A State CIO Perspective on Agile Project Management

William Kehoe
WaTech Director and State CIO
“Agile is a critical component to accelerating the State of Washington strategic vision and transforming services to the public that we serve”

- Bill Kehoe, State CIO
Take stock of where you are…

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>If you are…</th>
<th>That is…</th>
<th>You might want to consider…</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Not even thinking about Agile project management?</td>
<td>Fine.</td>
<td>Getting educated about the cost/benefit. Maybe decide it’s for you or decide it’s not.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thinking about utilizing Agile project management?</td>
<td>Good.</td>
<td>Examining WHY you are considering it – and determine whether you have a compelling reason.</td>
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<td>Mid-way through a transition to Agile project management?</td>
<td>Okay.</td>
<td>Patience and self-compassion as you move through the growing pains. This isn’t easy stuff.</td>
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<td>Comfortably using either Agile or waterfall depending on use case?</td>
<td>(It’s all good!)</td>
<td>Documenting your transition process and sharing it with the community. How can you shorten another’s journey?</td>
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<td>Actively and/or exclusively following a mature Agile project management methodology?</td>
<td></td>
<td>What’s next? Are you content with status quo? Or is there a new frontier in DevOps, continuous integration, automated validation testing…AI?</td>
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Why Agile is important for the State of Washington

• Brings business and technology together to solve and improve a business problem.

• Takes us out of our silos and cultivates teams that create opportunities for better outcomes.

• Agile changes the culture of organizations and drives increased customer focus.

• An important accelerator for innovation, prototyping, and failing fast and forward.

• Drives Cloud adoption and on-going maintenance.

• Agile is an industry best practice and has been adopted by most industry SaaS vendors.
Areas for awareness and focus

- RFP, SOWs, contracts, vendor requirements and expectations.
- Agile should **not** be used to move fast and get things into production without the required quality disciplines in place (testing, security, training, etc.).
- There are times when waterfall or an agile/waterfall hybrid will work better. Think: fit for purpose.
- Vendor management and partnership.
- The role of the PM.
- Scheduling an Agile project.
  - You still have to plan.