

# Session Notes

Session Title	<i>AI Implementation</i>
Session Facilitator	<i>Christian Casazza + 2 others</i>
Time Block	<i>2:15 to 3:15pm</i>
Room Number	<i>2-112</i>
The Board - Link	 CityCamp NYC - The Board (Public)
CityCamp NYC - Session Guide	<a href="https://www.citycamp.nyc/2025/08/21/pitch-your-session/">https://www.citycamp.nyc/2025/08/21/pitch-your-session/</a>
BetaNYC Code of Conduct	<a href="https://www.beta.nyc/code-of-conduct-anti-harassment-policy/">https://www.beta.nyc/code-of-conduct-anti-harassment-policy/</a>
CityCamp NYC Email	citycamp@beta.nyc

CityCamp Session Scribes will capture the discussion and insights here. Remember to identify actionable discussion items that generate ongoing discussion or calls-to-action that may continue after the event!

## Session Scribe Notes

### Links

<https://meet.google.com/zjh-cppt-ckn?authuser=0>

<https://github.com/ChristianCasazza/codeprinter>

## General Notes

Take clear notes that capture the discussion here:

- The goal of this session is to discuss how AI can be implemented. The leaders intend to discuss with people who use AI about how they use it, what they use it for, and where it makes sense to use it.
- The leaders are long-time betaNYC participants, NYC city employees, and computer science students. Christian (one of the leaders) approaches LLMs as an Iron Man armour (you ask it to do things that you already know how to do, and just ask it to do it

more efficiently), and that it is an ultimate learning machine that can guide you in the learning process, esp with coding.

- How do people use AI and why?
  - Use it all the time for coding - switch between models. Built a chat app to check volunteers for this event using AI.
  - Code generation - it is insanely effective. Software development inherently pairs very well with AI. Outside of coding, he is very skeptical of AI use.
  - Project management - writing use cases, writing technical specifications, and other tasks that are pretty boring.
  - JavaScript code - to build a community engagement tool (Q&A) for a tech fair for the justice-impacted communities.
  - Idea generation - initial brainstorming to get into the flow at the beginning of thinking about something.
  - Policy writing - interns would do research tasks, the quality of which would be hit or miss. The first step now is to go to "Deep Research" to ask the question. I have to check all the citations. But I have to do that work anyway if those interns are writing the report.
  - Developing leadership training - used the podcast feature to help people digest this a lot easier.
  - Transliterating text - this is otherwise a very boring job and takes a really long time. LLMs save 100s of hours now.
  - Writing documents when there are strict constraints like word/character limit - grant writing, public service applications, etc.
  - Make a website really quickly - prototyping is very efficient using AI.
- Any ways we should be using AI:
  - Harms acknowledged about AI are very valid - should not overrely on AI and completely lose the human element.
  - What AI is trained on is completely based on what that company decides and what data they find relevant.
  - AI training data is biased, and not easy to understand what these biases are:
    - But any data that we used is inherently biased. So the conversation is less about the AI itself being biased but about the systemic biases that are replicated in the AI.
    - Chile has a repo of public algorithms - this repo is fully based on a university, this university controls how these biases are identified and rectified.
    - E.g., policing - AI does not work for this use case and even if it does, we don't want to give that power to this use case.
- Back to the use case of AI for coding. Coding might not involve a lot of moral considerations, so when AI can generate code, it is super efficient.
- Demonstration:
  - Uploading an open dataset to a DuckDB explorer and asking Gemini to generate SQL commands that it thinks we might find interesting.

- The best approach to code generations with AI or using AI to understand data is to be iterative. Keep building on top of the previous responses and refining it.
- Chris developed this tool to share local code with LLMs. He has that tool on github. Once the code is uploaded to the tool, the tool give you a repo. This repo can be copied to any LLM (Chris used AI Studio).
- Once its copied to the LLM, you can ask the LLMs to break it down, understand, and explain it.
- You if you have to do this another time, you can repeat this over and over again.
- If you are thinking about how LLMs can be used responsibly in govt, tools like CodePrinter would be useful in helping people learn to code better.
- It is very empowering to learn how to code. The world is bottlenecked by technical people and learning how to code relieves that.

## Roadblocks and Questions

Capture barriers, challenges, and differing views:

- It is a challenge to understand what the inherent biases are in the model and how we collectively understand that and make it better.
- It is also problematic that AI produces biased data, and that in turn is used to further train it. So it not only has human bias but also AI garbage.
- Discussions and practical knowledge about AI is very active in the private software development space but not as much in the govTech space
- Building tools using AI seems effective, but does AI generate code that is written in a way that they can be debugged easily? What about the people who have to test and troubleshoot this code? Vibe debugging is a lot difficult than vibe coding.

## Key Takeaways

Identify key insights or topics discussed and summarize:

- [Notes]
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## Action Items

Capture possible action items individuals or the group discussed here

- [Notes]

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## Group Session Notes

This is a living document, and as participants, please feel free to help it grow! Please add your notes, photos of notes, thoughts, or reflections here, during or after the session:

### General Notes

Do you have any notes you'd like to share with your session group?

- [Notes]
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### Key Takeaways

Did you identify any important takeaways from the discussion?

- [Notes]
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### Roadblocks and Questions

Capture barriers, challenges, and differing views (*note: please capture differing reviews with respect, this space is for capturing ideas not critiquing them*)

- [Notes]
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## Action Items

Are there any actions you plan to take after the session? Or would like to work on with others?

Each Session should aim to answer these three questions

1. **What should the next Mayoral administration do to address this session topic?**
2. **What should the next City Council do to address this session topic?**
3. **What should we do as a community to address this session topic?**

- [Notes]
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## Reflections

Just want to provide your reflection on the session? Please feel free to do so!

- [Notes]
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## Contact Information

If you'd like to share your contact information to continue the conversation, please do so!

Name	Email