public works, and field inspections.
- Strengthened decision-making with constraints and dependencies represented in a spatial context.
- Clear visualization of work activity, infrastructure impacts, and development trends.
- Strict workflow controls and geospatial rule enforcement to support compliance, prevent skipped steps, and reduce liability.
- A future-ready foundation ready for dashboards, analytics, digital twins, and AI-powered capabilities.

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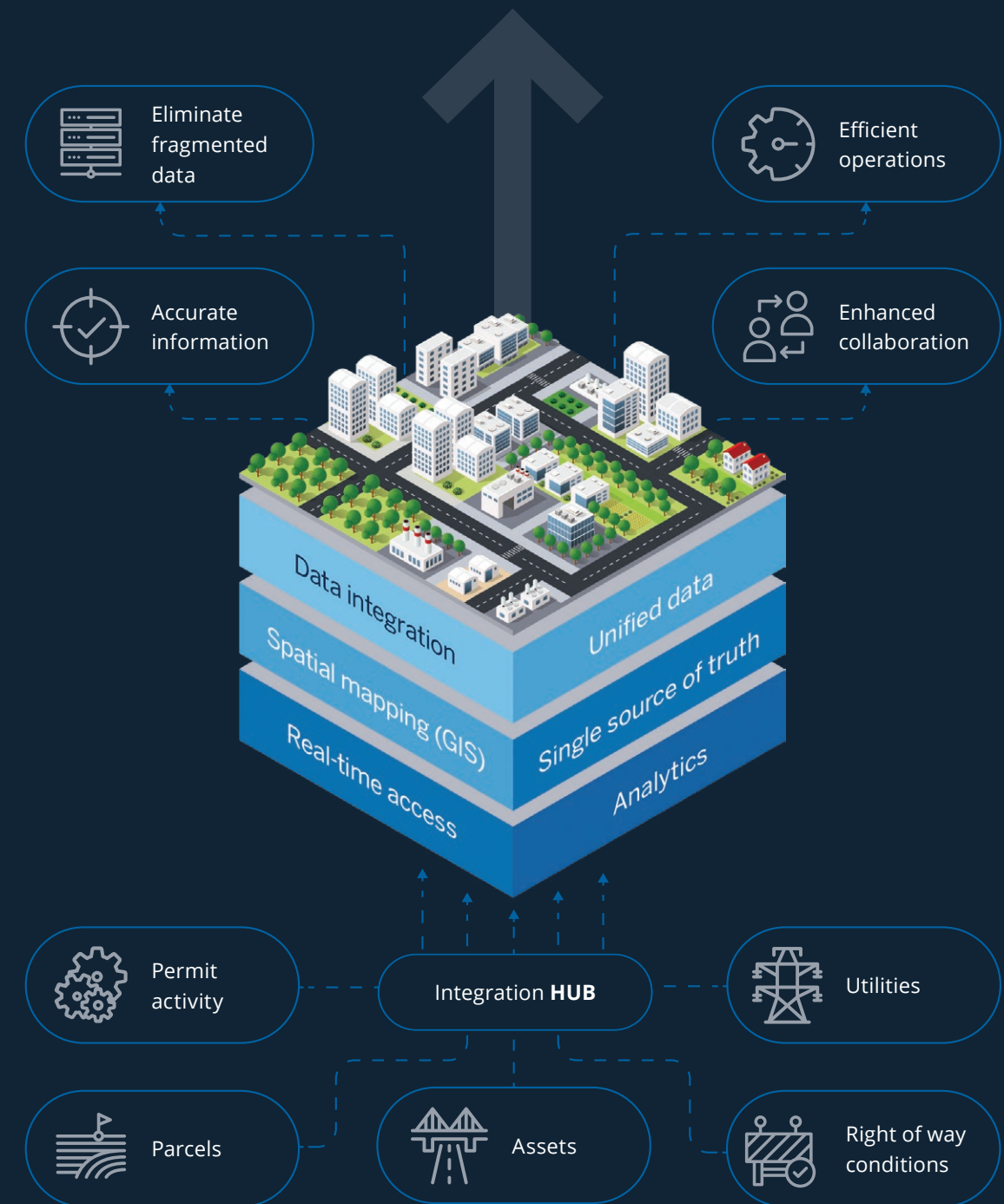
Using Esri and Trimble together improved our visibility and communication across teams by giving us consistent GIS based information.

Tammy Wambeam
GIS/IT Administrator, Salt Lake City Department of Public Utilities

Centralized data lets Salt Lake City view permitting and infrastructure together, improving review accuracy and coordination for better long-term community decisions.

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Transforming fragmented data into a single source of truth





Already have a permitting system? Here's what it's missing

Many agencies already use a permitting tool, but most legacy or single-purpose systems were not designed to:

- Handle the spatial context
- Facilitate departmental coordination
- Enable digital service delivery

These systems often operate in isolation, but permitting is not an isolated process. As communities grow, the limitations of the status quo become costly, creating delays, impacting infrastructure, and frustrating applicants and the community.

Why staying with the status quo falls short

- Existing systems track applications but lack the geographic context required for true operational awareness.
- Legacy tools struggle to integrate data across assets, utilities, inspections, and right-of-way.
- Disconnected workflows and inconsistent documentation create avoidable delays and increase liability exposure.
- ArcGIS and Unity Permit allow agencies to attach permits to any location, corridor, asset, or feature, not just parcels or addresses.
- Stakeholders expect online services, transparency, and real-time updates.

Why agencies move to ArcGIS and Unity Permit

- A proven, GIS-based permitting system that connects permits to assets, land use, utilities, and right-of-way.
- Digital workflows that streamline reviews, approvals, and inspections.
- A public portal that reduces call volume and improves communication.
- Dashboards and analytics that support planning and reporting.
- A data foundation ready for future capabilities like AI and digital twins.





The bottom line

Modernizing with Esri and Trimble provides the confidence, clarity, and digital services communities expect—and positions your agency for the next generation of technology.



Request
a demo
from Trimble