

Summary

CivicTwin creates transportation digital twins, high-fidelity, physics-grounded, editable models of real streets and corridors, directly from street-view video and images. Unlike pipelines that rely on expensive, non-scalable multi-view capture (especially drone/aerial), CivicTwin eliminates overhead dependencies instead uses generative video models and visual-geometric foundation models to reconstruct and fill unobserved regions with plausible, structured geometry. The result is a simulator-ready twin that preserves measured detail where data exist, fills gaps where they don't, and scales across corridors and cities with dramatically ten times lower cost.

Why this matters. AVs, delivery robots, and automated traffic management require massive, safe, repeatable testing, particularly for rare, safety-critical scenarios that are hard to observe or stage on real roads. Today's best simulators still struggle with the authoring burden, physics realism, and city-scale coverage needed for safety cases and operations planning.

CivicTwin's capability rests on five integrated elements: (1) object-aware reconstruction from street-view data guided by foundation-model segmentation; (2) generative inpainting to handle occlusions and sparse viewpoints while maintaining lane/sidewalk/curb topology and material priors; (3) physics-property inference (materials, contact, friction) with export to standard formats; (4) a GPU-parallel runtime with multimodal sensor simulation and behaviorally realistic agents; and (5) scenario editing for long-tail risk coverage with continuous updates as the network changes.

Performance targets include compiling a 5-10 km corridor in <24 hours on a single modern GPU node; validating physics with sensor-sim divergence $\leq 5\%$ and friction error $\leq 20\text{-}25\%$; delivering $\geq 10\times$ faster closed-loop training; and achieving $\geq 50\%$ safety-metric improvement on rare events, thereby enabling $\geq 70\%$ fewer on-road validation miles and $\geq 60\%$ lower closed-course test costs for a target AV feature.

CivicTwin is purpose-built to accelerate ADS/ADAS (automated driving or advanced driver assist systems) and traffic management development, validation, and safety-case generation. The twin enables closed-loop simulation with real-world data, systematic rare-event generation (e.g., collisions/surrogates and perception robustness under weather/lighting). Secondary applications, such as micromobility and ground-support robotics, benefit from the same tooling.

We envision a 36-month effort advancing from corridor-scale twins (Phase I) to district-scale pilots (Phase II) and operator deployments (Phase III). Core deliverables center on ADS/ADAS: an open compiler, a runtime with multimodal sensor simulation and behaviorally realistic agents, an AV-targeted scenario library for long-tail scenarios, and standards-aligned Verification and validation artifacts to support safety cases. *CivicTwin* directly supports ARPA-I's Knowledge and Optimization priorities by providing dynamically updated digital twins and massively benchmarking for autonomy, reducing cost and risk while accelerating innovation in U.S. transportation.