**USING WEAVE TO STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY CAPACITY**

4:00–5:30 – Thursday afternoon

**Background**

The Open Indicators Consortium (OIC) is a multi-stakeholder partnership in the development of the open source platform Weave in collaboration with the Institute for Visualization and Perception Research at the University of Massachusetts Lowell. The OIC aims to spur the democratization and use of high quality data and data-driven problem-solving within and across neighborhoods, municipalities, sectors, states, regions and nations. Ten partners are currently implementing Weave as part of their strategy for disseminating information and engaging their key audiences. OIC is the most prominent example of NNIP partners coming together to develop and share technology, and can offer lessons about how our network can promote more cross-site collaborations.

To learn more about Weave, check out the OIC web site at [www.oicweave.org](http://www.oicweave.org/) and its wiki (<http://bugs.oicweave.org/projects/weave/wiki> ), email Jim Farnam at jf@farnamllc.com.

**This Session**

Previous sessions have demonstrated the Weave visualizations, but today we will hear about how our partners are using the software to increase the ability of residents and organizations to use information for planning and community building. Jim Farnam will start with a brief OIC overview and observations about how the OIC community of practice has evolved, and take questions from partners about the overall project. (20 minutes total). Then, partners will share how they are using Weave locally to build community capacity and support their initiatives (5 – 10 minutes each).

* Holly St. Clair and Jamila Henderson, *Metropolitan Area Planning Council (Boston),* willspeak about how they are reinvigorating their audience, including new immigrants, through their Metro Data Commons website based on Weave.
* Jeremy Pyne, *Community Research Institute (Grand Rapids),* willdescribe the community input process they used for developing their MAPAS tool and how migrating to the Weave application is helping to move their work to the next stage.
* Mike Carnathan, *Atlanta Regional Commission,* will talk about how NeighborhoodNexus has used Weave to help the Atlanta Promise Neighborhood Initiative understand their neighborhood better.
* David Percy, *Portland State University,* will relate how Weave is advancing the efforts towards data standards and data sharing among organizations.
* Jim Farnam, *DataHaven (New Haven),* will then give his local perspective about how DataHaven has used Weave to advance their goals.