

AI for Transit: Not Automation, But Trust

MIT's \$2.1M platform builds AI that supports humans—not replaces them.

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THE DATA

\$2.1 million

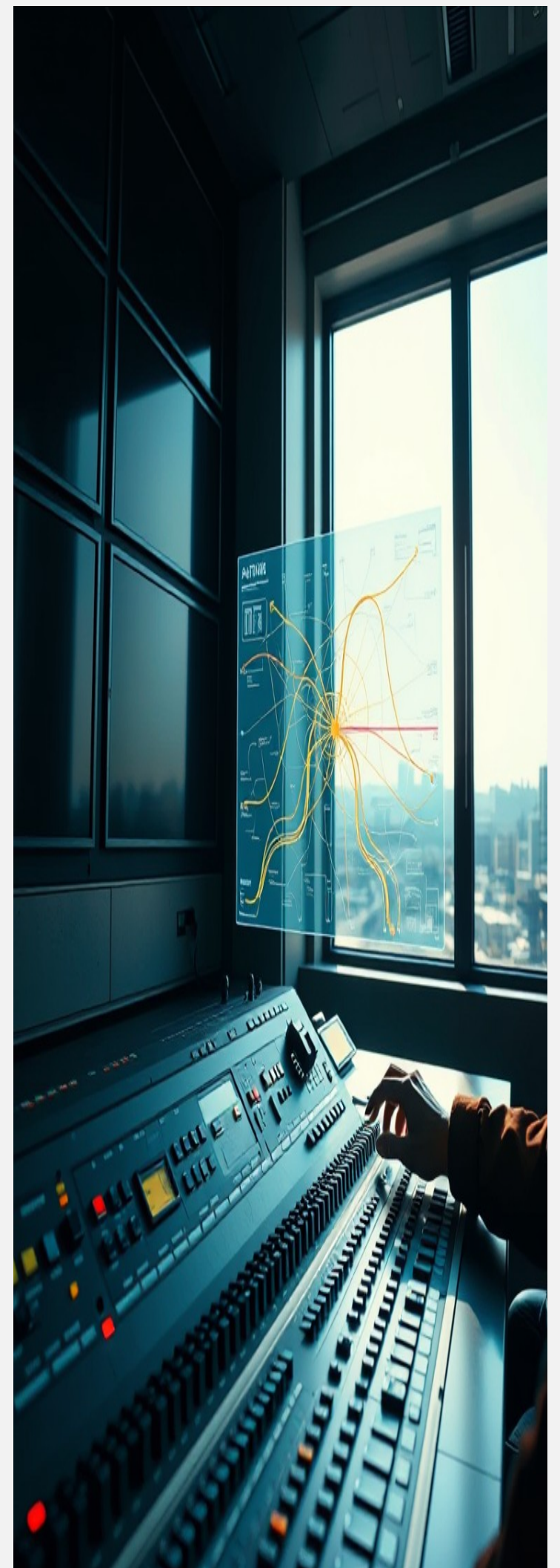
Google.org Funding

Awarded to MIT Transit Lab for the Public Transit Intelligence Hub (PTIQ) project.

This funding from Google.org's Impact Challenge: AI for Government Innovation is not for building autonomous systems, but for creating AI that enhances human decision-making in real-time transit operations. The sum reflects a strategic shift: investing in AI that integrates with institutional workflows rather than displacing them.

Source: MIT News • Published October 04, 2026

<https://news.mit.edu/2026/mit-transit-lab-to-develop-ai-platform-public-transit-agencies-0930>



01

Trust Over Technology

This reframes AI governance: the most critical layer isn't algorithmic transparency, but institutional legitimacy. Systems must be designed with the human-in-the-loop as central—not as a fallback.

SALLOUT



02

AI as Institutional Memory

In governance terms, this means AI can serve as a durable, adaptive memory for public services—preserving the nuanced judgment of experienced operators even as personnel change. This is a model for how AI can stabilize complex, high-stakes systems over time.

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