It Takes a Village to Build a Sea Level Rise App: Civic Hacking as an Approach to Informing Citizens About Sea Level Rise in Miami

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I am not a scientist...
Sea Level Rise Toolbox

http://eyesontherise.org/app

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SLR Toolbox:
Goals

- Focus on South Florida. Inform citizens of the potential risk of sea level rise to their homes and businesses.
- Make it easy to use for a general news audience (ie: not scientists)
- Create a database of flood reports so that citizens may better understand when and where flooding occurs.
- Allow citizens to contribute crowdsourced geographic information to the flood report database.

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Hacking the App
Brainstormed ideas for features and designs
- Students, scientists, faculty, hacktivists, citizens

Identified data sources
- Code for Miami, Miami-Dade County, Open 311

Created prototype
- Conducted user testing on students, citizens, hacktivists

Tested and redesigned prototype
- Worked with Fusion

Launched application at BarCamp Miami
SLR Toolbox: Challenges

- Politics
- Representing years vs. feet
- Creating interface for a lay audience
- Providing context
- Scientific information vs. journalism
  - Google Elevation vs. LiDAR
  - Visualizing .5 feet on 1-foot scale

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SLR Toolbox: Next Steps

- Increase transparency of data
- Build and design native IOS and Android applications
- Implement Flood Report Database
  - Add local sources
- Create citizen flood report tool
  - K-12 flood report curriculum
- Integrate narrative into application

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Thank You!

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